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**Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration**

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NEWS RELEASE
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POEA suspends implementation of new direct hiring policy

Secretary Arturo D. Brion has instructed the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration to suspend immediately the implementation of POEA Memorandum Circular No. 4, Series of 2007.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said POEA will process documents of directly hired Filipino workers using the procedures used before January 15, 2008 where repatriation and performance bonds are not required from the employers.

Secretary Brion will convene the POEA Governing Board on Monday, February 18 to discuss the directives of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on further amendments to MC 4, relaxing the rules on professionals and those to be employed by reputable companies already providing adequate protection, and similarly situated employers.

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