

PRESS RELEASE

AMBASSADOR LEAH B. RUIZ INDUCTS THE OFFICERS OF THE GLOBAL OFW WITH A GOLDEN HEART DURING ITS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



PHOTOS:

FIRST ROW LEFT – Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz (rightmost) administers the oath of office to the new set of officers of the Global OFW with a Golden Heart; **FIRST ROW RIGHT**–Ambassador Ruiz delivers her message; **SECOND ROW LEFT**–the eight candidates to the Search for Miss Global OFW with a Golden Heart; **SECOND ROW RIGHT** – Ms. Ella Locsin is crowned the winner of the Global OFW with a Golden Heart 2013.

26 November 2013 – On Sunday, 17 November 2013, Ambassador Leah M. Basinang-Ruiz inducted the new set of officers of the *Global OFW with a Golden Heart*, one of the active Filipino community organizations in Lebanon, on the occasion of its third anniversary celebration. Other Embassy, POLO and OWWA officers and staff also attended the celebration which took place at the auditorium of the St. Francis Church in Hamra, Beirut.

After the induction, Ambassador Ruiz delivered her message where she congratulated the group on their anniversary and urged them to continue to reflect the dreams and aspiration of Filipinos in Lebanon through their common endeavours and collaborations. She also took the opportunity to call on everyone present to offer concrete support and prayers for the victims of super typhoon Yolanda in central Philippines, which on that date had claimed the lives of at least 5,000 Filipinos, affected almost 10 million persons and caused massive destruction to properties. She encouraged Filipino groups to extend a helping hand to the victims by way of donations similar to what other Filipino organizations in Lebanon have already done in the aftermath of the typhoon.

Following the message of Ambassador Ruiz, the other highlight of the anniversary celebration, the search for Miss Global OFW with a Golden Heart 2013 began. Eight Filipino women from different parts of Beirut and nearby areas vied for the title. The candidates paraded on stage in their sports and summer attires and evening gowns and competed in the talent presentations and Q&A portion. Winning the crown for this year's search is Ms. Ella Locsin, while first runner-up is Ms. Raquel Pader, and Ms. Marites Garcia was adjudged second runner-up. Special awards were also given to the other competing candidates.

With the generous financial backing of the sponsors of the event, raffle prizes were given to lucky attendees before the awarding ceremony. The organizers, led by the Group's President, Ms. Jelyn Reyes, thanked the guests and sponsors for their participation and support. **END**