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SAFE SPACES FOR EVERYONE AT DOST-ITDI

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The Safe Spaces Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) awareness seminar were conducted for STD employees. The Gender and Development (GAD) activity was organized by the ITDI GAD Focal Point System (FPS) Technical Working Group (TWG) led by Deputy Director for ATS, Dr. Zorayda V. Ang, as part of the year-long capacity development for all ITDI personnel regarding the law.

In her welcome remarks, Dr. Ang 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 participants, including STD staff, on-the-job trainees, and a janitress.

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