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World Day Against Child Labour Celebration (WDACL) in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

Shariff Kabunsuan Cultural Complex, Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City
July 8, 2022; 6:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Activity Report





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Introduction

In 2002, the International Labour Organization launched June 12 as the World Day Against Child Labor (WDACL) to draw attention to the global extent of child labor and the efforts needed to eliminate it. The WDACL brings together national governments, employers' organizations, trade unions, civil society and millions of children and adults throughout the world to highlight the plight of child laborers and advocate for its eradication.

Every year, the Philippines joins the annual observance of WDACL to highlight the plight of child laborers and to demonstrate the country's solidarity in the campaign against child labor. The National Council Against Child Labor (NCACL) and its partners conduct various awareness-raising activities such as seminars, talk shows, trainings, film showing, and storytelling sessions; quiz bee and multimedia arts contests for children and youth; gift-giving for child laborers and children at risk, awarding of livelihood grants to parents of child laborers, among others.

The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) through the Ministry of Labor and Employment – Bureau of Employment, Promotion and Welfare (MOLE-BEPW) and Bangsamoro Youth Commission (BYC) with support from International Labour Organization (ILO) organized a number of activities in support to this call to further raise the awareness of the general public and tripartite constituents on child labour issues and challenges in the region.

MOLE also engaged relevant ministries and tripartite partners for the successful conduct of the activities. It did also tapped the region's information office for the production of the video material that was shown during the event and media entities to help reach a wider audience.

Following the national theme “ **Kapakanan at Kalagayan ng Batang Manggagawa: Sagipin, Tugunan, at Protektahan ng Bayan**”, MOLE managed to engage BARMM ministries, youth organizations, NGO and youth volunteers to participate in a number of activities leading to the culmination.

On July 8, 2022, a motorcade participated by BARMM ministries mostly are members of the Project Advisory and Review Committee (PARC) which the ILO established to foster collaboration and quality assurance in the implementation of child labour related activities in the region. The motorcade which also serves as an awareness raising activity was followed by a program showcasing the SCREAM inspired presentation, messages of support and commitment and the launching of the child labour training manual developed by ILO.



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Pre Event Activities

MOLE took the lead in taking the **#raiseyourhandforkidschallenge** in time for the June 12 WDAFL celebration.



MOLE Minister Muslimin Sema and staff lead the #raiseyourhandforkids challenge

It also managed to display it in the electronic board in the entrance of the regional government some key messages on child labour e.g. Durban Call to Action starting running it for almost a month courtesy of the Bureau of Information Office (BIO) and Bureau of Information and Communication Technology Office (BICTO) under the Office of Chief Minister.



The Durban Call to Action was prominently displayed at the electronic information board that can be seen by BARM employees and guest upon entry to the regional government center.



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Meanwhile, the Bangsamoro Youth Commission led by Commissioner Nas Dunding also engaged their youth volunteers in the region to take the #raiseyourhand challenge to show their support and commitment to end child labour in the region.

ILO also supported the youth volunteers of BYC in producing a role play/drama inspired by the Supporting Children’s Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media (SCREAM) Module¹ through a series of orientation and brainstorming in script writing and week long practice to master the presentation which was successfully showcased during the event.

IEC Materials

BYC staff and volunteers produced some IEC materials like pin wheels and hand fans which were distributed during the event.



¹ <https://www.ilo.org/ipecc/Campaignandadvocacy/Scream/lang--en/index.htm>



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Lay out design used for shirt and poster courtesy of DOLE BSWC

ILO also distributed shirts following the national theme on WDACL with minor a tweak on the lay out design to consider the tri people dimension and context in the region.

WDACL BARMM Celebration

The event started at 6:30 AM with a motorcade participated by almost 14 BARMM ministries and other relevant stakeholders. Despite the rain, around 25 vehicles joined the motorcade starting from MOLE office to the city government of Cotabato Hall then back to the venue inside the regional government.

The pinwheel produced by BYC youth volunteers which was originally planned to be distributed during the motorcade was instead given to the participants along with the manual on RA 9231. Guests were also given a copy of the video documentary and handbook of RA 9231 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations produced by ILO

Around 178 (Male 113, Female 65) participants attended the program proper at the region’s cultural complex mostly coming from BARMM ministries, youth organizations, volunteers and NGO.

