

## **DOLE, PNA Sign MOA on Protection of Rights of Filipino Nurses**

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Philippine Nurses Association, Inc. (PNA) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on the implementation of programs and policies on the protection of rights and promotion of welfare of the Filipino nurses.

Secretary Silvestre H. Bello III and Ms. Ruth Thelma P. Tingda, PNA President, signed the MOA on 07 November 2017 at the Office of the Secretary in Intramuros, Manila.

The MOA recognizes PNA as an Accredited Professional Organization to participate in the assessment of establishments' compliance to labor laws and social legislation, including attendance to mandatory conferences pursuant to DOLE Administrative Order No. 164, Series of 2017. The PNA will help DOLE in ensuring that all establishments in the healthcare industry are compliant with all labor laws, rules and regulations, specifically Labor Standards and Occupational Safety and Health Standards.

Under the MOA, the PNA will also be considered for accreditation as legitimate provider of Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars (PDOS) and to conduct PDOS, subject to the accreditation and registration guidelines set by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and institutionalize the conduct of Pre-Employment Orientation Seminars (PEOS).

Secretary Bello expressed gratitude to the PNA for partnering with DOLE in recognizing the importance of protecting the rights and promoting the welfare of the Filipino Nurses.

On hand to witness the signing of the MOA were Undersecretary Joel B.

Maglunsod and BLR Dir. Benjo Santos M. Benavidez, representing DOLE, together with Gov. Paulita Cruz, Gov. Elnora Argota, Gov. Yolanda Canaria, Gov. Alilie Gaduena and Executive Director Marian Santos, representing PNA.

“Nakapaloob sa kasunduan na ito ang pagtutulungan ng PNA at DOLE upang masiguro natin ang pagsunod sa batas paggawa,” Undersecretary Maglunsod said.

**END/Kim Margarette Martinez**