

## Good News

Department of Labor and Employment

Bureau of Working Conditions

20 April 2017

**DOLE celebrates the 2017 National Women's Month with "WE "Learning sessions**



The DOLE Bureau of Working Conditions in coordination with the Bureau of Labor Relations organized a series of learning sessions for employers and labor organizations on March 24 & 31, 2017 at the LGLC DOLE, Intramuros, Manila, as part of the DOLE's GAD activities in celebrating the National Women's Month 2017 with the theme: "WE Make Change work for women".



The two sessions tackled the women related laws particularly on the Special Leave Benefits under R.A. 9710 - Magna Carta of Women; the Maternity Leave Law under R.A. 8282, and the leave benefits under R.A. 9262, the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children, which

were all discussed by the resource person, Ms. Melinda D. Banaag of BWC.

And to ensure understanding and effectiveness of the participants' grasp on the topics discussed, Ms. Myra Flor M. Ampong, BLR-GAD Focal, facilitated the open forum where the attendees of raised issues and concerns relative to the actual practices of the employers on how they grant the leave benefits to workers and the experiences/remedies of the employees when their applications to avail the said leaves are denied by their employers.



The learning session ended with a message delivered by Dr. Ma. Teresita S. Cucueco, Director of BWC, in which she said, " this learning activity is a culmination of the DOLE's celebration of women's month, but our duty to empower women and to promote respect to labor standards and to afford full protection to all workers will not end".

Thus, as part of the DOLE's GAD client-focused initiatives, the learning activities aimed at addressing gender gaps in harmony with the DOLE's core program of promoting full respect for labor standards and rights at work. It was also called "WE" (Women Empowerment) Learning session for it endeavored to empower women workers by enhancing their knowledge and understanding of the statutory rights of women workers in the private sectors as well as to bolster the awareness of the employers with their obligations to grant such benefits and provide social protection to the workers in accordance with the existing laws.

The two sets of learning activities were joined by 94 representatives from the different employers and labor organizations comprising of 16 males and 78 females. The presence of Ms. Rica B. Alvis of the Philippine Commission on Women was also observed who provided inputs and reference materials during the forum. Meanwhile, Ms. Euniz Johanne M. Garcia and Ms. Mafel S. Sanchez, BWC GAD Focal provided technical assistance and facilitated the provisions for the successful implementation of the said learning sessions.

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