BYC Commissioner Nasserudin Dunding, representing Chairperson Marjanie Macasalong, welcomed the participants and guests and said that the Commission is committed to Bangsamoro Government’s moral governance brand, a call not to leave anyone behind, including the advocacy to end child labour.

“It should be our collective effort to ensure that every child in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children’s rights,’ Commissioner Dunding added.





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Meanwhile, Deputy Minister Matarul Estino representing Minister Muslimin Sema of MOLE expressed his appreciation to ILO and BYC for the support in organizing the event. MOLE is committed to pursue the work and advocacies relating to child labour through BEPW under the leadership of Director Sara Jane Sinsuat.



MOLE Deputy Minister Matarul Estino

As part of their commitment, they are in the process of developing the regional action plan against child labour with support from ILO. He added that this event is a manifestation that with us all united in the campaign against child labour, we can do a lot for child labourers and their families through the provision of social protection, livelihood as well as education and lifelong learning to take child labourers out from the cycle of poverty and deprivation which is further exacerbated by the current pandemic.

In a video message, ILO's Country Director Khalid Hassan said that the issue of child labour is a complex issue. While it is the government's fundamental duty to protect its constituents, especially children, multi stakeholder efforts are required to prevent and eliminate child labour. The ILO remains steadfast in supporting efforts to eliminate child labour.



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SCREAM inspired role play

The BYC youth volunteers showcased a SCREAM inspired role play/drama depicting the push and pull factors on the phenomenon of child labour in the region and how collaboration of various stakeholders can bring positive impact to the lives of child labourers and their families. The role play was concluded with a song number calling for the elimination of child labour.

The cast are coming from four youth organizations that BYC mobilized to test case the SCREAM in the development of their script leading to the role play/drama and short dance number.



Last part of the role play depicting the critical importance of multi stakeholder approach in managing child labour issues.

In discussions during the preparation for the WDA CL, Commissioner Dunding shared plans on using SCREAM in their community-based activities on top of their peace and development work for youth and children in the region.

Ceremonial Launch of Child Labour Training Manual

One of the highlights of the WDA CL Celebration was the launch of the Child Labour Training Manual by the ILO and MOLE. With support from DOLE, the training manual will be pilot tested with MOLE, and select PARC members and potential NGO partners next month. Once finalized, this will be rolled out next quarter targeting the PARC members, BARMM offices and law enforcement agencies ,relevant stakeholders (NGO, academe, media) and community.



The ILO Child Labour Project Team and MOLE led the ceremonial launch of the Child Labour Training Manual during the WDA CL.



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Statement of Support

Participating BARMM ministries committed its support to the campaign in the elimination of child labour in the region through policy support, program complementation and collaboration. Commissioner Aida Silongan of Ministry of Science and Technology offered the ministry's program² to qualified working children and child labour in general. Similar statement of support was echoed by representatives coming from MAFAR, MBHTE, BWC and MBHTE.



MOST Minister Aida Silongan.



Chief Minister Ahod Balawag Ebrahim in a video message reiterated the regional government's commitment in taking the lead in the campaign on child labour in the region. BARMM ranks third with the most number of child labourer in the country based on latest PSA 2020 survey.

² <https://most.bangsamoro.gov.ph/most-joins-the-2022-world-day-against-child-labor/>



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Pledge of Commitment

In wrapping up the event, MOLE Bureau of Employment, Promotion and Welfare Director Sara Jane Sinsuat urges everyone to take a stand and read the pledge of commitment in support to the recent [Durban Call to Action](#) as a strategy and approach in the elimination of child labour in the region.



MOLE BEPW Director Sara Jane Sinsuat lead the reading of the Durban Call to Action as part of the region's commitment.



Engr. Dong Anayatin, former Director General of MOLE and now serves as the ministry's Chief Technical Consultant delivered an inspiring closing message to the participants enjoining them to take a stand and stake in the campaign for the elimination of child labour phenomenon in the region.



