

# CHR FORUM ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

*Monitoring of current issues and exploring the Role  
of the Gender Ombud*

University of the Philippines Hotel  
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Documentation Report

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# Message of Support

Chairperson Jose Luis Martin Gascon

A pleasant morning to all of you, it is my pleasure to welcome you all and to express my support for this **Forum on Women, Peace, and Security**.

I understand that this is a first for the Commission and that it is an important step towards strategically mainstreaming women, peace, and security in our work.

To recall, while the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 was adopted almost two decades ago, and that regional and domestic implementation has followed, the Commission has yet to formally adopt its own agency plan in the implementation of the women, peace, and security agenda.

Of course, as a National Human Rights Institution, the work of the Commission inevitably intersects and responds to issues pertaining to women, peace, and security. **In monitoring the State's human rights obligations and commitments, and promoting and protecting women's and girls' rights as Gender Ombud, the Commission has long stressed the differential impact of armed conflict on women and girls, championed and advocated for their protection from violence, and called for the recognition of their roles in the peace process.**

Even before the fifth Commission began, human rights monitoring in areas of armed conflict has been part of the Commission's work – we've monitored the Zamboanga Siege, the protracted armed conflict in northern and southern Mindanao, and parts of Visayas, as well as that in the Cordilleras. When the Marawi siege happened, and with the declaration of Martial Law – the Commission's work continued, documenting and investigating human rights violations, and forwarding recommendations to government. **Despite these however, a targeted implementation of the women, peace, and security agenda has not been in place. Admittedly, while we have adopted the Gender Ombud Guidelines and a Monitoring Tool for Internally Displaced Persons - we are not yet compliant with the National Action Plan on WPS. We have not yet adopted our own agency plan on WPS.**

With these, it is ripe time for the Commission to enhance and to strengthen its role in contributing to the goals of women, peace, and security. It is time to strategically respond to the current and pressing human rights issues of women and girls on the ground, and to see WPS work as part of our work as an NHRI and as Gender Ombud.

Before I end, allow me to give my thanks to our regional offices here present, CHR-X, XII, CARAGA, and CAR; as well the representatives from the Commission's Central Office. Of course, we thank our partner government agencies and CSOs for responding to our invite, and for recognizing the importance of collective work towards the realization of WPS agenda. The Commission's representatives from the Central and Regional Offices are here



to learn more on WPS, they are also here to listen and monitor, through our CSO partners and expert speakers, our government partners, the urgent and pressing issues that we need to respond and address as Gender Ombud.

May you have a productive forum, and Good day.

*Delivered by Atty. Krissi Shaffina Twyla A. Rubin in behalf of the Chairperson*



# Role of the CHR and GEWHRC on WPS

Atty. Krissi Shaffina Twyla A. Rubin

*OIC, Center for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights*

To start the forum, Atty. Krissi Shaffina Twyla A. Rubin first discussed the responsibilities of the CHR as the Gender and Development Ombud ("Gender Ombud") mandated by the Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act 9710).

*"As CGEWHR, we would also like to situate this in our programs para makikita, we do this in compliance of MCW as CHR. Lalo na sa ating mga gender focal working in WPS, san natin ihugot ang ating mandate, nasa MCW. We do monitor treaty obligations but we also monitor how we comply with the MCW. And the provisions of the MCW include provisions that pertain to WPS."*

These are particular provisions of the MCW that fall under WPS:

- Monitor with the Philippine Commission on Women compliance with RA 9710
- Establish guidelines and mechanisms that will facilitate access of women to legal remedies under RA 9710 and related laws
- Enhance the protection and promotion of the rights of women, especially marginalized women
- Assist in the filing of cases against individuals, agencies, institutions that violate RA 9710 provisions

Victims of violations of the Magna Carta of Women shall be considered victims of human rights violations, and shall be entitled to other forms of assistance available in the CHR.

Specifically, the CHR monitors compliance with the Magna Carta on Women that falls under issues of Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), with regards to the following:

- Protection from all forms of violence, including those committed by the State
  - *This includes the incremental increase in the recruitment and training of women in government services that cater to women victims of gender-related offenses*
- Protection and security in times of disaster, calamities, and other crisis situations, especially in all phases of relief, recovery, rehabilitation and construction efforts, including protection from sexual exploitation and other sexual and gender-based violence

## CHR Strategic Objectives and Programs

Atty. Rubin then presented the CHR’s strategic objectives and programs where programming is being located. These objectives are monitored by the Human Rights Centers Management Office<sup>1</sup> together with the Policy Advisory Office<sup>2</sup> (table below). As a policy office, the GEWHRC monitors the situation of women’s human rights through the issuance of human rights situationer reports together with the Policy Advisory Office.

In responding to the mandate of reporting in relation to thematic topics like Gender and Development and Gender-Based Violence, the GEWHRC has 4 programs, as listed below:

Strategic Objectives	Programs
Strengthen the CHR mandate to effectively address critical human rights violations, such as EJK, atrocities of Martial Law, torture, gender-related violence, among others	Program 1: Enhancing Gender Ombud reporting and monitoring - Situation reports
Promote and/or conduct research on human rights, GAD, and other thematic issues, knowledge management, and exchange of viable information with stakeholders through various regional and international human rights mechanisms	Program 2: Gender Ombud Observatory (under GOJUST funding)  Program 3: Mainstreaming CHR's Role As Gender Ombud <sup>3</sup>
Institutionalize collaborative human rights and gender and development (GAD) program, projects, and activities with CSOs	Program 4: Strengthening partnerships and collaboration for WHR and the rights of persons with diverse SOGIE

The current forum on WPS falls under Program 1 (Enhancing Gender Ombud Reporting). Atty. Rubin reported that for 2019, almost all of the activities under Program 1 have already been conducted by the GEWHRC.

### Program 1. Enhancing Gender Ombud Reporting

1. Situation of Older women, Especially older women in detention (All Regions, 3 NCR Pilots)
2. Situation of Urban Poor Women (Central)
3. FGDs on Situation of LGBTI Children (All Regions, with CRC)
4. Situation of Women and Girls in Armed Conflict Areas
5. CARAGA, Region XII, Region IX

<sup>1</sup> Composed of the Child Rights Center, Center for Gender Equality & Women’s Human Rights, Center for Crisis Conflict & Humanitarian Rights Protection, and Economic, Social & Cultural Rights Center

<sup>2</sup> Composed of the Legislative Office, Advocacy Office, International Obligations Monitoring, and Research Division

<sup>3</sup> Mostly GFPS work or Gender Focal Point Person as GEWHRC intersects with Policy office

6. Situation of Women in PEZA (Region IV, Region VII, Region XII)
7. Forum on Women, Peace and Security (Region X, CARAGA, Region XII)
8. Forum on Community Health Service Providers

The GEWHRC is almost finished with conducting the programs funded by the GAA, and is currently focusing on projects funded by GOJUST and UNFPA. For the regional offices, the following programs are still ongoing:

1. FGDs on Situation of LGBTI Children (All Regions, with CRC)
2. Situation of Women and Girls in Armed Conflict Areas
3. Situation of Women in PEZA (Region IV, Region VII, Region XII)
4. Situation of Older women, Especially older women in detention (All Regions, 3 NCR Pilots)

The Regional Offices are currently undertaking FGDs on women in detention.

