

BLR Organizes Gender and Development Learning Session



As part of its Gender and Development (GAD) Program, the Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) organized a learning session for its employees on Statutory Benefits of Workers and Safety Measures for Women at Work on 03 July 2018 at the BLR Conference Room.

As an introduction to the activity, Mr. John Christopher Lapiz of BLR contextualized women issues in society. He said that discrimination in employment, violence against women and misogynistic remarks that discount the value of women in the society were some of the gender-issues that women face today. He also emphasized the need for laws specific for women. "We need gender-related laws to promote and advance the role of women, and to level the playing field between men and women so that we can really effect change that works for women," Mr. Lapiz said.

Ms. Queen Therese Espinas, Senior Labor and Employment Officer of the Bureau of Working Conditions, tackled the statutory benefits of workers and safety measures for women at work. The statutory benefits of workers include maternity leave, paternity leave and special leave benefits for women. Ms. Espinas also presented the safety and health measures for workers who by the nature of their work have to spend long hours standing and sitting at work.

The BWC resource person commended the BLR for conducting the learning session as an initiative of providing the DOLE employees or personnel an equal opportunity for enhancement. "We highly appreciate the BLR for coming up with this capacity efforts for our employees to keep updated with our policies," Ms. Espinas said.

The learning session was organized to raise the awareness level of BLR employees on gender-related issues and concerns to promote gender equality in the workplace.

END/Kim Maragrette B. Martinez