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Lessons learned

1. When one or two agencies with mandate on child protection and welfare worked together they achieved better results and in this case successfully raise the awareness on child labour and slowly engaging other ministries and relevant stakeholders to take a stake in the campaign for the progressive withdrawal of child labourers and the provision of appropriate interventions to both the child labourers and their families.
2. Tapping youth groups and volunteers in event such as WDAFL is critical in determining if the activity is responsive to call of times
3. Continue engaging media to take a cursory look on the CL issues and decent work in general is but a challenge given the low awareness on CL in the region. Regular sharing of CL related information with them will facilitate a better understanding on their part and challenge them to take a stake in the process
4. Tapping the regional government resources such as venue, electronic information board, use of emergency response team and vehicle during the motorcade and its information office for the production of video on child labour.
5. While we only engage at first BYC to work with MOLE in organizing the event, the latter manage to get the buy-in the support and commitment of four youth organizations to take an active role during the event. This is only an indication that youth organizations is vibrant in the city and they can help in a series of awareness raising on child labour that the CL Project will support in months to come.

Next Steps

1. Meeting and debriefing with MOLE and BYC staff and volunteers
2. Follow up visit and meeting with BARMM ministries and offices to secure the Focal Person/s on CL that they designate and also check their commitments through their current projects and programs that can be tweak to accommodate child labour perspectives.
3. Target relevant BARMM ministries and stakeholders for the planned roll out of the child labour training manual this year.
4. Identify potential trainer and facilitators from relevant BARMM ministries and offices e.g. BYC, DAB and stakeholders that ILO and MOLE will tap later for the roll out.



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Annexes

Annex 1 Activity Photos

Pre Role Play Preparations



Briefing and orientation on SCREAM Kit with BYC staff and volunteers.



MOLE staff shared the draft program with the team and how the SCREAM inspired role play fits in the event.



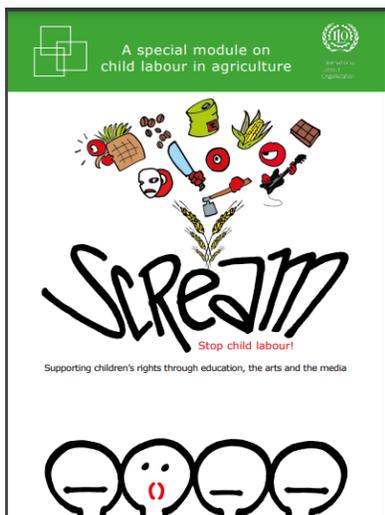
SCREAM inspired role play/ drama actors and actresses posed for raiseyourhandforkids challenge as part of their commitment and support to CL agenda.



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BYC youth organization volunteers brainstormed as they draft the script guided by SCREAM Module on Agriculture.



Copy of the SCREAM Kit that was used as a guide and reference in the finalization of the script for the drama and dance number.

Youth volunteers posed with ILO CL Team as they wrapped their daily practice.





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Final in house practice at ILO office before proceeding to the venue.

Final rehearsal at the venue in preparation for the big event the next day.





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#RaiseYourHandforKidsChallenge Photos



Minister Mus Sema of MOLE lead the #raiseyourhandchallenge along with the rest of its bureau and field offices in the region



MOLE Field Office in Basilan



1BEPW team headed by Director Sara Jane Sinsuat



Office of Agriculture -Maguindanao headed by Sir Monib Usman took the challenge. Sir Usman was designated as the Child Labour Focal Person by Governor Bai Mariam Mangudadatu.



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MBHTE BALS Director Daud Kadon and his team.

Arman Patagani, ALS Division Coordinator.

