

PRESS RELEASE

FILIPINOS IN LEBANON DONATE FOR FILIPINOS AFFECTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE IN BOHOL AND SUPER TYPHOON YOLANDA



PHOTOS:

LEFT – Mrs. Beth Tagudin (in checkered shirt) presents to Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz (center) the cash donations; **MIDDLE** – Ambassador Ruiz hands over the cash donations to I-Remit Lebanon agent, Ms. Anita Adigue, who will take charge in sending the donations to the Philippine Red Cross; **RIGHT** – Ambassador Ruiz (seated, center), Rev. Fr. Theo Vlugt, SJ (seated, leftmost) and Rev. Fr. Louis Taoutel SJ (seated, rightmost) pose with members of the Filipino community who have supported the collection of donations for the earthquake and typhoon victims.

15 November 2013 – On Sunday, 10 November 2013, Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz witnessed the simple turnover of the monetary donations by Filipinos in Lebanon, particularly the Filipino churchgoers at the St. Elie Parish in Antelias, Metn. St. Elie Church is one of the Catholic churches in Lebanon, where many Filipinos attend mass on Sundays. The turnover was done after the 11:00 A.M. mass.

The fund raising drive was led by the *Samahan ng mga Filipino sa Lebanon* (SAMAFIL) represented by Ms. Anita Adigue and the Filipino Community Association (FCA) represented by Mr. Dante and Mrs. Beth Tagudin. The total amount of PHP100,050.00 was collected during the fund raising drive. Donations came from the Filipino associations FCA and SAMAFIL, and Filipino churchgoers at St. Elie Church and other members of the Filipino community, including Mrs. Vergie Del Rosario, Ms. Julie Bawigan and Ms. Leila Rofuli. Other donors are the Filipino store Manila Market, the Filipino free-lance agents of remittance company I-Remit Lebanon and St. Elie Church parish priest Fr. Theo Vlugt.

Of the collected amount, PHP50,025.00 pesos will be sent to the victims of the recent earthquake in Bohol and nearby provinces and the remaining PHP50,025.00 will be sent to the victims of the November 8 super typhoon Yolanda, all through the Philippine Red Cross. Other Filipino groups and individuals in Lebanon are also making their respective fund raising activities for the benefit of the victims of super typhoon Yolanda. **END**