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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Asian Domestic Workers holds Regional Conference on the ILO Convention on Decent Work for Domestic Workers (C189) in Manila on Oct. 24-26, 2011**

Last June 16, 2011, the member countries and delegates during the 100<sup>th</sup> session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) adopted the ILO Convention 189 and Recommendation 201 on decent work for Domestic Workers. C189 provides the framework and governing rules for the recognition of domestic work as work and equal rights for all domestic workers in the world. The Philippine government has been one of the leading countries to support the Convention and has lobbied for its adoption in the ILO in Geneva last June.

Now that domestic workers have a convention, the challenge is to translate its contents into the realities of domestic workers. The Convention for Domestic Workers needs to be ratified by the member countries of the ILO. The Philippines and Uruguay are the first countries to signify immediate ratification of C189. With the support and involvement of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) together with various workers' organizations and civil society groups in the country, the Philippines will host the post-ILC Asia Regional Conference in Manila on October 24-26, 2011 at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila.

The regional conference has participants from more than 60 foreign delegates from the Middle East, Southeast Asia, East Asia and South Asia. Around 50 participants from the Philippines are also expected to attend. President Benigno Aquino and Secretary Baldoz are also invited to give the keynote speeches to open the regional conference.

The Regional Conference is organized by the International Domestic Workers Network (IDWN), Global Network Asia, Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), International Trade Union Confederation in the Asia and the Pacific (ITUC-AP) and the Technical Working Group (TWG) for Domestic Work in the Philippines in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO).

A press conference is scheduled on **October 25, 2011, 11:30am, Bahia Room, Hotel Intercontinental Manila.**

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