## Objectives of the Forum on WPS

After reporting on the strategic objectives and programs, Atty. Rubin then presented the objectives of the day's forum on Women, Peace, and Security:

1. To provide a venue to discuss women, peace, and security updates and current issues with the Commission on Human Rights' oversight units, government agencies involved in WPS, and women's and human rights CSOs; and
2. To explore further the role of CHR as Gender Ombud in WPS by gathering insights from WPS experts, CHR-regional offices and CSOs working in areas affected by armed conflict



# The Key Lecturer

Prof. Ma. Lourdes Veneracion-Rallonza

*Director, Asia Pacific Centre for Responsibility to Protect- Philippine Office;  
Associate Professor, Ateneo De Manila*

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science (2010), University of the Philippines, Diliman
- Master in International Studies (1998), University of the Philippines, Diliman
- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (1991), University of the Philippines, Diliman

## INSTITUTIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION<sup>4</sup>

### A. Academic

- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Ateneo de Manila University (June 2018-present)
- Lecturer, Ateneo de Manila University-University for Peace, Asia Peacebuilders Scholars Programme (schoolyear 2012-2013 to present)<sup>5</sup>
- Lecturer, Master in Human Rights and Development, Graduate Legal Studies Institute, Ateneo Law School (schoolyear 2016-2017 to present)<sup>6</sup>
- Member, Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA)(April 2010 to present)

### B. Civil Society Organizations

- Co-Convener, Independent Working Group on Transitional Justice and Dealing with the Past (IWG TJDwP)(December 2016 to present)
- International Advisory Board, Asia Pacific Centre on the Responsibility to Protect (June 2015 to present).
- Vice-Chair, Sulong Comprehensive Agreement on the Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) Network (November 2016 to present).
- Member, Women Engaged in Action on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (WE Act 1325), (March 2010 to present).

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<sup>4</sup> Current

<sup>5</sup> Dual Degree Program between Ateneo de Manila University and University for Peace-Costa Rica

<sup>6</sup> Joint Programme between Mahidol University, Thailand and Ateneo Law School, Philippines.



# Key Lecture: Women, Peace, and Security and the Role of the CHR

Prof. Ma. Lourdes Veneracion-Rallonza

*Director, Asia Pacific Centre for Responsibility to Protect- Philippine Office;  
Associate Professor, Ateneo De Manila*

## Introduction

I have actually retired as a consultant, so I haven't been doing consultancy work and speaking engagements; I have something to do in terms of regional work, ASEAN and the Pacific. I have declined several invites for speaking engagements so this is actually the first time I will be lecturing this year.

This is the first time there is a discussion on WPS for the CHR, so it is important to understand and gauge the commitment the CHR has in Metro Manila and the regions; I wish we have more. But [Twyla] said baby steps. I'm also glad Macel [Aguilar] is here; I have worked with her before in OPAPP.

## Women, Peace, and Security and the Role of the CHR

We came up with a report<sup>7</sup> in 2013, it was a CSO report that came out regarding the implementation of WPS in the aspect of programs and services, policy, and women's participation.

I was the one tasked to do the Programs and services. I encountered this quote in fieldwork:

*“Kung mahimbat ka man, not because you are a woman but because you are a rebel. Hindi yung woman ang nasa ulo ng humuhuli sa iyo kungdi yung rebel ka... kung inarestar ka man tapos nagkagusotgusot or nahawakan ang mga suso mo, walang intensyon so hindi ka magrereport kasi nga ang intensyon talaga ay para ka lang ma-detena o ma-arrest ka nila — walang intensyon na ganunin ka nila kasi babae ka. Kami naman, naghihintay ng mga reklamo — e ni-review namin ang lahat ng record namin e wala talagang VAWC. ”*

- Field Work, May 2013

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<sup>7</sup> Implementing the Philippine National Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820: A Civil Society Monitoring Report (March 2010-January 2013)

Which agency do you think said this quote?

*There was a brief discussion from the participants, with some speculating it was the AFP who said that because they are the law enforcement agency that is most likely present in conflict areas. Another participant guessed that it was the PNP, because those who are detained are being turned over from the AFP to the PNP.*

So meron tayong institutions because of the context of armed conflict and the mandate of arresting, we have identified the security sector. So klaro talaga. Pero ano sa tingin nyo yung sablay sa quotation? Ano yung hindi comfortable?

“Yung wala talagang VAWC”

“Yung wala talagang intensyon na mahawakan yung suso”

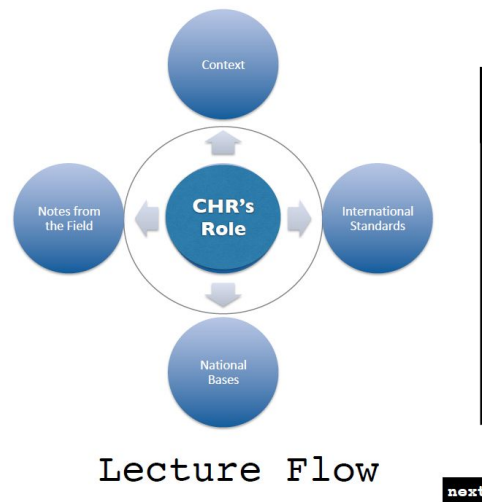
*Prof. Rallonza then revealed that it was actually an officer from the CHR-Eastern Samar who said the problematic quote:*

Ang nagsabi po nito ay CHR-Eastern Samar, during my fieldwork. May 2013. So imagine my horror nung narinig ko to. Kasi kahit sinabi natin ang CHR naglabas ng guidelines ng 2015 ng Gender Ombud at Magna Carta ng 2009, pero yung pagtatalaga sa CHR ng pagiging Gender Ombud was in the point in time that the Magna Carta [was already in place].

It was actually a man who was explaining this. “Wala talagang record ng VAWC” - maybe it's time you review your records. But you have to understand that when you are talking about VAWC, it is different when you are talking about VAWC in context of armed conflict. And it is the armed conflict that triggers this violence.

## Lecture Flow

The central topic is Women, Peace and Security, and the CHR's role in monitoring these issues. [We will also discuss] ano yung tinatawag nating international standards, national basis, and sharing we have on the field.



I have been doing research on women in armed conflict since 2011, some of the pictures I have come from my own fieldwork.

These are the things that CHR should be connected, the view that things should not be fragmented. It's interesting that a lot of institutions, because of assistance from international institutions, there is a tendency to fragment. I have been following CHR's work on RH. If RH, UNFPA. If GBV, GOJUST. But the whole point is to mainstream it. If you have to do this as a strategy, you have to make sure that it cuts across everything - policies, processes, etc. If there is a specific area that [cuts across] various kinds of situations. Tignan natin mamaya kung ang role ng CHR is nagkakaroon ng kabuluhan, or if this is being implemented in so far as CHR is being concerned.

