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## SAFE SPACES FOR EVERYONE AT DOST-ITDI

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On 11 March 2024, the Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System (FPS) Technical Working Group, led by Senior Science Research Specialist from the Standards and Testing Division (STD), and Chairperson of ITDI GFPS TWG, Mr. Admer Rey C. Dablio, organized the Divisional Seminar on Safe Spaces Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for Administrative Division (ADM) and Financial Management Division (FMD) employees.

In his welcome remarks, Mr. Dablio emphasized the importance of the law awareness of all employees especially that ITDI is already promoting and ensuring that the Institute is a safe space for everyone.

Atty. Judie Rose T. Dimayuga, a lawyer and a member of the National Gender Resource Pool (NGRP) recognized by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), served as the resource speaker of the activity. During the seminar proper, Atty. Dimayuga discussed the various definition of terms pertaining to the law as well as the types of gender-based sexual harassment namely; gender-based sexual harassment in public spaces, online, workplace, and in educational training institutions. As requested by the ITDI GFPS TWG, Atty. Dimayuga focused on the gender-based sexual harassment in the workplace where she expounded the context of different sexual harassment behaviors, duties of employers, legal mandates, and the respective penalties based on the IRR of the law.

In the open forum, questions from the participants were raised and brilliantly addressed by Atty. Dimayuga which led to an insightful, informative, and interactive activity.

The seminar was well-attended by 63 participants, composed of ADM, FMD, STD, and NMD staff.

The divisional seminar on safe spaces act is aimed to be a series and will resume in 2024 to ensure that all ITDI personnel are capacitated of the law.

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