

## NCMB-DOLE INKS PACT WITH CHURCH GROUPS

The Department of Labor and Employment through the National Conciliation and Mediation Board has signed a Memorandum of Agreement last March 7, 2006 with the Archdiocesan Ministry for Labor Concerns- Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila (AMLC-RCAM) at Arzobispado de Manila. With the theme, "Promoting Christian Dialogue thru Conciliation and Mediation for Industrial Peace, the signing was led by DOLE Secretary Patricia A. Sto. Tomas and Archbishop of Manila, His Eminence Gaudencio Cardinal B. Rosales.



The said agreement aims to strengthen the partnership between NCMB-DOLE and AMLC-RCAM in addressing labor problems encountered by catholic institutions through conciliation-mediation. This will be carried out by maintaining a pool of conciliators-mediators that shall include AMLC staff and parish priests who can provide conciliation services to catholic parochial schools, parishes and other catholic institution within the Archdiocese of Manila and the suffragan dioceses.

"We are brothers and sisters of the same flock, we have more commonalities than differences" DOLE Secretary Patricia A. Sto. Tomas said. She gave emphasis on what labor and management have in common so as to remind them that despite the differences each possesses, there is hope that they can draw a line of effective communication in cases where there is a brewing labor dispute but eventually settling the dispute among them.

His Eminence Gaudencio Cardinal B. Rosales seconded what Sec. Sto. Tomas said. He also dwelt on the mutual trust expected from both parties and shared a story about a certain catholic institution who failed to settle their labor dispute which led to the closure of the said institution paralyzing other establishments linked to it. He assured the Department, that they open to suggestions on how they could enhance conciliation and is willing to extend any help to the department for the advancement of industrial peace. Moreover, Fr. Erik F. Adoviso, he mentioned that the church's role is to encourage communion and dialogue as it leads to the fulfillment of life.



## RCAM-AMLC-DOLE-NCMB Signs MOA



Being the Executive Director of the NCMB, Atty. Hans Leo J. Cacdac expressed his gratitude to AMLC-RCAM and to other catholic institutions for their support and looks forward to the implementation of the said agreement.

The memorandum of agreement signed is one of the many ways undertaken by the Board in preaching the gospel of industrial peace.