

Mindanao (Philippines): RDRRAC successfully conducted its 4th General Assembly

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The Ranaw Disaster Response & Rehabilitation Assistance Center, (RDRRAC) Inc. a non-government organization and a network of NGOs and PO's from Lanao Provinces and the two cities of Marawi and Iligan, had launched its 4th general assembly on August 6, 2012 in Iligan City. It was attended by representatives from different member organizations like Sumpay Mindanao, Inc. Sustainable Alternatives for the Advancement of Mindanao (SALAM), Inc. Lanao Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (LAHRA), Inc. Lig-ong Hiniusang Kusog sa Kabus - Iligan (LIHUK) Coalition of Lanao Utility Transport for Change (CLUTCH) Lanao Aquatic and Marine Fisheries Center for Community Development, (LAFCCOD) Inc. Electoral Reform & Development Assistance Center (ERDAC), Inc. Mindanao Tri-People Youth center (MTPYC), Inc. Paglingkawas, Inc. Center for Human Rights Advancement and Restoration of Mother Earth (CHARM) Inc. formerly RCJP Ranaw Women and Children Resource Center, (RWCRC) Inc. Women and Children Therapy and Crisis Center, (WATCH) Inc. Demokratikong Kilusan ng Magbubukid sa Pilipinas (DKMP) - Lanao , and Alyansa ng Kabataan Mindanao para sa Kapayapaan (AKMK).

Some invited observers were also present like MPPM-KM which RDRRAC is a member and from Iligan Survivors Movement (ISM) which RDRRAC together with MSU-IIT Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development were behind the facilitation for the formation of Sendong IDPs movement.

The presentation and review of the constitution and bylaws consumed an utmost time during the deliberation, nevertheless the body resolved that notions be accepted and was then approved. Representatives from ISM and Alternative Center for Health and Development (ACHDI) expressed eagerness to subscribe to the objectives and principles, and willingness to protect the credibility and integrity of RDRRAC and to become a member.

Ms. Adona G. Orquillas, the Executive Director was full of pride when she presented the undertakings of the organization from the year 2000 where it was created up to the present. Some of its accomplishments, apart from the provision of relief assistance and rehabilitation projects implemented in different IDP communities were, RDRRAC's membership to some of major councils, alliances and networks like Peace and Order Council and Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (PDRRMC) of the Province of Lanao del Norte, National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), Disaster Risk Reduction Network (DRRNet), Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR)- Iligan Network, Mindanao Emergency Response Network (Ranaw Bay - MERN) and Local Monitoring Team (LMT) of the GPH-MILF Peace Talks of which Ms. Orquillas role is of great magnitude.

The list of different international and local donors and partners who extended their unwavering support to the IDP communities through RDRRAC, were also presented, they were: Save the Children, Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), Philippines-Australia Community Assistance Program (PACAP), The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, German Development

Service (DED), ACT for Peace Programme of the UNDP, Australian Embassy, University of Santo Tomas Graduate School Psychotraumatic Clinic, Religious for Peace, The Catholic Organization for Relief and Development (CORDAID), and recently the Early Recovery and Rehabilitation for central Mindanao (ERRCM) of the Government of the Philippines- United Nations Development Program - European Union. These partners helped the IDPs in rebuilding their lives, and restoring their dignity as human being.

The conduct of general assembly, for all times, ended up electing a new set of officers.

Newly Set of Board of Trustees:

President : Ma. Gittel J. Saquilabon (SMI) result

Vice-President : Achmad Musa (ISM)

Secretary General : Chrismalyn Pasco (ERDAC)

Treasurer : Rosalia R. Libot (LAHRA)

Auditor : Elizabeth M. Padilla (SALAM)

Members: 1. Jaime Pableo (CLUTCH) 2. Nonoy Cole (LAFCCOD)

The new set of BOT during the oath taking ceremony.

The whole day affair was very productive, the staffs were very thankful to the individual who contributed and devoted their time, and became part of the success of the gathering.

P.S.

* <http://rdrrac.wordpress.com/>