

9 February 2010 - The remains of a Filipina who died in the rubble of a collapsed building in Haiti will be brought home upon the request of her family.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs Esteban B. Conejos, Jr. said the family of Mary Grace Fabian requested the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) this morning to have her remains repatriated.

Earlier, Ms. Fabian's sister Rosalyn, who is based in Port-au-Prince, asked that her body be immediately buried in Haiti after it was recovered by the task force assisting in the search and rescue efforts for Filipinos and other nationals affected by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Port-au-Prince in January.

Ms. Fabian's body was recovered last February 7 in the rubble of the Caribbean Supermarket in Haiti.

"The DFA is now coordinating with Overseas Workers Welfare Administration and her family so that we can bring home the remains of Mary Grace Fabian to her family as soon as possible. We would like to honor the family's request to have her home," Undersecretary Conejos said.

She was positively identified by Mr. Lowel Lalican, the husband of Geraldine Lalican, another OFW still trapped under the rubble of the supermarket. An employee of the Caribbean Supermarket, Ms. Fabian was identified through her uniform, hair and necklace.

Her sister Rosalyn decided to immediately bury her remains at the National Cemetery in Port-au-Prince.

Remains of Filipina who died in Haiti to be Repatriated

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The Philippine contingent in Haiti is continuing recovery efforts for Ms. Lalican in the Caribbean Supermarket area.

Philippine Honorary Consul to Haiti Fitzgerald Brandt is supervising the recovery efforts. END