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DOST-ITDI IAC holds 2024 TechClinic on "Greening the BLUE" focused on 2022 EPR law

The Industrial Technology Development Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-ITDI) held the 2024 DOST-ITDI Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) TechClinic with the theme "Greening the BLUE" on March 14, 2024 at Dusit Thani Manila in Makati City.

The event focused on the green processing/production of products and plastic packaging to protect the blue bodies of water from becoming dumpsites of waste plastic packaging materials.

It kicked off with a ceremonial ribbon cutting, the unveiling of the i-techclinic logo, and the opening of technology exhibits participated in by DOST-ITDI key officials led by Director Annabelle V. Briones;





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Dr.Christine Marie C. Montesa, Deputy Director for Research and Development; Dr. Janet F. Quizon, Deputy Director for Administrative and Technical Services, and Chief of the Finance and Management Division; and IAC members.

Plenary speakers included Comm. Crispian N. Lao, Vice President of the National Solid Waste Management Commission; Engr. Reynaldo L. Esguerra, Chief of the Environment and Biotechnology Division, DOST-ITDI; Roberto F. Batungbacal, Senior Advisor, Chemical Industry of the Philippines; and AD Ruby B. De Guzman, Director III of the Renewable Energy Management Bureau (DOE-REMB).

In his virtual message, DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum, Jr. said, "Today, as we talk about how we can work together in virtue of the EPR Law and be more sustainably productive, may we learn from each other's experiences and synergize our strategies."

The conference emphasized the significance of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act of 2022 in resolving the increasing concerns about plastic waste generation, disposal, and management, as well as encouraging industry players to comply with its requirements and guidelines.

Breakout sessions were held following the plenary sessions that gave way to identifying issues/ problems, collecting insights and recommendations from industry players, and developing potent solutions to identified issues and problems. The outputs of these sessions will form part of the plan of action to be carried out by participants and target doers.

Republic Act 11898 is the law that institutionalizes the EPR on Plastic Packaging Waste and amends the Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000. The EPR Act took effect on August 12, 2022.



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The EPR Act focuses on decreasing the total environmental impact of a product and its packaging. It ensures that the product producers are responsible for the entire lifecycle of the products, particularly in the recovery, recycling, and final disposal of products and their packaging.

With the DOST-ITDI IAC working together and joined by compliant stakeholders, a greener and bluer environment and economy are envisioned to emerge. (DDGotis\\ ITDI S&T Media Service; Photo credits: IEVillamar, TSD)