



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**Overseas Workers Welfare Administration**

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**ADVISORY NO. 01**  
**Series of 2011**

**TO ALL PDOS PROVIDERS and CPDEP LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS**

**SUBJECT : INFORMATION TO ALL OFWS BOUND TO THE MIDDLE  
EAST AND OTHER ISLAMIC COUNTRIES**

**DATE : 17 FEBRUARY 2011**

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Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) bound for the Middle East and other Islamic Countries should be advised that non-Muslim OFWs are not required to fast during Ramadan. However, they should not eat in the presence of their Muslim employers as a sign of respect to their religion.

OFWs bound for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia should be advised that the government of Saudi Arabia recently implemented a smoking ban in its 27 domestic and international airports. Several persons have already been apprehended since it was implemented last November 2010. It was reported that a shopping center in Jeddah have also announced a similar ban on its premises.

For immediate dissemination.

  
**CARMELITA S. DIMZON, DPA**  
Administrator