



## Philcongen LA and U.S. DOL WHD Renews Commitment to Labor Rights

The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles bolstered its commitment to fulfilling its mandate of promoting and advancing the rights and welfare of Filipinos overseas by continuing its collaboration with the United States Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division in reaching out and educating employees and employers about their rights and responsibilities.

The signing of the Arrangement Establishing an Understanding between the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (U.S. DOL WHD)

Western Regional Office and the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles took place on 05 December 2019 at the Consulate Conference Hall in Los Angeles. The document was a renewal of the AEU which was signed on 27 February 2017.



*Consul General Cruz and WHD Regional Administrator Rosalez sign the Arrangement Document on 05 December 2019 (Photo credit: J.M. Cuaresma)*

Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz signed on behalf of the Consulate while Regional Administrator Ruben J. Rosalez represented the U.S. DOL WHD.



*(L-R) Atty. Miguel Castriciones, POLO LA Administrative Staff; District Director Daniel Pasquil, U.S. DOL WHD West Covina; Vice Consul Dyan Kristine M. Pastrana; Consul General Cruz; Regional Administrator Rosalez, U.S. DOL WHD Western Regional Office; District Director Kimchi Bui, WHD Los Angeles District Office; and Regional Director Priscilla Garcia-Ocampo, Western Region of Public Relations and Deputy Director of Enforcement. (Photo credit: J.M. Cuaresma)*

Consul General Cruz expressed his full support for the renewal of the AEU and commended the WHD for actively pushing for the signing of the Arrangement.

“The Consulate General will continue its strategic dialogue with the US Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division in mapping out our joint priorities for the length of this three-year Arrangement. We hope to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by this renewed partnership for the benefit of the Filipino workers that we serve here in the U.S.,” Consul General Cruz remarked after the signing ceremony.

According to Mr. Rosalez, the AEU will provide a much-needed boost in the WHD's mandate to implement workplace laws and regulations given the agency's limited resources.

The document is one of the local agreements signed with the WHD since the signing of the Letter of Arrangement between the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and the WHD in 2012. END.