

DOLE Conducts a Webinar on the National Government's COVID-19 Vaccination Program

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), in coordination and partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), conducted a webinar on the National Government's COVID-19 Vaccination Program on 12 March 2021. The webinar aims to raise awareness and boost the level of confidence and uptake on COVID-19 vaccines.

This webinar which focused on the medical aspect of vaccination featured discussions on the review of vaccines and evidence and summary of vaccines available, the vaccine selection and approval process, vaccine trial, and the vaccine deployment plan.

Dr. Marion Priscilla Aurellano-Kwek, Chair of the Health Education Committee of the Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, presented a comprehensive review of vaccine mechanisms and evidence summaries.

Dr. Nina G. Gloriani, Head of the Vaccine Development Expert Panel of DOST, laid out the Vaccine Selection Process. Her presentation exhibited the Philippine Government's effort to ensure the delivery of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine, considering the very limited initial supply that will be available worldwide.

Director-General Rolando Enrique D. Domingo of the Philippine FDA apprised the participants with the comprehensive procedures behind vaccine approval hoping that his presentation has diminished any misgivings about the safety and effectiveness of any vaccine that will be rolled-out.

Executive Director Jaime C. Montoya of the DOST – Philippine Council for Health Research and Development discussed the WHO Solidarity Vaccine Trials. He highlighted the immense value of our participation in these trials, and how these trials bolster our country's progress in the medical field.

Dr. Aleli Annie Grace Sudiagal, Director III, Field Implementation and Coordination Team of the Department of Health explained the Vaccine Deployment plan while Dr.

Alfonso Regala of DOH discussed the communications, expectations and feedback look.

A short open forum was also conducted and was moderated by Dr. Ana Ong-Lim of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines, Inc.

This webinar was also streamed live via the Bureau of Labor Relations and DOH Facebook pages.

Aside from this webinar, two other webinars are scheduled on 25 and 26 March 2021 for the employer and labor sectors, respectively.

END. (Kim Margarete B. Martinez)