LANGUAGE TRAINING CENTERS ILLEGALLY CHARGING TRAINING FEES FROM JOB CANDIDATES FOR JAPAN UNDER THE TECHNICAL INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (TITP) AND THE PROJECT FOR HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES IN THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC SPECIAL ZONES (NSSZ)

It has come to the attention of this Administration that workers or candidates selected for deployment to Japan as Technical Intern trainees or as Live-out Housekeepers in the National Strategic Special Zones (NSSZ), are being charged language training fees by some Language Training Centers, some of which are affiliates or partners of licensed recruitment agencies or Philippine Sending Organizations. Some of the reports also revealed that charging of the costs of language training is being done either before deployment or through salary deduction in Japan, under a Study-Now-Pay-Later scheme.

All applicants are reminded that no training fees shall be charged from any candidate selected for employment in Japan as part of the Technical Internship Training Program (TITP) or as a Housekeeper in National Strategic Special Zones (NSSZ). Said training fees are supposed to be paid for, or are chargeable to the Japanese Employer or Accepting Organization. In the case of technical intern training for any of the TITP-approved occupations, the cost of the mandatory language training is paid for by the Japanese Supervising or Implementing Organization. No fee of any kind or form shall be collected from technical interns for their selection and deployment to Japan, pursuant to Department Order No. 188 series of 2018.

This Administration is also reminding all concerned that the Specified Organization in Japan acting as Employers, shall shoulder the Live-out Housekeeper’s training costs, if ever any training is required. This is pursuant to POEA Governing Board Resolution No. 08, series of 2016, in accordance with the guidelines on the “project to accept foreigners conducting housekeeping services in the National Strategic Special Zones (NSSZ)” issued by the Japanese government in September 2015.

Licensed recruitment agencies or Sending Organizations and their affiliate-training institutions, are enjoined to strictly observe the non-fee charging policy when it comes to language training of workers or candidates selected for deployment to Japan as Technical Intern trainees and Live-out Housekeepers for the National Strategic Special Zones (NSSZ) of Japan.

This Administration welcomes reports from job applicants, responsible industry organizations and other concerned entities, relative to violations of the above iterations of the relevant recruitment rules. In particular, please report incidents of training fee-charging by Japanese language training institutions and/or recruitment agencies/sending organizations, for
individuals recruited for deployment to Japan as Technical Intern trainees or as Live-out Housekeepers.

Concerned POEA offices are hereby instructed to accordingly check and immediately act on reports regarding violations of this issuance, and of other relevant rules and regulations.

For immediate and strict compliance.

Bernard P. Olalia
Administrator