



SUMA: Summing-Up of the State of Migrants Under Aquino (2010-2012)

LIAR, LIAR

Under his two year-reign. President Aquino proved that he is no match to his predecessor. He is worse.

Migrante International cites the following reasons for this:

- Despite his promises and posturing, President Benigno Aquino III, after two years in office, had done nothing to alleviate forced migration and instead pursued a more intensified, aggressive and sophisticated labor export policy than his predecessors.
- By October 2011, an additional 1.35 million Filipinos have been forced to go abroad by sheer lack of opportunities, decent jobs and wages, livelihood and social services in the country. This figure is higher by 5.3 percent than the 1.281 million OFWs from January to October 2010.
- There are now 12 to 15 million overseas Filipinos all over the world scattered in at least 239 countries situated in six continents, namely, Asia, Australia, North America, South America, Africa and Europe.
- In the Philippines, about 30 to 40 percent of the 99 million population is remittance-dependent.
- Remittances from OFWs remain at record-high from 2001 until 2011 despite the global economic crisis. However, although annual remittances increased amid the global economic crisis, its growth rate has been decreasing in recent years.
- This explains the Aquino administration's desperation to further seek job markets abroad as the country's economic situation has not improved under Aquino's unreformed government policies. It's only recourse is to intensify its labor export program at the expense of the rights and welfare of OFWs.
- Service and protection for OFWs are almost non-existent. Instead, it has become more clear that the labor export policy is nothing but a BIG BUSINESS from which the government profits, with OFWs as milking cows.

Without doubt, President Aquino is cut out of the same mold as a modern-day slave trader. Increasingly millions of migrants Filipinos are seeing through this. In the words of OFWs: "wala namang nagbago."

We now see Aquino's promises and posturing for what they are. Lies, nothing but lies. ###

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