## Context

Where did the idea of Women, Peace, and Security come from?

**Rape of Nanking, 1937.** Rape as a method of war. What does that mean? Talagang ginagamit mo ang panggagahasa, ang sexual violence, bilang instrumento para matalo ang kalaban. This was during the Japanese-Chinese war. Natatalo nya ang Chinese and the Japanese soldiers marched in Nanking.

What they launched was massacre, indiscriminate rape. They said in this instance that rape is not a sexual offense. There were a lot of documentation hat the Rape of Nanking that the

victims were children, as old as 75 years old, there were saying that there was nothing to do with sex, but dehumanizing the enemy. If you were a man and you will see that your daughter, your mother, being raped...you will not be able to fight.

There was a book released by Iris Chang also titled Rape of Nanking. She [compiled] the testimonies, Several years after she released the book, she killed herself. She couldn't take what was she reading, she was just doing the testimonies.

*[Photo in slide]* This photo - this woman holding her baby - after she was raped, she was decapitated.

**“Comfort women”, 1938-1945.** The whole idea was sexual slavery. The justification of comfort women is supposedly they give comfort to the Japanese soldiers in terms of sexual intercourse. So they need the women to give comfort. They were saying that the violence in the Rape of Nanking was because the Japanese were not able to have comfort/sexual intercourse. They abducted young women all over Southeast Asia, and it was forced prostitution. The experience was about 50 men in one day, they serviced the comfort women sexually. And ang pinakamababang presyo [ay] Chinese. And until now the Filipino women have not received that justice that they have been demanding. Kung mga rebulto lang ng comfort women ay ang sarili pa nating pamahalaan ay kailangan ng magandang relasyon with Japan, but you cannot deny that this has happened. The lolas, they are dying, I think there are five left.

**Bangladeshi Liberation War, 1971 .** Rape and forced impregnation. Bangladesh launched their liberation against Pakistan and the Pakistani army [conducted] widespread rape and forced impregnation of Bangladeshi women.

The Pakistani army wanted the women to give birth to Pakistani ethnicity, as if the women were just vessels. When Bangladesh had their independence, the women were considered “heroes”, they “sacrificed for the nation” because of them being raped by the Pakistani army during the liberation war.. They have not received justice up to this day.

**Khmer Rouge Regime, 1975-79.** Forced marriage and marital rape; rape as torture. In the Khmer Rouge regime, the ones wearing eyeglasses are the intellectuals, pinatay lahat ng nakasalamon. In terms of sexual violence, it was forced marriage and marital rape, and mass weddings were conducted. Halimbawa, kung may asawa ka prior to the regime, you will have to be married again. You have to undergo marital union for the revolution. But it didn't end there, after being forcibly married, they were forced to consummate their marital union. Pinilit ang mga babae ng kanilang comrades, you have now marital rape. Khmer rouge has not recognized sexual violence as a violation.

**Guatemalan Indigenous Women, 1981-82.** Rape and sexual slavery, 90% were indigenous women. It had a connection with land. Indigenous people around the world connected to the land, same with other countries. If your enemy seeks to remove you from that land, you have to be terrorized to drive you out of the land. The Guatemalan military...so they will have to leave their land

**Colombian Armed Conflict, 1966-2016.** Gang rape and sexual violence from all sides; not just the military, but also the rebels, other actors. The consequence was unwanted pregnancies.

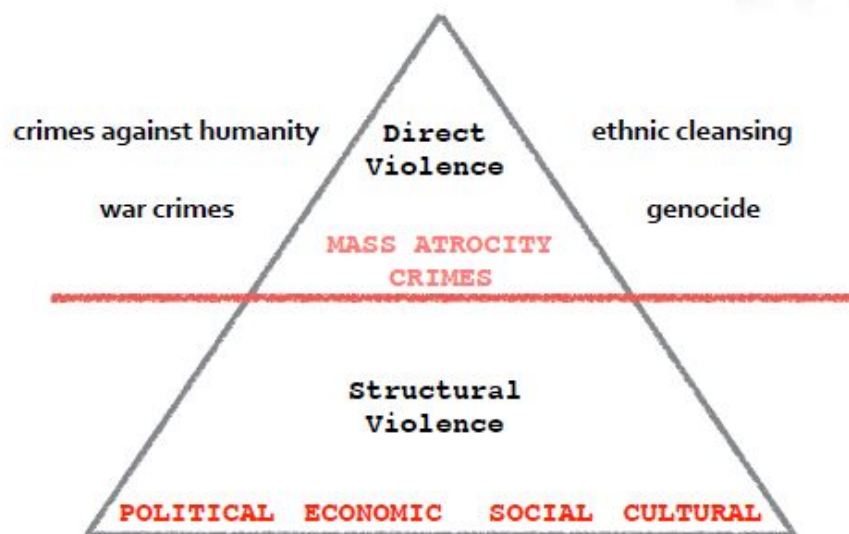
**Yugoslav Wars 1991-2001.** Rape as a weapon of war, sexual slavery, and forced impregnation as linked with ethnic cleansing,

The acknowledgment by the international community that rape was a weapon of war led to a new term: ethnic cleansing. Most of the victims are the Bosnian Serb Muslims. This was the time that the world suddenly saw what rape as a weapon of war was actually all about. We already had television, but internet was not that fast.

**Rwanda, 1994.** Rape as constitutive of genocide. Something we need to understand, what does rape as genocide actually mean? Both Yugoslav and Rwanda didn't happen overnight,, it happened with the government inciting their own people to be violence against The Other. So meron talagang othering na nangyari, dehumanization. Incitement to commit hate crimes. Psychological yun, papasok muna sa utak. Because people thought it was okay. Prior to the commission of these crimes, there was already incitement to hate, a mental programming of the dehumanization of the other

**Modern times.** South Sudan, Liberia, Libya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan. The Arab spring - Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Syria – a lot of people initially celebrated this. But the women had a price to pay, even the people who were part of the protest were sexually harassing their women, journalists were raped in broad daylight in Egypt.

## Sex and World Peace: Where are the women during war and peace?



**Direct Violence.** We have mass atrocity crimes that are so serious - the gravity is so bad that you can't really wrap your head around it. If you're talking about law, these are the crimes that are there. [Ito yung] highest na antas.

**Crimes against humanity.** CHR mentions this all the time, EJK. Ano ibig sabihin? If you're saying that EJK in connection with the drug war is a crime against humanity, what exactly do you mean? Anyone? How do you understand it?

- *Atty. JV Abrina, CHR Region X:* Crimes against humanity in the regime of IHL - while genocide has a technical definition under UN rights regime where mass killings for drug related operations technically not under strict definition of crimes against humanity, Stanton wrote about stages of genocide. While EJKs would not fall under genocide in legal sense, if we follow Stanton's definition, from what CHR gathers from the field, the markers of Stanton's stages of genocide are apparent.
- *Atty. Rommel Daguimol, CHR CAR:* You are taking them away from the protection of law, it would constitute drug war as crimes against humanity.
- *Leah Barbia, GEWHRC:* Rape is a crime against humanity, tinatangalan mo ng dignidad yung tao, right to life, right against torture. including rape.

