

Press Release
Department of Labor and Employment
Bureau of Working Conditions
28 September 2018

A STEP CLOSER TO A SAFER AND HEALTHIER WORKPLACE

The amended Occupational Safety and Health Standards is expected to be out early part of next year in a move to coordinate all regulations and practices in line with the continued influx of changes in the working environment.

The Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) recently held a four-day writeshop with the aim of harmonizing and finalizing the different inputs from the previous tripartite consultation on the said amendments. The activity was conducted last September 20-23 at Bayleaf, Intramuros and was attended by representatives from various DOLE Offices including its' Regional Offices.

The changes and improvements made on the Standards shall cover various aspects of OSH in a comprehensive manner as well as specifics to include new Rules which include the vulnerable groups as women workers, young workers and the differently abled workers.

In her message prior to the start of the writeshop, Director Ma. Teresita S. Cucueco, underscored the Department's commitment on the global and national legislations that declare OSH as a basic human right. She stressed the need for the government to provide them better working conditions through the formulation and implementation of good OSH programs that is responsive to the needs of the times. "The government plays an open and constructive roles to safeguard workers' safety in all sectors, a sound and responsive policy is the foundation in which successful programs were made possible," she added.

The DOLE through the BWC, recognize that this body of standards, rules, and regulations, known as the Occupational Safety and Health Standards, that was promulgated in 1978, and amended in 1989, has to be reviewed and revised to address the many changes in the business environment, work processes, technologies, innovations in products and services that have changed our workplaces, particularly with regards to occupational safety and health.

This is one major step in realizing this long cherished dream of attaining a safe and healthy workplaces for all. It is hoped that the country shall have an Amended OSH Standard not later than first quarter of next year.

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