



International Labour Organization
Subregional Office for South-East Asia and the Pacific

MANILA

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EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH LIFELONG LEARNING

In response to the numerous challenges of the global economy and the need for a well-trained work force in the country, the International Labour Organization (ILO) will hold a National Tripartite Workshop on Lifelong Learning in the Philippines from December 15-16, 2004.

According to the ILO, lifelong learning ensures that the individual's skills and competencies are maintained and improved as work, technology and skills requirements change. It ensures the personal and career development of workers, resulting in increased productivity as well as improving social equity.

In June 2004, the International Labour Conference adopted a new recommendation concerning Human Resources Development and Training. The HRD Recommendation No. 195 (2004) recognizes in its preamble that education, training and lifelong learning are fundamental and should form an integral part of, and be consistent with, comprehensive economic, fiscal, social and labour market policies and programmes that are important for sustainable economic growth and employment creation and social development.

Many countries are developing their own policy in order to realize lifelong learning. It is commonly recognized today that the knowledge and skills endowment of a labour force, rather than its physical capital, determines its economic and social progress, and its ability to compete in the world economy.

The national meeting is a good opportunity for tripartite constituents in the Philippines particularly government, workers' and employers' organizations to review and discuss lifelong learning policies within the national level and also further promote existing policies in the country. A common action plan for promoting Lifelong Learning will be developed.

Forty of ILO's tripartite constituents including representatives from universities, technical vocational schools and officials dealing with human resources development and training are expected to join the meeting.