

# PRESS RELEASE

## PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN LEBANON CONCLUDES 31-DAY OVERSEAS VOTING PERIOD WITH MARKED INCREASE IN VOTER TURNOUT



PHOTOS – *First row left:* Members of the SBEI in the Embassy assist an OAVoter as she drops her ballot in the ballot box;

*First row, center:* members of the SBEI assists AOVoters during a field voting in Hamra, Beirut.

*First row, right:* members of the SBEI assists an OAVoter as she drops her ballot in the ballot box during the field voting.



PHOTOS – *Second row:* SBEI members during the counting of votes;

*Third row:* members of the SBOC during the turn over of Election Returns (ERs)

## RESULT OF OVERSEAS VOTING IN LEBANON

Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3
<b>TOP 15 SENATORS</b>		
1. Legarda, Loren - 303	1. Legarda, Loren - 375	1. Legarda, Loren - 237
2. Enrile, Juan Ponce Jr.-227	2. Magsaysay, Ramon Jr. - 269	2. Angara, Edgardo - 181
3. Angara, Edgardo - 213	3. Cayetano, Alan Peter -266	3. Cayetano, Alan Peter - 171
4. Binay, Nancy – 211	4. Ejercito, Estrada JV - 260	4. Aquino, Benigno Bam - 166
5. Ejercito, Estrada JV - 207	5.a. Binay, Nancy - 259	5.a. Binay, Nancy -161
6. Cayetano, Alan Peter - 206	5.b. Maceda, Manong Ernie-259	5.b. Magsaysay, Ramon Jr. - 161
7. Aquino, Benigno Bam - 202	6. Enrile, Juan Ponce Jr. - 260	6. Enrile, Juan Ponce Jr.-156
8. Poe, Grace - 196	7. Angara, Edgardo - 245	7. Escudero, Chiz - 155
9. Magsaysay, Ramon Jr. - 193	8. Escudero, Chiz - 234	8. Ejercito, Estrada JV - 145
10. Escudero, Chiz - 185	9. Honasan, Gringo - 232	9. Poe, Grace - 138
11. Honasan, Gringo – 184	10. Aquino, Benigno Bam - 226	10. Honasan, Gringo - 131
12. Maceda, Manong Ernie-167	11. Poe, Grace - 209	11..a. Gordon, Dick - 127
13. Pimentel, Koko - 164	12. Gordon, Dick - 183	11.b. Pimentel, Koko - 127
14. Gordon, Dick – 160	13. Cojuangco, Tingting - 182	12. Maceda, Manong Ernie - 125
15. Cojuangco, Tingting – 142	14. Pimentel, Koko -181	13. Madrigal, Jamby - 120
<b>TOP PARTY LIST</b>		
OFW Family Club	OFW Family Club	OFW Family Club

16 May 2013 – At 2:00 PM (7:00 PM Philippine time) on 13 May 2013, the Philippine Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon ended the voting period with a total of 1, 187 Filipino Overseas Absentee Voters participating in this mid-term election. The Embassy adopted personal voting, which was done at the Embassy for one whole month, including holidays and weekends. To enable more Overseas Absentee Voters to exercise their right to vote, the Embassy, upon approval by COMELEC, also conducted field voting in two areas (Dora and Hamra), which are frequented by OFWs in Beirut.

The voter turnout is twenty-eight percent (28%) of the total number of registered Overseas Absentee Voters in Lebanon, representing a five percent (5%) increase in voter turnout compared to the presidential elections in 2010. The increase in voter turnout is the result of an extensive information campaign initiated by the Embassy to encourage more registered Overseas Absentee Voters to exercise their right to vote. The information campaign on the overseas voting in Lebanon included announcements through the Embassy’s Facebook account, distribution of flyers, announcement after Sunday masses in churches frequented by OFWs and in Filipino community events, publishing free of charge in one of the daily English newspaper in Lebanon, announcement during an interview by The Filipino Chanel (TFC) and via text (SMS) blast. The Embassy also sought the assistance of Filipino community leaders in disseminating information on the holding of overseas voting in Lebanon.

To encourage more OFWs to vote, the Embassy also provided buses in certain areas where many OFWs converge on Sundays, to ferry OAVoters to the Embassy and also held film showings during weekends in its showroom, where voters watched popular top-grossing Filipino films, including those recently shown during the December 2012 Metro Manila Film Festival. **END**