

BLR, ILO Hold Multisectoral Trainers' Training on FOA and CB



The Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) and International Labor Organization (ILO) conducted a three-day Multisectoral Trainers' Training on Freedom of Association (FOA) and Collective Bargaining Agreement (CB) on 14-16 November 2018 at Quest Hotel, in Clark, Pampanga.

The activity was organized to further improve the application of ILO Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association and the Right to Organize and Convention No. 98 on the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining.

Thirty two (32) representatives from different government agencies and from the labor and management sectors attended the trainers' training. Agencies that participated were the Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of National Defense, Department of Justice, Commission on Human Rights, Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines, and Philippine Economic Zone Authority.

On behalf of the ILO Country Office Manila, Mr. Jajoon Coue, ILO Specialist on International Labour Standards and Labour Law, welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance of having a review of the principles and concepts of the ILO Convention Nos. 87 and 98 to ensure the protection and promotion of workers' right.

On behalf of DOLE, OIC-Undersecretary Benjo Santos M. Benavidez in his opening remarks said that “it is imperative to train and regularly capacitate a pool of trainers who will have well-founded understanding of International Labor Standards, specifically on the principles of Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining, as well as on the mechanisms, requirements, and procedures embodied in existing guidelines governing the engagement of various social partners and stakeholders during labor disputes.”

Mr. Jajoon Coue provided the participants with the basic orientation on FOA and CB. OIC-Assistant Regional Director Jason Balais discussed the Philippine application of ILO Convention Nos. 87 and 98 and the existing Guidelines on the conduct of DOLE, DILG, DND, DOJ, PNP and AFP relative to the exercise of workers’ rights and activities and the Joint DOLE-PNP-PEZA Guidelines in the conduct of the PNP Personnel, Economic Zone Police and Security Guards, Company Security Guards and similar personnel during labor disputes. Atty. Ramon Saura III, on the other hand, presented training facilitation fundamentals.

Training participants are expected to be tapped as resource persons and advocates of FOA and CB and to re-echo their learnings in their respective organizations. During the training, they were tasked to have a mock presentation of the principles and concepts FOA and CB and the existing Guidelines relative to the stakeholders’ role during a labor dispute.

The three-day activity is part of the tripartite-formulated National Action Plan on FOA and CB which seeks to achieve the continuous capacity-building of stakeholders on international labor standards, particularly on FOA and CB as well as on the different instruments/guidelines that were developed to help ensure the protection and promotion of workers’ right and activities.

END/Honey Glaze Alipio