Alright, so we have the legal perspective, IHL, or targeting a particular group of people, and you're looking at it from the human rights approach.

The definition of crimes against humanity targets civilian population. And it happens at all times, not only during times of war. You do not need a wartime context to say that crimes against humanity are happening. The clear indicator is you are targeting a civilian population. Dun sa stages of genocide, mas madaling maprove ang crimes against humanity

kaysa sa genocide. If you have mass murder or killings, usually hindi murders ang argument: systemic, and sino ang namamatay, or rape. So those are things you have to see.

In war times there is a grave breach. In fighting a war there are acceptable and non-acceptable things. In battle you kill each other, sure, but you do not mutilate the body. May conventional war, barilan okay. But wag kayong magdrop ng chemical or biological weapons. May Geneva convention, et cetera.

Ethnic cleansing is essentially a policy that people encountered for the first time - targeting a particular identity and removing them from a certain area. Land, certain area of that particular identity group. That was the reason why sa Yugoslav war it was ethnic cleansing.

Genocide is very difficult to prove.

Rwanda's demography changed after that war. Most of the political leaders are women, because mostly the women survived. Nawala talaga ang kalalakihan dahil sa pananaw na lalaki ang dapat lumalaban.

Genocide is targeting the particular identity. Whether its religion, political affiliation, it is in this sense that supposedly systematic, massive. Also it has to be a matter of declaration or policy which has been quite difficult.

Those are direct violence, and more often than not, that is what we see. What we see posted in Facebook, "how come no one's talking about Sudan," et cetera, matagal na yan. There's not just direct violence. there's also structural violence.

The ten stages of genocide, there's something deeper. Regarding human rights, you're not only looking at direct violence but also structural violence that may be the cause of the direct violence. There is a tendency to say that they are different, and by virtue of saying they are saying different, "okay lang na patayin ka, wala ka namang lupa". "Okay lang na patayin ang drug addicts, addict naman sila". There is a certain branding, and when that branding goes out in public and if it captures your consciousness, "okay lang" - na okay lang that women are blamed sa rape. For example, Jennifer Laude.

And they emanate from this one. Not all things that are legal are correct, are moral, are ethical. The holocaust was legal. Apartheid was legal. What was illegal was to fight against apartheid. What is legal is not necessarily what is right.

Where are the women during this period? During wartime, during peace? Where are they when it comes to crimes against humanity? Where are they when you're counting the GDP, when you're talking about social services? When being an indigenous woman, a Moro woman. We always ask the question where are they?

So why are we talking about WPS? The central component is women. Where are they in so far peace and security is concerned. Focus tayo dito.



There is a 2010 book, *Sex and World Peace*. The macro aggression of states is linked to the micro aggression towards women. There are 2 maps [in this slide]: the darkest green, women have almost no physical security. Red is women have the lowest physical security women can actually have. The tendency of a state to go to war or engage in armed conflict situation may be related to how the state actually treat their women. In 2014 the Philippines in this map is orange; moderate levels of physical security. Any questions?

*Atty. Twyla Rubin, GEWHRC:* There are also lesbian women, bisexual women - has there been documentation on how they are affected?

*Prof. Rallonza:* Yes. Holocaust, although gay men. Also in Germany where gays and lesbians were considered to be a disease, they are “reeducated”. Even physically, those subjected to sexual violence to feel they are “women” and they are “men”. But it is very very few in terms of documentation. Data is few. Ngayon pa lang naglalabasan. I would assume sexual violence against LGBT before not as rampant. Even the men who were sexually abused also refused to talk about their experiences. It was my difficulty during fieldwork, what they always say is “may kilala ako, nangyari sa kanya to.”

*Macel Aguilar, UN Women:* Also Colombia - they were also saying they have been subjected to sexual abuse. There's a lot of stigmatization if you come out as different SOGIE and a victim during war. Double silencing ang nangyayari. Documenting that they are lesbians or gays, they might be placed in a precarious situation that they have to reveal. That's why the numbers are few. The revelation aggravates the whole situation.

*Prof. Rallonza:* it does not mean that it does not exist. My gut feel tells me otherwise, especially you are talking about cultural things. Especially if you have been raped and you have a child born out of that rape. Or coming out as a former woman rebel, then to join your community – marami. There are a lot of layerings in so far this context is concerned. But if your agency/ office is involved in these things, you would understand.

The work of the CHR regarding IDPs, some bakwits do not want to be called bakwit anymore. For example in Zamboanga, the Badjaos received less of the less, sa labas sila ng area [where the relief goods were given]. They manage to have a sense of humor though, “Maam hindi kami Badjao, kami goodjao”.

## International Discourse and Standards

### WPS International Policy Framework: UNSCRs

Violence against women is usually observed during peacetime, but the international community has to recognize that VAW happens in conflict situations.

2000

- Women's human rights is a matter for international peace and security. Prior to [year 2000], you scout all resolutions ng security council, wala talaga. Ang General Assembly had a resolution on women and children affected by conflict situations. But it was one page only, not as substantive.
- **UNSCR 1325.** In year 2000 the mother resolution came out. It had 4 pillars: participation, protection and prevention, relief and recovery. They have the agency to decide and have ideas of what peace actually constitute. There was a call that when you are going through peace agreements, you should have experiences of women there. The whole point of your DDR you should have that lens of both men and women.

2009

- **UNSCR 1820.** For the first time it recognized that sexual violence as weapon and tactic of war; rape and forms of sexual violence may constitute as atrocity crimes.
- **UNSCR 1888.** Sexual violence exacerbates conflict; leadership and expertise in addressing conflict-related sexual violence.
- **UNSCR 1889.** Women's participation in post-conflict peace building and all aspects of the peace process; indicators to measure 1325.

The Magna Carta of Women did not define conflict-related violence. There's none. Even IHL wala. Yung batas natin on genocide and crimes against humanity, basically copy-pasted IHL.

The number of activities conducted of an agency does not mean you are now a gender expert. It means you are an expert in attending seminars.

Expertise means how do you take care of the victim? You do not parade the victim around. There are protocols how you deal with the victim as a human rights case, a legal case, a criminal case.

In the case of the Uganda civil war, women were raped from both sides – both rebels and military. Let's file cases against them, okay. So dalhin lahat natin ng kababaihan sa napakalayong korte. Kasi doon nangyari. there's no legal system yet. Pagdating dun, iparada natin sa korte. "O ano nangyari sa'yo, pakidescribe nga". Then travel balik ng napakalayo. Pagbalik sa community, pinatay sya. Kasi she has brought shame to the community by simply admitting that she was raped. So nasaan ang pagiisip? So importante

ang leadership and expertise. It takes time to be one. And that's the important thing, and you need a lot of study.

