

TRIPARTITE INDUSTRIAL PEACE COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Series 2020

Calling on the Inter-Agency Task Force to Augment the Funds for the COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program and the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Displaced/Disadvantage Workers Program #Barangay Ko, #Bahay Ko

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10395 or “An Act Strengthening Tripartism, Amending for the Purpose Article 275 of the Presidential Decree No. 442, as amended otherwise known as the Labor Code of the Philippines”, the National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council (NTIPC) is mandated to review existing labor, economic, and social policies and to evaluate local and international developments affecting them;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation No. 922, Series of 2020 was issued on 08 March 2020 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and its impact to the country’s economy;

WHEREAS, Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2020 was issued on 28 March 2020 providing the guidelines on the Social Amelioration Measures by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to the most affected residents of areas under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ);

WHEREAS, the IATF supports the approval and immediate release of the requested budget of the DOLE amounting to Php5 billion in order to defray the costs of the following social amelioration programs: 1) CAMP for affected Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and local workers; 2) TUPAD Sanitation Project; and 3) the Abot Kamay ang Pagtulong (AKAP) sa OFWs Program pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 21, Series of 2020¹;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) under Department Order No. 209, Series of 2020 provides a one-time financial support to affected workers in the formal sector to mitigate the adverse economic impact and reduction of income brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Displaced/Disadvantage Workers Program (TUPAD) #Barangay Ko, #Bahay Ko (TUPAD #BKBK) under Department Order No. 210, Series of 2020 is a community-based safety net program that provides temporary wage employment to the informal economy workers, such as but not limited to underemployed, self-employed, and displaced marginalized

¹ This is not a new or additional funding but is based on the DOLE’s realigned budget.

workers which have lost their livelihood or whose earnings were affected due to the ECQ;

WHEREAS, during the NTIPC Special Online Meeting on 14 April 2020 and TEC Special Online Meeting on 21 April 2020, the members raised that the allocated fund for CAMP and TUPAD is insufficient to accommodate and support all the affected and displaced workers;

WHEREAS, the DOLE has allotted Php1.6 billion for CAMP that can cover 321,975 workers out of the 1.6 million displaced formal sector workers recorded as of 17 April 2020 and Php1.14 billion for TUPAD #BKBK that cover 279,028 informal workers;

WHEREAS, DOLE has provided assistance to 284,579 formal sector workers under CAMP with total cash disbursements of Php1.42 billion as of 20 April 2020 and to 235,949 informal sector workers under the TUPAD #BKBK amounting to Php966 million as of 19 April 2020;

WHEREAS, as of 15 April 2020, DOLE announced the suspension of acceptance of new CAMP applications as its available fund is close to being depleted;

WHEREAS, there exists a substantial number of employees who have applied and have not received financial assistance under CAMP;

WHEREAS, the government should prioritize employees regardless of whether they belong to large enterprise or Micro Small Medium Enterprise (MSMEs), considering that their contribution to the stability and growth of the economy are the same;

WHEREAS, the Department of Finance (DOF) launched the Small Business Wage Subsidy (SBWS) Program through which the government shall provide a wage subsidy of between Php5,000 to Php8,000 per month per eligible employee;

WHEREAS, the procedure to apply and the guidelines for qualification for SBWS is tedious, time consuming and labor intensive as compared to the simple and speedy processes in applying for inclusion to CAMP and TUPAD such that it defeats the urgency for a hastened distribution of the assistance to affected workers;

WHEREAS, the TIPC members saw the urgent need to augment the DOLE's fund for CAMP and TUPAD to continuously implement these programs and provide income guarantee to workers.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that we, the members of the NTIPC, constituted through Republic Act No. 10395, fervently call on the Inter-Agency Task Force to augment the budget of DOLE for CAMP and TUPAD in such amounts so as to ensure that all displaced workers are each provided with the income guarantee amounting to the prevailing minimum wage, or Php10,000 per month, whichever is higher;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NTIPC members respectfully request and recommend the following:

- a. Realignment or transfer of sufficient funds from SBWS to accommodate all affected workers covered by CAMP and TUPAD;
- b. Continuous implementation of CAMP and TUPAD throughout the extension of the ECQ;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the same or similarly speedy and simple application procedures and forms as that used by employers for DOLE-CAMP be implemented and accepted in the application for SBWS inclusion in order to hasten the distribution of the grant/assistance and thereby serve the very purpose of the grant.

Approved this 14th of April 2020.