

## Travel Tax Exemption Availment Below the Maximum Limit

In support of Philippine exporters, the Export Development Council has processed 965 applications for travel tax exemption amounting to Php 1.5M in the 1st year of implementation (03 April 2007 to 02 April 2008). For the second year (03 April 2008 to present) 831 applications were processed amounting to Php1.3M. This is way below the maximum exemption of Php20M per year which is granted by the Philippine Tourism Authority.

Most of the reasons for travel are participation in trade fairs, exhibitions and outbound business missions. PHILEXPORT expressed that low Availment may be due to the crunching of the markets.

Todate, the EDC Secretariat accepts endorsements through email from agencies in order to avoid delays and effectively maintain the two-day processing time.

Exporters are encouraged to continuously avail of the travel tax exemption. For inquiries please contact the Bureau of Export Trade Promotion at Tel. 899-0107; Bureau of International Trade Relations at Tel. No. 890-1719; CITEM at Tel. No. 833-1277; PHILEXPORT at Tel. No. 833-7682 or EDC at Tel. No. 897-7608.