The agreement between the GPH panel and MILF for the first time had gender provisions. If you look at other peace agreements, esp with the MNLF, there was none. CARHRIHL, may gender provisions, but copies the idea of women being vulnerable/victims but not necessarily participation. The Comprehensive Agreement ng BOL (Bangsamoro Organic Law) carried women's participation and women's protection. And agreed by both panels. And that is very, very important. When I interviewed the government panel, they said if it weren't for the women, those provisions wouldn't be there. During that time it was Prof. Miriam Coronel Ferrer, Basman, [...] Meron talagang kahalagahan ang pagkakaroon ng kababaihan.

You have 2 things: the discourse is participation and leadership, and you have the one on sexual violence.

2011

- **UNSCR 1960.** Call to end sexual violence; 'naming & shaming mechanisms (UNSG Reports, referral to ICC, reparations).
  - Dito nagkaroon ng naming and shaming mechanisms, but it only means something if the perpetrator cares about their reputation. Meron nang idea on transitional justice noon.

2013

- **UNSCR 2106.** Reiteration of current obligations; women's participation in combating sexual violence
  - Kanina experts, ngayon kailangan naman bumaba sa ground.
- **UNSCR 2122.** Stronger measures for women's inclusion in peace processes to address participation deficit.
  - Participation deficit, meaning kulang talaga ang participation. Meron minsan token women naman, there are women who participate but yung isip naman ay [supporting the patriarchy].

2015

- **UNSCR 2242.** Women's participation and sustainable peace; launch Global Study on emerging risks such as violent extremism, terrorism, and the imperative to combat impunity
  - **The Global study on WPS:** there is a one-year timetable, [about] the changing nature of conflict. Not anymore between states but internal. Not only armed conflict is the only [source] of violence. Also the trend of wide polarization or people differentiating each other. There are concerns of radicalization
  - But they also saw na may nadadala na sa korte regarding sexual and gender-based violence, may international tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, the ICC, that states rape and sexual violence as crimes against humanity and as constitutive of genocide and definitely war crimes. May transitional justice na rin.

- Also we are financing WPS. The Philippines is one of the few countries that finances gender and development, but also WPS. But also may mystery and deeper understanding needed.

2019

- **UNSCR 2467.**
  - Demands complete cessation by parties of all acts of sexual violence.

For [2467], there is the assumption that you are coming from a civil war. Also parang hindi pa tayo post-conflict situation. So even our courts should understand IHL. Most of the human rights violations happens in 80% of our regions, halos lahat ng regions may conflict situation. Even the training of people, the courts etc should know what is IHL, what are human rights violations in conflict situations.

- Relevant international and national actors responsible for creating and implementing plans to address conflict and post-conflict sexual violence, including investigative and judicial processes.
- Survivor-centred approach and continuous monitoring and documentation of cases.

Ito yung gusto gawin ng CHR. I have taken note of the pattern: kung merong “food porn”, parang meron tayong *pornography of victims’ narrative*. What does that mean? It means 'okay, we go to armed conflict situation, ask for their stories, the more horrific the better, the more violent - ang ganda, pwede ireport natin.’ That is a pattern not just government across the world but also CSOs, and that is very, very concerning. It’s like we’re selling the more tragic story without really having the support system for the survivors. Ipaparada natin sila, pero wala namang tulong na [ibibigay sa kanila]. After they testify, papatayin naman natin sila.

I studied your guidelines. 137 pages of it, hot off the press. Andun na yung protocols eh, investigation, referral as Gender Ombud. Pero tatanungin mo...ilang CHR personnel ang katulad ni CHR Eastern Samar?

- Institutional reforms.

That's why 2467 really calls for institutional reform. Not just capacity building, we’re talking about institutional reform.

This is essentially [what] we do and commit, we are a member still of the United Nations. As of 2018 December, there have been 79 countries that have adopted a National Action Plan.

In 2018, only 40% of all UN member states have NAP. Only 34 of the 79 have allocated budget for the NAP.

You have donor countries and recipient countries. For donor countries, their NAP is external-looking, it's part of their foreign policy, part of their ODA. Minsan napapansin mo

yan eh. Pag nagsusubmit ka ng proposal, what is the gender component, the WPS component. Australia is very strong. Women in the military, assistance, etc. And the others are recipient country like us. Yung sa ibang receiving countries umaasa sila sa other countries to fund their NAP.

Sa atin, our mechanism is GAD, the one that says at least 5% of the total allocation of the budget should be on GAD. When the NAP was starting, that was one of the things that OPAPP and PCW already identified. That NAP WPS and its implementation can be coursed through its budget particularly of LGUs and [agencies] that are doing its work on conflict areas—in theory.

But we always go back ano ba talaga yung GAD na yan? Usually sa government ang bilis ng pagpapalit, by the time you become an expert in NAP, aalis ka na.

### CEDAW GR 30: Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-Conflict Situation (2013)

[This was] thirteen years after UNSCR 1325 came out. If you are monitoring compliance, please look at this, because this is CEDAW:

- *“Protecting women’s human rights at all times, advancing substantive gender equality before, during and after conflict and ensuring that women’s diverse experiences are fully integrated into all peacebuilding, peacemaking, and reconstruction processes are important objectives of the Convention” (OpCI 2)*

For the applicability, this includes situations of international and non-international conflict situations. Yung insurgency, secessionist movements mo, kasama dito. Uprisings, tribal conflicts,, ethnic and communal violence, it covers all of these situations:

- *“...covers the application of CEDAW in situations of international and non-international armed conflict, foreign occupation, post-conflict and so called “other situations of concern, such as internal disturbances, protracted and low-intensity civil strife, political strife, ethnic and communal violence, states of emergency and suppression of mass uprisings, war against terrorism and organized crime, that may not necessarily be classified as armed conflict under international humanitarian law and which result in serious violations of women’s rights” as well as situations of internal displacement, statelessness, and refugee repatriation (Items 4-5)”*

CHR is also tasked to monitor international obligations. The work of the CHR is to monitor all these, if we’re gonna follow CEDAW, we’re not just looking at state-sponsored violence. Not just the vertical but also the horizontal [violence]. And things have their intersections on it. Please look at CEDAW because that is missing from your guidelines.

## Quick Compare

CEDAW vs UNSCR - They are different from each other, but definitely complementary. You have your monitoring tool, but you have to look at the perspective of these two instruments:

Comparative Elements	CEDAW	UNSCRs
<i>Type of Instrument</i>	Human Rights Treaty	Security Council Resolution
<i>Taking Effect</i>	Must be acceded to and/or ratified by the State	Automatically binding to all UN Members States
<i>Issue Coverage</i>	Covers the political, social, economic, cultural and civic rights of women	Covers the political, social, economic, cultural and civic rights of women in times of armed conflict and post-conflict
<i>Reporting and Accountability</i>	Governments must report to the CEDAW Committee on progress made toward gender equality every four years. The situation of women in armed conflict scenarios is required by the committee to be included.	Governments are urged by the Secretary-General to develop a National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, with indicators and budget
<i>Responsible Actors</i>	Governments and their ministries are obligated to implement the elements of CEDAW in public and private life, in business, education, religion, employment and family life; civil society has a central role.	The UN, Member States and their national governments, donors and all actors of the conflict; civil society has a central role.

