

## **NTIPC Holds its First In-Person Meeting under Secretary Bienvenido E. Laguesma, Approves Revised IRR of Telecommuting Act**



Taking up its mantle as the primary policy and decision-making body for tripartite advisement and consultation on labor and employment concerns, the National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council (NTIPC) on 09 September 2022, convened its first in-person meeting in two years at Occupational Safety and Health Center, Quezon City. Thirteen (13) NTIPC members from the labor sector and nine (9) employer members attended the meeting. Joining the Secretary are Undersecretary Benjo Santos Benavidez, Undersecretary Ciriaco Lagunzad III, Undersecretary Benedicto Ernesto Bitonio, Jr., Undersecretary Felipe Egargo, Assistant Secretary Paul Vincent Añoover, Assistant Secretary Lennard Constantine Serrano, Assistant Secretary Maria Liavel Badillo-Crisostomo, Executive Director Ahmma Charisma Lobrin-Satumba, Executive Director Ma. Teresita Cucueco, Director Alvin Curada and Regional Director Exequiel Ronie Guzman.

Presided by DOLE Secretary Bienvenido E. Laguesma as the Chairperson of the Council, the sole matter for discussion in the meeting is the approval of the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11165, Otherwise Known as the “Telecommuting Act”. This is in light of the new and alternative avenues of employees in performing their work which arise from technological advancements.



Director Alvin Curada of the Bureau of Working Conditions presented the draft revised IRR of the Telecommuting Act. While some issues remain unresolved, the NTIPC approved and adopted the draft revised IRR after arriving at a consensus on the contentious issues, specifically on the cost of supplies and equipment and overtime pay during telecommuting. As Secretary Laguesma said, “We are trying to work-out something that is agreeable and acceptable”.

Consequently, with the concurrence of both labor and employer members, the draft revised IRR shall be endorsed to the Office of the Secretary of Labor and Employment for consideration and approval.



The NTIPC was established by virtue of Executive Order No. 403 (1990), 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 Margarette B. Martinez**