



Republic of the Philippines

**PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION**  
Manila

**PRC REACHES OUT TO OVERSEAS PROFESSIONALS AND OPENS MORE SERVICES FOR PROFESSIONALS**

The Professional Regulation Commission is extending its services to professionals based overseas as part of its plans and programs for the year 2012. This was declared by PRC Chairperson, Teresita R. Manzala, during the PRC's annual Planning Conference held on January 13 to 15 at the Philippine Judicial Academy in Tagaytay, Batangas.

Chairperson Manzala told the 46 Professional Regulatory Boards (PRB) that their presence should be extended overseas and urged them to encourage professional organizations/associations to create sub-unit to serve the interests of Filipino Professionals in the ASEAN, Asia-Pacific, North American, European, and Middle Eastern countries. In her opening speech, she said, "The PRBs should address the concerns of overseas-based professionals and should reach out to these professionals by establishing dynamic linkages with their professional organizations overseas, particularly wherever there are high concentrations of such professionals notably in Australia, Japan, the US and the UK."

Chairperson Manzala cited the Department of Labor and Employment year-end 2011 report that prospects for overseas employment remain positive in 2012, in spite of the multiple challenges in the global labor market. The DOLE has reported that new hires among OFWs in 2011 rose by 27.26 per cent over the 2010 deployment, while rehires increased by 3.53 per cent. The increase in deployment in new hires indicates an increase in new jobs for OFWs.

For 2012, the PRC will increase its Walk-In Examinations from twice to thrice a week and open the examinations to more professions. A CHED-PRC two-way link which will enable applicants to apply for the licensure examinations in their schools will be deployed and implemented in three pilot regions in Baguio, Cebu and Davao to eliminate the long queues at the PRC.

The Commission will begin Regionalized ID printing and issuance of the ID cards through the PRC's 10 regional offices or kiosks situated in public places. A PRC Career Employment Counseling Program will also be initiated by the boards to support the DOLE's Career Guidance Advocacy, which will help address the mismatch between skills supply and skills demand, Manzala said.

Chair Manzala likewise revealed that in pursuit of linkages to help the nursing profession, a project called the Joint PRC-BON (Board of Nursing)-CHED Cultural and Professional

Competency Enhancement of Filipino Registered Nurses and Capacity Building of Higher Education Institution for Philippine Nursing Education is being undertaken. The PRC will head a delegation on a study tour in Japan sponsored by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from January 23 to February 1. The delegation is composed of members of the Board of Nursing and representatives from the DOH, TESDA, POEA, CHED and the deans of nursing from UP, University of the East and the Cebu Normal University.