## National Bases

### 1. RA 9710, Magna Carta of Women (2009); Ch 4, Rights and Empowerment

- This is the reason you are the Gender Ombud.
  - Sec 9, Protection from Violence, (b)“...situations of armed conflict and militarization”
  - Sec 10, Women affected by Disasters, Calamities, and other Crisis Situations, “...all phases of relief, recovery, rehabilitation and construction efforts”
  - Sec 15, Women in the Military, antidiscrimination

In the MCW, [there is] a distinction between armed conflict and disaster when dapat magkasama na sila. When we were looking at data, AFP and PNP, mas maraming kababaihan ang PNP. Pag cinompare mo ang major services inside AFP, sa air force most babae pagdating sa officers. I don't know what the data is right now, the Magna Carta says 40%.

## 2. RA 9851, Crimes against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide, and other Crimes against Humanity (2009)

- This should be used in tandem with MCW, outrages upon personal dignity
- Ch III, Sec 4 (War Crimes),
  - (b) non-international conflict, (2) “outrages upon personal dignity...”
- Ch III, Sec 4 (War Crimes)
  - (c) other serious violations of laws, (18) “outrages upon personal dignity...”; (19) “rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, or any other form of sexual violence...”
- Ch III, Sec 5 (Genocide)
  - (4) “prevention of birth within the group”
  - This is important because this is not in the Magna Carta. But there is another law that defined what they are
  - Even the IRR of the Magna Carta, hindi rin ganun ka-specified ano ang crimes against women in so far as conflict situations concerned
- Ch III, Sec 6 (Other CAH)
  - (g) “Rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity”
  - This particular [provision] tells us what are the crimes that are actually committed against women in times of armed conflict situations
- Ch VI, Sec 13. Consideration for age, gender, nature of crime
  - A victim-centric approach should be adopted; we have to ask instances if the state has not been sensitive to this particular set of things
- Ch VI, Sec 13 protection of victims and witnesses
  - You do not [subject] the victim again to public shaming

## Plans/Directives

### 1. Philippine Development Plan

- Ch 17, Attaining Just and Lasting Peace

### 2. NAP WPS 2010-16

- Collaborative politics between government and CSO

### 3. NAP WPS 2010-16, amended 2014

- Technical language and indicators

### 4. OPAPP-PCW JMC 2014

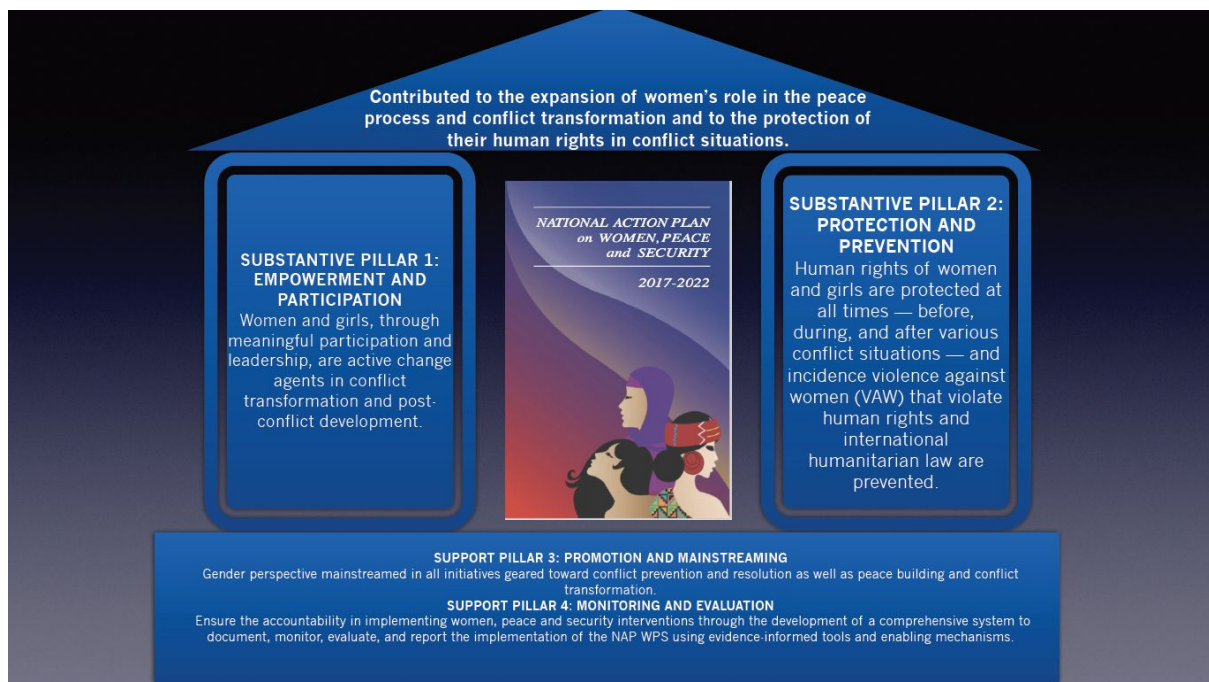
- Integration of NAP WPS in GAD accomplishment report (AR) and GPBs in implementing agencies

- More often than not, this is not being cited. Sana laging idagdag to. This JMC had definition of terms that were not included in the Magna Carta, e.g, conflict-related sexual violence.

## 5. NAP WPS 2017-2022

- Framing: CEDAW GR 30, UNSCR 1325 Global Study, 6-Point Peace Agenda, and PDP 2017-22
- Women’s agency : as leaders and participants
- Coordinative mechanisms for protection: language of complex emergencies; protection of frontliners
  - We're not just talking about armed conflict but also other emergency situations like disaster. There are instances that they exacerbate each other
- Multi-level implementation: ASAPs and RAPs
  - Agencies should have their own Agency Strategic Action Plan - ASAP WPS, then also the RAP (Regional Action Plan)

## “Bahay ni Ate” / Logical Framework





## Institutional Infrastructure for Implementation of NAP WPS

### Institutional Infrastructure for Implementation of NAP WPS

EO 865 (2010), NSC WPS ( <i>strategic</i> )	NSC WPS TWG (2013) ( <i>operational</i> )
1. OPAPP (“Chair”)	1. DA
2. PCW (“Vice Chair”)	2. DAR
3. DND	3. DOH
4. DSWD	4. DepEd, CHed
5. DOJ	5. AFP/PA
6. DILG	6. PNP
7. DFA	7. TESDA
8. NCIP	8. PHIC
9. NCMF	9. NEA

### EO 865 (2010), NSC WPS (strategic)

- There has to be some kind of rethinking to be done because of the restructuring. [The restructuring is] peculiar because of the DILG oversight of PCW. The CHR should also be present in every step.
  - Audience: The CHR is the chair of the RGADC so nakakapasok sa regional level.
  - Prof. Rallonza: But its not all the time na nakakapasok
  - Audience: Pwede ra mag-chair ang regular member ng RDC. Yung issue pano kaya ang ginawa ng other agency na pano sila nakapasok sila as chairperson.
  - Prof. Rallonza: Which is basically institutional infrastructure. How come we are not uniform? It’s something you have to clarify.

