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## DTI joins the nation in celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week



**The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) joins the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) in celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> National Disability Prevention & Rehabilitation (NDPR) Week 2023.**

Led by the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Services Group (OUMSG), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) kicked off its participation in the 45th National Disability Prevention & Rehabilitation (NDPR) Week 2023 celebration during the flag raising ceremony on 17 July 2023 at the DTI Main Building in Makati City.

With the sub-theme, “*Aksesibilidad at Karapatan ng mga Taong may Kapansanan: Daan Tungo sa Sustenableng Kinabukasan na Walang Maiiwan,*” the simple yet meaningful celebration highlighted the DTI’s roles and accomplishments in achieving its objectives in line with the Disability Inclusive Governance Framework.

“*Being an active member of the Sub-Committee on Training, Employment and Livelihood (SCOTEL) and Sub-Committee on Advocacy, the Department of Trade and Industry has recognized that the main challenge of the PWD sector is their access to livelihood opportunities and employment,*” **DTI-MSG Undersecretary Ireneo V. Vizmonte** said.

*“DTI remains committed to advancing the economic empowerment of the Persons with Disability sector by facilitating their access to our programs and services to address the economic challenges they face,”* he added.

Usec. Vizmonte highlighted three focus areas in servicing PWDs, namely a) institutional capacity building, b) programs and services availed by PWDs, and c) communication and advocacy.

Notably, the creation of Persons with Disability Information Management System (PIMS), an online database system, aided the Department in monitoring the performance of programs and services to PWDs. With the upgraded mechanism for monitoring PWD plans and programs introduced by the Resource Generation and Management Service (RGMS), records of DTI-assisted PWDs are readily available to all DTI offices.

To date, 98 PWD-led or owned enterprises in various sectors already availed of DTI services, with 20 of them benefiting from provincial and regional trade fairs and have availed of DTI assistance in product development, shared service facilities, marketing, and financing among others.

Various offices were tapped to communicate DTI programs and services for PWDs to a wider audience. This includes the release of AVPs, articles for success stories, and public releases aimed at orienting PWDs with their rights and privileges as consumers.

Following Usec. Vizmonte’s speech is an AVP produced by RGMS to further stress the importance of inclusivity among PWDs.