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## **DOST-ITDI KICKS-OFF WOMEN'S MONTH 2024**

Inspired by Technology, Driven by Innovation

Membership:

ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards & Quality - Rubber-Based Product Working Group | ASEAN Rubber Testing Laboratory Committee | Asia Nano Forum (ANF) | Asia-Pacific Food Analysis Network (APFAN) | Asia Packaging Network (APN) | Asia Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF) | Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP) | General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) | ISTA Global and Asia Pacific | International Association of Packaging Research Institutes (IAPRI)



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With the theme "Lipunang Patas sa Bagong Pilipinas; Kakayahan ng Kababaihan, Patutunayan!", DOST-ITDI kicked off this year's National Women's Month Celebration on 29 February 2024. Various ITDI employees marched around the ITDI vicinity wearing advocacy shirts expressing support for the celebration. ITDI's Gender and Development (GAD) Technical Working Group (TWG) Chairperson Mr. Admer Rey C. Dablio, led the event together with the Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Deputy Director for Administrative and Technical Services, Dr. Janet F. Quizon, and Deputy Director for Research and Development, Dr. Christine Marie C. Montesa in attendance.

The activity was filled with fun experiences as ITDI staff grooved and danced to the music during the Zumba Dance Workout. These activities symbolize the Institute's commitment to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

With "Lipunang Patas sa Bagong Pilipinas," the 2024 sub-theme calls for a Bagong Pilipinas where women are given equitable opportunities and not hindered by gender biases and discriminatory stereotypes. "Kakayahan ng Kababaihan, patutunayan!," aims to showcase and harness the full potentials of women and girls in actively engaging in and reaping the benefits of national growth and development. However, achieving this requires an enabling environment free from discriminatory values, stereotypes, beliefs, treatment, and portrayal of women and girls across family, religion, education, sports, media, and other relevant institutions. The vision extends to government agencies and institutions incorporating gender mainstreaming in the bureaucracy, men joining the cause for equality, and establishing a legal framework that supports the protection of marginalized groups of women, including the girl child, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, Muslims, and those with diverse Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE).

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