

NTIPC Calls IATF to Augment the Funds for CAMP and TUPAD #BKBK

As the primary forum for tripartite advisement and consultation on labor and employment concerns, the National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council (NTIPC) convened a special online meeting on 14 April 2020.

The meeting, which was presided by Undersecretary Benjo Santos M. Benavidez, focused on labor and employment issues during the pandemic.

During the special meeting, the implementation of COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) and Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Displaced/Disadvantage Workers Program #Barangay Ko, #Bahay Ko (TUPAD #BKBK) were discussed.

CAMP is a one-time P5,000.00 financial assistance to workers in the formal sector who have suffered an interruption of wages during the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), regardless of the employment status. Since the implementation of CAMP, DOLE was able to provide the said assistance to a total of 633,727 workers with ₱3,168,365,000.00 actual disbursement against the ₱3,271,777,000.00 budget allotted from the 2020 Budget of the Department as of 11 May 2020.

On the other hand, TUPAD #BKBK is a community-based assistance that provides emergency employment to self-employed and displaced marginalized workers for a period of ten (10) days to disinfect and sanitize their own houses/dwelling and immediate vicinity. As of 08 May 2020, a total of 306,369 beneficiaries have completed their work with a total of ₱1,161,646,603.29 wages paid against the ₱1,263,984,262.00 budget allotted from the DOLE's 2020 Budget.

Since the requests for assistance have ballooned beyond the capacity of the resources of the Department, it decided to close the acceptance of CAMP applications on 15 April 2020.

However, there are still substantial number of employees who have applied and have not received financial assistance under CAMP. Therefore, the NTIPC, as the highest tripartite consultative body, requests the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) to continue and strengthen the implementation of CAMP and TUPAD throughout the extension of the ECQ with the augmentation of the budget of DOLE for these programs.

The NTIPC was established by virtue of Republic Act No. 10395, or the Tripartism Law, to serve as the main consultative body at the national level for tripartite advisement and consultation in the formulation, review, and implementation of labor, employment, and social policies.

END/Kim Margarete B. Martinez