### Notes from the Field

#### 1. Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte. March 2012

In 2012 I was supposed to go to field in Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte. I was there with Marilyn Pintor of CHR Butuan. We’ve been working with her [and] si Russel Valeroso. May bumagsak daw na chopper, nagkaroon ng bakbakan, nag-evacuate yung pupuntahan namin. Purok C, D. Some crossed the river. Yung field research namin naging humanitarian assistance activity. Sila bumili ng bigas, akyat kami sa taas, nakita namin ang mga bata. We



were bothered because NCIP was there but just physically counting the Mamanwas. Non-Lumad were asking “bakit sila lang?”. So even humanitarian assistance actually created tension among them. There is discrimination that happens in humanitarian assistance.

- *“Sa aming tribo, mababa talaga ang tingin nila sa amin. Dati, dito kami nakatira sa baba – yung mga lolo at lola ko, kamaganak. Pero unti-unti lumipat na din sa bundok kasi yung takot na nararamdaman nila. Kasi ang sabi nila, iba kami kontra sa kanila, kasi maiitim kami ganun. Iba kami, hiwalay sa kanila – di kami naghahalo sa kanila...para sa amin, umiiwas na lang kami sa gulo. Wala naman talagang tumutulong sa tribo...wala pa akong naranasan na may tumulong sa amin – naawa ako sa tribo...tapos naapektuhan pa sa away ng dalawang panig. Ang tribo takot talaga sa sundalo – di naman naming maramdaman ang tulong nila...di naman ako makapag-sisi sa NPA kasi trabaho naman nila yun. Wala na kaming magawa...”*

— Maman’ua bakwit, Brgy Bangayon, 15 March 2012

## 2. Marianing Abaruso: Hinabangan, Samar, 12 September 2011

In 2011 NPA attacked the municipal hall in Hinabangan, Samar. They attacked early in the morning:

*“Matapos yung atake sa munisipyo, wala na yung mga NPA - puro mga sibilyan na lang yung nandoon, parang nag-uusyoso. Yung asawa niya, pumunta dun sa post ng mga pulis...pero wala na yung mga nag-puputok - malayo na yung mga NPA at madami na lang tao sa labas...wala pang reinforce na dumating, yung mga tao doon, nag-usyoso ba. Kasi yung asawa niya, yun ang nauuna - akala siguro ng mga pulis, NPA pa rin, binaril. Sabi daw nung chief, ‘NPA siya - bakit nandoon sira? Kung hindi siya NPA, hindi siya pupunta diyan.’ Nakuha nung mga sibilyan yung asawa niya, dinala sa sentro. Sabi nga nila, wala namang armas, bakit binaril pa?*

*“Buong pamilya sila pinasok sa bilangguan. Sila ang idiniin at sinabi NPA daw sila...buong pamilya nila ay NPA. Kinasuhan sila ng sedisyon pero bailable. Gumawa ng petisyon ang barangay at pirmado na Sangguniang Bayan na si Marianing ay ‘law-abiding citizen’; may mga ibang CSOs na nag-pressure sa awtoridad at na tumulong sa kanila. Nakalabas sila nung January. Ang problema nila ngayon ay may bagong kaso na ipinatong sa dalawang anak niya - yung anak na babae ay kinasuhan ng illegal possession of fire arms at yung lalaking anak ay murder at robbery. Sabi nung anak niya babae, nung nasa preso pinahawak sa kanya yung armas tapos picturan daw siya...ginamit na ebidensya ngayon laban sa kanya. Yung anak naman niyang lalake, pinadampot ng granada tapos picturan din siya - yung mga naiwang gamit ng mga NPA nung atake, pinalagay sa kanya tapos sinabi na ninakaw niya.”*

This was the story. I asked CHR about this, [the response] was “Oo, parang meron.” Parang ang sama ng loob ko, kasi nung kausap ko si Marianing, yung anak nya hindi nakapunta kasi pumunta sa CHR para mag-follow up. Marianing actually passed away weeks before I came back.

### 3. Sexual violence against Moro and indigenous women

[Displayed video] This video was done by CHR during the time of Chairperson Etta Rosales.

- Palimbang massacre: Around 1,500 Muslim Moro men and women were killed by state-affiliated armed forces. Prior to the declaration of the 1972 martial law, the violence done to Muslim Moros was like ethnic cleansing. Tinanggal sa lupain. This was the product of the TJRC report, mechanism inside the panel, the work of transitional justice. Babalik tayo sa mandato sa WPS na instrumento.

### 4. Zamboanga Siege, 2013

In the Zamboanga siege back in 2013, there were more than 200,000 individuals displaced during the siege. I was there December 2013. I asked ano ang ratio ng security sector per 100 persons, the response was. “Ma’am hindi nga hundred, 1 is to 5000 [ang ratio]”.

### 5. Marawi Siege, 2017

Marawi siege, 2017. The issue is right to return. Supposedly internally displaced people camps are temporary. Under Section 15 you give chance or opportunities for women in the security sector to be active in this time.

There is a group called the Hijab Troopers, a group of PNP women based in Marawi, and 60 Philippine army. These are 100 people contingent deployed in IDP camps trained both on psychosocial healing and in terms of looking for indicators of radicalization. This is [considered] a good practice of the security sector, but interestingly they did not do it because of NAP. “Ginawa namin kasi kailangan.” The ground commanders thought that it was strategic and tactical to have women and soldiers assist internally-displaced persons affected by the siege.

### 6. Maute member convicted for rebellion

[Displayed news headline: Maute member convicted for rebellion]

*“The witness’ testimony ‘bears the hallmark of truth,’ said the court. She testified in a straightforward, candid and convincing manner leaving no room for doubts that, during several occasions while in captivity as hostage during the Marawi siege, she was forcibly made as ‘sabaya’, meaning ‘alila’ or ‘asawa’.” — Taguig RTC Branch 70 Judge Felix Reyes*

What are the problematic parts of this quote? This implies that it was an open court! This violates RA 9851. She was a minor. You do not parade the victim.

Als the headline was subsumed under rebellion. [There was no mention of] sexual violence. Also she wasn’t the only victim.

It wasn't a victim centric approach. Baka pwede ngayong balikan si Taguig RTC branch. And babantayan because it wasn't a crime of rebellion. It was a crime against RA 9851. Anything less is a violation of CEDAW and NAP.

## WPS and Role of CHR as Gender Ombud

The Gender Ombud is necessary to monitor compliance. I observed na no indicators ng CHR, it used PCW indicators instead. For conflict-related issues, there was no mention of CEDAW 30. Armed conflict not included.

There is a Gender Ombud advisory, but none in armed conflict. MCW indicator did not mention conflict related indicators. Pwede kayong magdevelop ng sariling indicators. It's still the Magna Carta. It's CHR in coordination with the PCW. Ang problema, nilagay nyo na kasi the scope of jurisdiction. If only within the Magna Carta.

