## STATEMENT ON THE

## GRANT OF ROYAL PARDON TO AND RELEASE OF 16 FILIPINOS IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN 31 May 2020

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte extends his deepest gratitude to His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa for granting Royal Pardon to 16 Filipinos in the Kingdom of Bahrain, including two who were pardoned on the occasion of Eid'l Fitr.

His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa's forgiveness paves the way for the release of these 16 Filipinos and their return to the Philippines in due course.

This act of humanity by His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa provides renewed hope and an opportunity for our countrymen and women to build new lives.

For President Duterte, the Royal Pardon is testament anew to the abiding ties between the Philippines and the Kingdom of Bahrain and the deep and strong relations with His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa.

President Duterte values his friendship with His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa and vows to continue working closely to further deepen bilateral ties and strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual benefit between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Bahrain. (OPAFA)