Motorcade

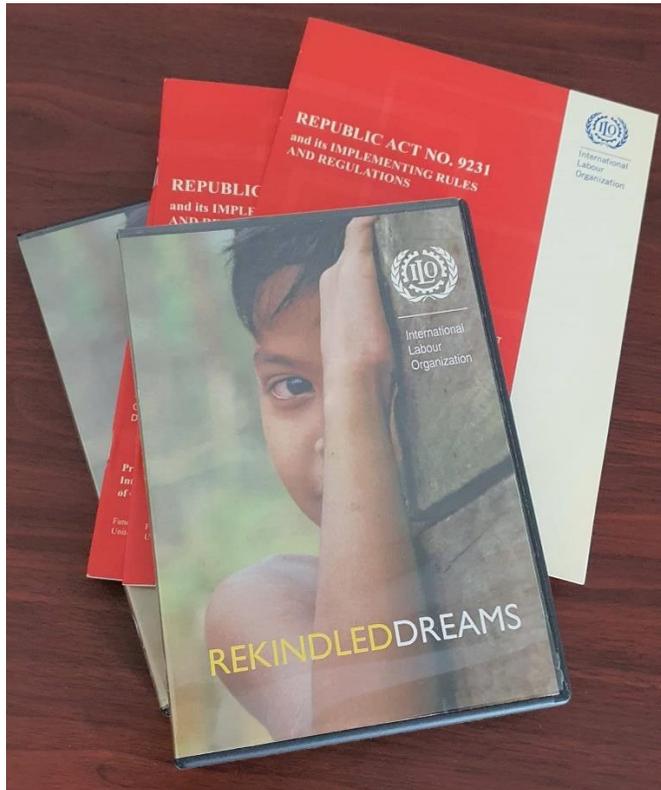


Despite the rain, around 25 vehicles of BARMM ministries, offices and relevant stakeholder participated in the motorcade.



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IEC Materials Distributed in the Event



Copies of the RA 9231 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and video documentary produced by ILO.



Pin wheel produced by BYC



Annex 2. Attendance



WDA CL BARM
Registration 0708202



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Annex 3. Program



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WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOR
“Kapakanan at Kalagayan ng Batang Manggagawa: Sagipin, Tugunan, at
Protektahan ng Bayan”
 Shariff Kabunsuan Cultural Complex, Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City
 July 8, 2022; 6:00 AM – 10:30 AM

PROGRAMME

TOPIC	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TIME
Assembly	Participants	6:00 AM – 6:30 AM
Motorcade	MOLE BGC to Cityhall to SKCC	6:30 AM – 7:30 AM
Invocation	SECRETARIAT	7:45 AM – 7:50 AM
National Anthem	AVP	7:50 AM – 7:55 AM
BARMM Hymn	AVP	7:55 AM – 8:00 AM
Welcome Remarks	HON. NASSERUDIN D. DUNDING Commissioner for Maguindanao and Cotabato City Bangsamoro Youth Commission	8:00 AM – 8:05 AM
Acknowledgement of Guests and Participants	BEPW-MOLE	8:05 AM – 8:10 AM
Message from Chief Minister	HON. AHOD B. EBRAHIM, AL-HADJ Minister, MOLE-BARMM	8:10 AM – 8:15 AM
Message from Minister	HON. MUSLIMIN G. SEMA Minister, MOLE-BARMM	8:15 AM – 8:20 AM
Message from ILO Country Director	KHALID HASSAN Country Director, International Labor Organization (ILO)	8:20 AM – 8:25 AM
Intermission Number	YOUTH VOLUNTEERS Bangsamoro Youth Commission (BYC), BARMM	8:25 AM – 8:40 AM
Launch of Child Labour Training Manual	JENNIFER AGUINALDO Manager, ILO	8:40 AM – 8:55 AM
Statement of Support	Cotabato City Government Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education Ministry of Trade, Investment and Tourism Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform Ministry of the Interior and Local Government Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority Ministry of Science and Technology Ministry of Social Services and Development Ministry of Health Bangsamoro Women Commission Ministry of Public Works Ministry of Public Order and Safety Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission	8:55 AM – 9:35 AM
Video on Anti-Child Labour	AVP	9:35 AM – 9:40 AM
Pledge of Commitment for a Child Labor-Free BARMM • Raise your hand against child labor	DIR. SARA JANE S. SINSUAT, MPA, JD Director I, Bureau of Employment Promotion and Welfare (BEPW), MOLE-BARMM	9:40 AM - 9:55 AM
Closing Remarks	MATARUL M. ESTINO Deputy Minister, MOLE-BARMM	9:55 AM – 10:00 AM

