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Press Release

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“GMA has forgotten Flor” Survey will surely find a higher rate of disgust for GMA among OFWs - UNIFIL

“If Pulse Asia includes OFWs in their surveys, the percentage of those who want GMA out will be even higher.”

This was declared today by Dolores Balladares, chairperson of the United Filipinos in HK (UNIFIL-MIGRANTE-HK) as Pulse Asia, based on their survey, said that 65% of Filipinos want GMA out. She said that *“especially today when we commemorate the death of Flor Contemplacion, we find no more reason for GMA to stay in Malacanang.”*

According to Balladares, the situation of OFWs that led to the Flor Contemplacion tragedy remains and in fact intensifies.

“Under the government of GMA, OFWs are treated as mere money-makers. We are nothing but exports for GMA to generate the income that she needs to keep herself in Malacanang,” she added.

UNIFIL lambasted GMA for keeping herself busy *“covering up her scams and scandals”* while OFWs *“die abroad, abused by employers, unjustly jailed, or get victimized by illegal recruiters”*.

According to Balladares, Filipinos in HK never got the support that they need from GMA for their concerns.

“She has not lifted a finger to help in our campaign for a wage increase here. She never answered our demand to scrap the authentication fee. She never did anything but plunder the fund for OFW welfare and push the country into ruins,” she said.

Balladares scored GMA for the unsolved anomalies involving the use of funds of the OWWA especially those that involve her such as the money used for her campaign last year.

“OWWA is the billion-peso scam of GMA. For as long as GMA is in power, OFWs will never have a chance of receiving even a trickle of service that we deserve.”

The group also condemned the continued imprisonment of Rep. Crispin Beltran and the political harassment of the Batasan 5.

“While she remains inutile in her responsibility towards OFWs, she jails the defenders of our rights and promoters of our wellbeing. If GMA can't do her job, she should let those who support us do theirs,” she declared.

Balladares said that her group is gearing for an intensified campaign in HK to involve Filipino migrants in the ouster of GMA.

“The more than 1,000 OFWs jailed in Saudi Arabia, the thousands of deported workers from Malaysia, the more than 3,000 Filipinos who are forced to flee the country everyday just so we can survive – the millions of Filipinos enslaved abroad are the living proofs that GMA should go nowhere else but out of office,” she concluded.#