

BLR and NCMB Conduct Capacity Building on Conciliation-Mediation for RCAM-AMLC's Pool of Voluntary Conciliator-Mediators

The Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) in coordination with the National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Manila-Archdiocesan Ministry of Labor Concerns (RCAM-AMLC) conducted a two-day training on conciliation-mediation on 07-08 April 2016 at the DOLE Labor Governance Learning Center (LGLC), DOLE Building in Intramuros, Manila.

The training aimed to capacitate the pool of voluntary conciliator-mediators of RCAM-AMLC in the conduct of conciliation-mediation in labor disputes in catholic parochial schools, parishes and other catholic institutions within the Archdiocese of Manila and the suffragan dioceses. The activity was part of the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by and between the RCAM-AMLC and DOLE, through BLR and NCMB last 18 January 2016.

Around forty (40) members of the RCAM-AMLC including its paralegals participated in the activity.

“The Constitution of the Philippines states the separation of church and state, but we cannot deny the fact that the objective of both the church and the government is to promote the welfare of the general public,” said BLR Director Benjo Santos M. Benavidez. He emphasized the importance of understanding the labor standards and rights because a labor dispute arises from violations of labor rights.

Deputy Executive Director Jose Maria Batino of the Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC) comprehensively discussed the Occupational Safety and Health Standards, required areas of compliance and reportorial requirements.

On the other hand, Ms. Lyneth Diane Alavado of the Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) presented the general labor standards, including the minimum requirements prescribed by laws relating to wages, hours of work, allowances and other monetary and welfare benefits as well as those set by the occupational safety and health standards.

Atty. Divine Grace Gabunas, Engr. Kristine Carol Soriente and Mr. Nick Bon of the BWC also tackled the Labor Laws Compliance System (LLCS). They lectured on the revised rules of the LLCS and the enhanced assessment checklist. The process of joint assessment, compliance visit and occupational safety and health standards investigation were also covered.

Executive Director Shirley M. Pascual of the NCMB presented the overview and accomplishments of the Single Entry Approach (SEnA) Program. Meanwhile, Director Teresita Audea and Conciliator-Mediator Estelita Bautista of NCMB-NCR discussed the skills and techniques on conciliation-mediation process.

Rev. Fr. Erik Martin Adoviso of RCAM-AMLC and the participants expressed gratitude to BLR and resource persons for strengthening their capacity and providing them knowledge and skills on conciliation-mediation.

END/ Honey Glaze M. Alipio