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PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, RIYADH REPORTS SUCCESSFUL OAV REGISTRATION IN JUBAIL

26 September 2006 – Chargé d’Affaires, a. i. (CDA) Nestor N. Padalhin of the Philippine Embassy in Riyadh reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs that the Embassy has conducted a mobile Overseas Absentee Voting (OAV) registration at the Al-Mojil Camp 2 in the Industrial City of Jubail, Eastern Province, Saudi Arabia on 15 September 2006, registering a record 551 OFWs in a single day.



The Embassy team provides OAV registration services in Jubail’s Al-Mojil Camp 2. Left photo: Mr. Jun Deriada attends to a registrant, with Vice Consul Gerardo Abiog monitoring the activity of the rest of the team. The right photo shows a registrant, Mr. Joel Magpantay, Ms. Carmelita R. Hidalgo, Ms. Severa Sa-ad and Mr. Acas Bayabao, Jr.

CDA Padalhin remarked that this is the largest number of Filipinos that the Embassy has registered in a single day since it resumed OAV registration in the Kingdom in October 2005.

The activity was jointly organized by the All Filipino Community and Sports Commission (AFSCOM) headed by its Overall Chairman, Mr. Roilo D. Alojado and the Overseas Filipino Workers Congress (OFWC) led by its President, Mr. Ernie Mapanao, in cooperation with the Mohammad Al-Mojil Group (MMG) through its Human Resources Manager, Mr. Ruben V. Ramos.



Hundreds of OFWs came for the OAV registration at the Al-Mojil Camp 2 in Jubail. OFWs queue and wait for their turn for the verification and data capture procedure (left photo), while others accomplish their forms and queue at the next room (right photo).

CDA Padalhin expressed his gratitude to the officers and members of the Filipino community groups in Jubail for their active involvement and continuing support in promoting absentee voting registration. He called on all OFWs who have not yet registered to do so before 30 September 2006, when the registration period expires. CDA

Padalhin likewise urged the OFWs take advantage of the facility provided by the Philippine Commission on Elections (COMELEC) and the Embassy so they may be able to exercise their right to suffrage.

CDA Padalhin stated that the first field registration in Jubail held in April 2006 generated 740 registrants for the two-day activity: 245 on April 13 at the EQRA International School, and 495 on April 14 at the Al-Suwaidi Camp 2. The April 2006 two-day activity was organized by the AFSCOM Eastern Region and the Filipino Community in Jubail. END