

Response of
Director Ma. Brenda L. Villafuerte
to the


CLS HANDBOOK

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- **We** laud ADB’s goal of making countries in Asia and the Pacific region “free of poverty”.
- Its partnership with ILO makes it a strong stakeholder among other bodies that uphold labor standards.
- **Even** at pre-project level, ADB sees to it that CLS are operational in a particular country before extending financial assistance.



 **CLS** are integrated in all project documents, from pre-project design to actual project design to project implementation.



In the Philippines ...

- ➔ **T**he country has ratified many ILO conventions.
- ➔ **F**rom our Constitution (1987) to the Labor Code (1974) to the Occupational Safety & Health Standards (1978), provisions uphold the equality of women, children's rights and health & safety of workers, among others.



➤ In April 16, 1997, the Phil. came out with a Joint Communique on STD/HIV/AIDS in the Workplace.

➤ A few months after, in Feb. 13, 1998, RA 8405 (“Phil. AIDS Prevention & Control Act of 1998”) was enacted; considered as “best practice” in OSH because it contained a workplace component.



➔ The Bureau culled 4,821 HIV/AIDS reports from different establishments nationwide in a span of 3 years (2001-2003).



➔ Today, the challenge for us is to enable localities/ establishments to respond to HIV/AIDS eventualities and to check and monitor OFWs upon their return.





➔ **A**nother law, RA 9165 (“Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002”) provides for a drug-free workplace based on a policy ideally developed jointly by management and labor representatives.

➔ **S**ince 2003 to 2006, a total of 207 companies covering 1,527 workers were reached.



➔ **T**he Bureau came up with DO 13 in 1998 to ensure health and safety in the construction sector.



➔ **A** Construction Health & Safety Program is required of constructors even before they can join bidders for a govt. project.



➔ **T**he required number of OH and Safety personnel has to be met.





➔ **T**he Bureau has also amended Rule 1030 through the development of DO 16, s. 2001.



➔ **B**ased on field experience and stringent training requirements, the Bureau has accredited about 1,700 safety practitioners, 200 safety consultants, 21 safety training organizations and 4 testing organizations for construction heavy equipment since its implementation in 2001.





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➔ The Bureau has issued advisories on wages and wage-related benefits to enlighten workers of their rights and employers, of their obligations. It has come up with an updated edition of the “Handbook on Workers’ Statutory Monetary Benefits”.

➔ It is also conducting a review of the Labor Code, specifically Books III and IV, to make them attuned with the changing world of work.



➔ In January, 2004, the DO 57-04 was implemented in the spirit of tripartism with the ultimate goal of helping establishments achieve voluntary compliance with Labor Standards. It has 3 approaches:

1. Self-Assessment
2. Inspection
3. Technical Advisory Visits



➔ **M**ajority of violations of GLS involve violations of minimum wage, primarily due to inability of establishments to adjust their wages immediately after a wage hike is enforced.

➔ **V**iolations on Health and Safety Standards are mainly on non-submission of reporting requirements and absence of OHS Programs in the workplace.



Bureau of Working Conditions

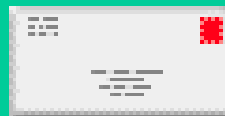
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