

BLR, ILS Hold Stakeholders' Consultation on Multi-Employer Bargaining Policies and Practices



The Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) and the Institute for Labor Studies (ILS) conducted a one-day Stakeholders' Consultation on Multi-Employer Bargaining Policies and Practices on 11 May 2018 at the Ramada Hotel in Binondo, Manila.

The forum-workshop was part of a BLR-ILS research project on the applicability of multi-employer bargaining in the Philippines. The research seeks to determine the applicability of multi-employer bargaining in the context of emerging forms of work arrangements.

The activity solicited the inputs of stakeholders on the following aspects: (1) the need for a separate legislation for multi-employer bargaining; (2) applicability of multi-employer bargaining in different sectors and type of workers; (3) concrete steps towards a centralized form of bargaining (i.e. industry-based bargaining).

“This forum-workshop will serve as a venue to see the applicability of multi-employer bargaining in our sectors”, said Undersecretary Maglunsod in his keynote speech. “I am excited in the ideas that you will share on how we can utilize multi-employer bargaining as a mechanism to protect the interests of both workers and the employers in the evolving world of work”, he added.

ILS Acting Executive Director Ahmma Charisma Lobrin-Satumba in her opening remarks said that the Institute for Labor Studies and the Bureau of Labor Relations initiated the research project as part of the DOLE research agenda for 2018 under the 8-Point Labor and Employment Agenda on ensuring full respect of labor standards and the fundamental principles and rights at work.

Resource persons include BLR Director Benjo Santos Benavidez who discussed the concept and policies on multi-employer bargaining in the Philippines. Ms. Diane Lynn Respall of the International Labour Organization presented the international

perspectives on and trends in multi-employer bargaining. Mr. Exequiel Nidea of National Union of Banking Employees shared the opportunities and limitations of multi-employer bargaining in the context of emerging forms of work arrangements.

Representatives from labor groups, employers' associations and government organizations including the Civil Service Commission (CSC) attended the activity.

A workshop was conducted to solicit the inputs of the stakeholders on the applicability of multi-employer bargaining to their respective sector and industry. Data and information gathered during the activity shall serve as inputs to the research.

END/Kim Margarete B. Martinez