

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **PHILIPPINE EMBASSY AND FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN LEBANON COMMEMORATE THE 27<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF EDSA PEOPLE POWER REVOLUTION**



24 February 2013 – The Officers and Staff of the Philippine Embassy in Beirut, POLO and OWWA, together with the members of their family and the leaders and members of the different Filipino community organizations in Lebanon, commemorated today the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution at the Function Hall of the new Philippine Embassy.

The event started with the singing of the Philippine National Anthem and was followed by the welcome remarks of Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz, the showing of the documentary film entitled “*Ninoy: The Heart and the Soul*” and a dialogue with the Filipino community.

In her remarks, Ambassador Ruiz dwelt on the theme of the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemoration “*Pilipinas Ngayon: Abot Tanaw Na!*”, which aims to highlight the

Filipinos' dream and vision for transparent, clean and good governance, justice and the rule of law, as well as sustained and equitable socio-economic development. She quoted the assessment and reviews from foreign observers that, under the leadership of President Benigno S. Aquino III and his commitment to follow the "Straight Path" (*Daang Matuwid*), concrete, positive results have been achieved thus enabling the country to move closer towards this goal.

Ambassador Ruiz also reaffirmed the firm commitment and dedication of the Philippine Team on Beirut to exert all efforts to promote the welfare and protect the rights of the Filipino workers in Lebanon as well as to provide effective and efficient service to the community. She invited the Filipino community members to air their concerns and queries during the dialogue session. Vice Consul Dennis John Briones expounded on the consular and ATN services of the Embassy, Labor Attaché Irma Valiente responded to the queries on the new *Balik Manggagawa* Program, and Vice Consul Rona Beth Goce briefed them about on-going efforts to ensure smooth Embassy operations. END