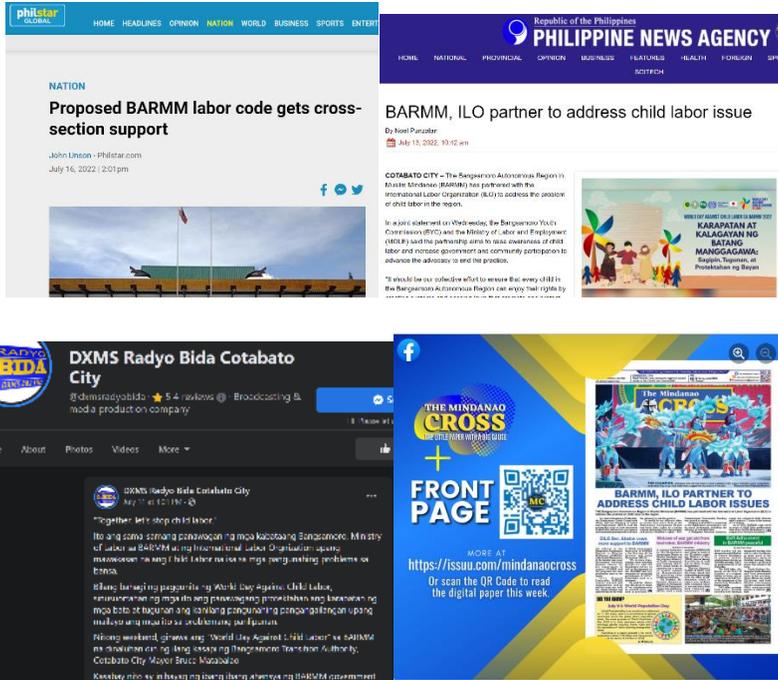
SAHANI T. MOSI and YANAH MARDEYA SANDAY
Masters of Ceremony



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Annex 4 Media Coverage

The event was also featured in the local print and radio entities in the region. One national newspaper picked up the story and featured it along with the government's news agency. See links below.



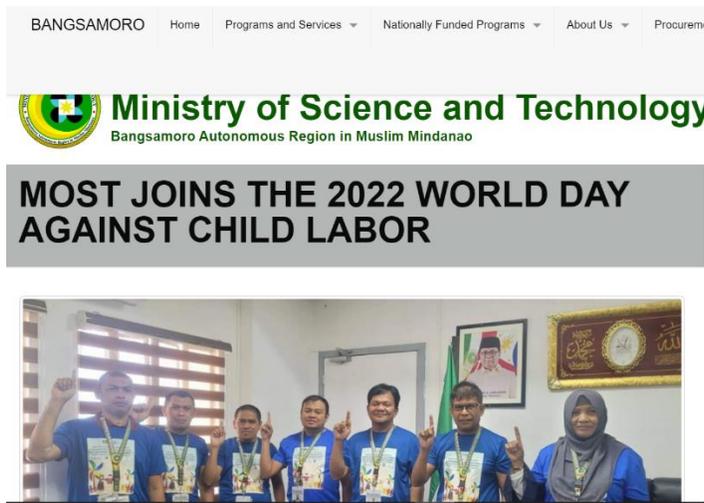
- <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/07/16/2195873/proposed-barmm-labor-code-gets-cross-section-support>
- <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/07/16/2195873/proposed-barmm-labor-code-gets-cross-section-support>
- <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1178812#:~:text=A%20Philippine%20Statistics%20Authority%20report,region's%2078%2C400%20and%2055%2C100%2C%20respectively.>
- <https://www.facebook.com/267862956969378/posts/1494365097652485/?sfnsn=mo>
- https://issuu.com/mindanaocross/docs/mindanao_cross_07-16-22



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BARMM Ministries Posts

A number of BARMM ministries also featured in their webpage and Facebook Official Page.



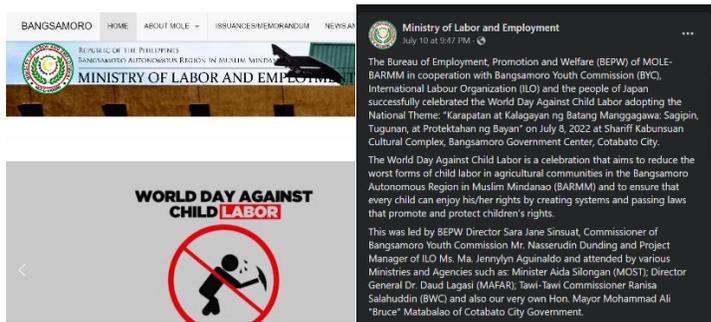
<https://most.bangsamoro.gov.ph/most-joins-the-2022-world-day-against-child-labor/>



<https://byc.bangsamoro.gov.ph/2022/07/08/news/byc-mole-ilo-observe-world-day-against-child-labor/>



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<https://mole.bangsamoro.gov.ph/>

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1007008486794276&id=423957668432697

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=141830578465722&id=105192558796191

Annex 5. Videos



Child Labor_Final
.mp4

Video produced by MOLE BEPW for WDACL celebration tackling the importance of social protection. The video documentary was made possible with support from Bureau of Information Office under the Office of Chief Minister.