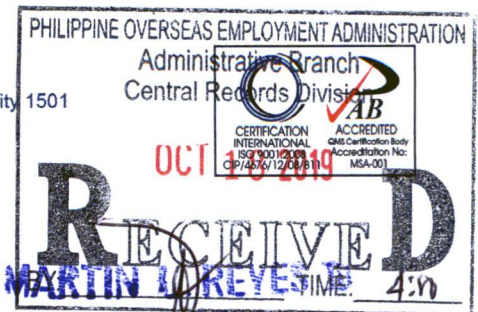




Philippine  
Overseas  
Employment  
Administration

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Labor and Employment  
BFO Building, Ortigas Avenue cor. EDSA, Mandaluyong City 1501  
Website: www.poea.gov.ph E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph  
Hotlines: 722-1144, 722-1155



ADVISORY NO. **31**  
Series of 2019

To: ALL CONCERNED

Subject: CLARIFICATION ON THE NATURE OF THE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATE (OEC) AND LEGAL OPTIONS IN CASE AN OFW UNJUSTIFIABLY REFUSES TO DEPART/JOIN THE WORKSITE/SHIP AFTER ALL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN DULY APPROVED

Pursuant to *Memorandum Circular No. 11, Series of 2019* amending certain provisions of *MC 06 and MC 07, Series of 2018* on the proper implementation of the new procedure for Online Registration of Landbased e-Contracts System and Sea-based e-Contracts System, this Administration hereby clarifies the nature of the Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC). An Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC) is a travel exit document which serves as proof that the worker has been properly processed. The OEC shall be valid for sixty (60) days from the date of issuance within which period the licensed agency shall deploy the worker.

In case of non-deployment of the OFW, whether landbased workers or seafarers, the licensed recruitment /manning agency shall have the mandatory obligation to report the reason/s for non-deployment to this Administration pursuant to *Section 121 Rule II, Part III of the 2016 POEA Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Deployment of Landbased Workers* and *Section 112, Rule III, Part III of the 2016 POEA Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Deployment of Seafarers* and *Memorandum Circular No. 4, Series of 2017*.

In case of non-deployment allegedly due to the fault of the OFW, any aggrieved landbased or manning agency may file for a Disciplinary Action case against the worker, pursuant to *Section 145 Rule V, Part VI of the 2016 POEA Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Deployment of Landbased Workers* and *Section 128, Rule V, Part V of the 2016 POEA Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Deployment of Seafarers*. In no case shall the licensed agency withhold or deny the return of the worker's documents upon demand or request.

Please be guided accordingly.

  
BERNARD P. OLALIA  
Administrator

CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED  
BY CRD ON 18 OCT 2019