



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
P R E S S R E L E A S E

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RP, USAID TO UPGRADE TWO MINDANAO AIRPORTS

MANILA – The Philippines and the United States are fast tracking the Jolo (Sulu) and Sanga-Sanga (Bongao) airports in Mindanao.

The rehabilitation and upgrading of the two airports to the tune of Php 430 million is jointly funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Philippine government to accommodate bigger aircraft.

The Growth with Equity in Mindanao (GEM) will fund most of the improvements of the runway while the Philippine government through the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) will handle the improvement of terminal facilities and acquisition of the lands required for the expansion of the airstrip.

Earlier, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) was signed by GEM, the DOTC and Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB).

DOTC Secretary Leandro Mendoza said the projects include the expansion and widening of the existing runways as well as upgrading of the passenger terminals, to include new baggage conveyors and x-ray machines.

Mendoza said with the rehabilitation and upgrading of the two airports, "it would help expand economic activities in the two provinces."

For the Jolo Airport (Sulu), the runway would be extended from 1,200 meters to about 1,845 meters, requiring a Php 230 million budget.

On the other hand, the Sanga-Sanga (Bongao) airport will be extended by an additional 300 meters from the existing 1,608 meters and would entail the amount of Php 200 million.

The projects are expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2009. END

Labanan ang Kahirapan

Ramdam ang Kaunlaran

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