

PRESS RELEASE

PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES WITH LEBANESE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE WAYS TO BOOST TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



PHOTOS:

LEFT – Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz briefs H.E. Dr. Hussein Al Hajj Hassan (middle) as the Minister's Adviser Dr. Salah Hajj Hassan (right) listens; **MIDDLE** – Ambassador Ruiz presents to Minister Hassan a sinamay-wrapped collection of sample Philippine dried mangoes and biscuits; **RIGHT** – Minister Hassan reads the information written in the packaging of the products.

31 October 2013 – Ambassador Leah M. Basinang Ruiz paid a second courtesy call on H.E. Dr. Hussein Al Hajj Hassan, Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, on 30 October 2013 to update him on developments in the bilateral relationship and to further explore the prospects for cooperation in the area of agricultural trade. His Adviser, Dr. Salah Hajj Hassan, was also present.

Ambassador Ruiz informed Minister Hassan that she is very happy to see Philippine pineapple already being sold in the Lebanese supermarkets and fruit stands. She noted that another popular fruit that could be exported to Lebanon is the Philippine mango, as well as other tropical fruits such as papaya, avocado and mangosteen. In reply, Minister Hassan assured Ambassador Ruiz that Lebanon welcomes the opportunity to further develop and expand exchanges of agricultural products with the Philippines and looks forward to more interaction with the Embassy on this matter. **END**