

BDO joins in the grand welcome for OFWs

THE OFWs collective remittances are a huge factor in keeping the Philippine economy steady amidst global pressures. And what could be a good reward for this noble act than a grand reception for their homecoming in time for Christmas last year.

The *Pamaskong Salubong*, an annual event organized by the government, has once again paid tribute to commendable OFWs, who in their time away from their families, pour in hard work for better income abroad. No less than President Aquino led the big welcome, together with government officials such as Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration Administrator Carmelita Dimzon and private sector partner BDO Unibank, Inc., at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on Dec. 20.

Each year, three lucky winners are chosen to receive cash prizes and savings accounts apart from the reward of enjoying the special lanes and priority processing upon arrival at the airport. For 2012, the chosen recipients were Virginia Miranda, Mary Grace Arcebucho and Romeo Ocampo. BDO First Vice President and Head for Remittance Distribution Genie Gloria welcomed the winners and awarded them BDO Kabayan Savings Account passbooks with P50,000 initial deposit each.

Miranda of San Carlos City, Pangasinan is a mother of two and has been a household service worker for 16 years. "I am very happy and pleasantly surprised to have been chosen as one of the recipients of the special prize," she said. "The money I won will go a long way in fulfilling my dreams for my children."

The other winners both work in Qatar. Arcebucho is a beautician from Quezon City, while Ocampo is a welder from Pampanga.

BDO is a staunch supporter of government's programs that protect and promote the socioeconomic welfare of overseas Filipino workers and their families. It has been supporting this yearly event since 2009.



President Benigno Aquino III shakes hand with an OFW at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport during the Pamaskong Salubong.



Prizewinner Virginia Miranda poses with (from left) OWWA administrator Carmelita Dimzon, SM Supermalls president Annie S. Garcia, BDO FVP and head for remittance distribution Genie T. Gloria and SM Supermalls VP for operations Glenn D. Ang during the Pamaskong Salubong held last Dec. 20, 2012.