*John, OPAPP: I think yung sa indicator of PCW - they are a generalist, they don't have the lens of peace, conflict, and gender. Wala silang capacity. So purely in peace context. So if sa magna carta lang, it is very limited and it will not cover indicators of situations of armed conflict*

*Prof. Rallonza: Possibly an amendment can be done to be addressed this. Sa Page 58 meron, template 3 dapat existence of national and local plans. Forcibly recruited in armed conflict. Reports of women victims of gender-based violations in times of violence. Pero hindi kayo lahat nagpractice. Meron naman, pero hindi nagagawa. If there is, I assume this is in the regional level.*

*Atty. Rubin: It was a long dialogue, for the meantime we have adopted PCW. But we know we have to develop our own indicators. The regional offices are also here. We also observed that nagiimprove ang reporting ng women's human rights reports. There have been developments within the CHR din, we have QMS. We have guidelines sa jail visitation, among others.*

## Points for consideration

1. Referral mechanism should have ground presence. That's the whole point. Feeling ko dapat nandyan si CHR the whole process. Monitoring means you are there in each stage. Hindi ka lang dapat papasok sa criminal case, etc.
2. In terms of monitoring and documentation, maybe your colleagues from Caraga that looked at cases of Marawi and Zamboanga can share what they have done. Minsan hindi matingkad sa reporting kasi hindi rin hinihingi ng Central [office].
3. Transitional justice and access to justice.
4. Framing sana ng pagiging Gender Ombud is WPS with the human rights lens. Direct and structural GBV are actually heightened during crisis. The gender ombud

infrastructure should be both cross cutting and specific. Meron na kayong specific, women's human rights center,

5. Please use the language of CEDAW, GR 30, and UNSCR. Medyo limited din kasi ang language ng MCW.

## Question and Answer

Input from the audience:

1. Appreciated ko yung buong input, framing at paglilinaw ng bagay-bagay. Because minsan yung victims and law enforcement agencies hindi nauunawan ano yung ibig sabihin ng abuso.
2. I'm just wondering regarding the commitment ng non-state actors, are they also committed sa UNSCR 1325, it's only the state doing its part. Paano pa pwede panagutin [yung] non-state actors?
3. We are also sending support to Marawi siege. Naalala ko lahat ng nakausap ko nung Marawi siege. And at that time there was no protocol how to handle the hostage survivors. And they were not categorized as IDPs, they weren't from Marawi. And then yung sa rape. Sa experience namin, may category and rape. Merong suki o inaasawa. Yung isa asawa na talaga. Yung tayo na, may pera. Yung attitude - may support na ganyan, yung attitude ng parents taas kilay kasi may support. Three, four, or five of these young people magkakaparyente. You can just imagine the trauma - yung isa malakas ng loob, but the rest are really going through a lot. Just last week a family called up. At that time we couldn't say where we were bringing them. I think this is not only timely but this is an opportunity for us to look for ways where we could bring them. There's a need for protocols, kung pwede sana mas descriptive. Pag women's case, it's always subjected to psycho-emotional crisis. Kaya psychosocial response palagi. Pero marami pa kasi structural violence... very enriching and I appreciated the historical context . Kasi yung challenge namin sa ground, yung bridging. Psych yung background ko pero may legal [demands] rin.

Prof. Rallonza: thank you ma'am. Kaya yung recommendation ko is institutional compliance and assistance to victims. Tinitingnan yung MCW treaty, state actors lang ba ang mananagot in this case? Well if you're looking in terms of the state parties. If non state actors, you go back to UNSCR 1325, that any party involved in conflict situation. Pag CEDAW is state. If UNSCR , as long as you are inside the country, even if you are a non-state actor, you are still obligated. Any party that is involved in the conflict. Do not let CSOs do the job that the state is supposed to do. When you're talking about human rights violations, it is omission and commission. In terms of other instruments, there are other states involved. That's why we have to know the relationships of all these standards.

If you have not done anything during that time, what can you do now? Dapat tingnan nyo din ang access to justice. Pwede bang balikan ng CHR ang minors noon? It doesn't mean na wala na sila sa poder mo, hindi pwede pilitin kasi lalo na minor. And I think that's something that CHR, government, and civil society can look at. Parang it's a collaboration kasi there is

no such thing as data monopoly. There are instances that there are data na hidden by some agencies, not deliberately hidden but that's not their priority.

Atty. Rubin: aside from legal route, what is the assistance that have been successful in this context? The experience of women that refuse to access these mechanisms...and yung red tagging, it's happening in most of these areas? It's happening in the regions

Prof. Rallonza: I wouldn't call it red tagging, I would call it being suspected of rebellion, etc, para meron kang aanchoran. I think in this issue, very important when we look at protocols. It was sa airport, sa Laguindingan, pumasok lahat ng messages ko. In the absence of protocols you have to demand for protocols. Because it cannot be the case that there are no protocols when you are handling these cases.

In terms of any best practice, actually ang masasabi ko anong ginagawa sa mga kababaihan it's not legal option, it doesn't have to be legal. Office ng OPAPPRU, one of the things they do is livelihood. Assistance for rebel returnees, educational, livelihood, psychosocial support, inasmuch as CHR is monitoring institutional compliance, there should be institutional collaboration in some degree.

Maricel Aguilar: Just to remind CHR that you have the mandate for inquiry, wag nyo yang kakalimutan. There's always the tendency to go to the legal route. So you have inquiry could be done. Maximize your mandate to do inquiry, you already do the reproductive health [inquiry]. You can maximize your regional offices too. Gamitin nyo yun as mechanism. In the UN for example, the ICC hindi umaandar if there are no complaints. Imaximize nyo yung capacities and mandate nyo for inquiry.

Mel: In connection sa disclosure, I used to work with sexually abused children. [There is] direct and indirect disclosure, mostly indirect ang disclosure ng survivors and victims. Marami talagang factors like stigma, fear of retaliation, hindi rin ganun kadali magkwento ng abuse.

*(Awarding of Certificate to the Key Lecturer by Commissioner Karen Gomez-Dumpit)*

*(End of Morning Session)*

# Welcome Remarks<sup>8</sup>

Commissioner Karen Gomez-Dumpit

*Focal Commissioner for Women and LGBTI Persons*

It must once again be stressed that “women’s full and equal participation at all levels of society is a fundamental human right - and that during times of conflict, women’s participation in resolving conflict and negotiating , is especially important to ensure that women’s rights are protected, experiences are recognized, and that peace lasts.” These principles are at the heart of the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda, advocated and fought by women in the UN Security Council almost two decades ago.

Today, as the Focal Commissioner for Women, I am pleased that the Commission, as the country’s National Human Rights Institution and as Gender Ombud is finally conducting a forum that focuses on the Women, Peace, and Security agenda.

Indeed, this is long overdue. Almost two decades has passed since the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in October 2000. Since then the resolution has become the focal point for galvanizing worldwide efforts to deal with the many challenges that women face in situations of conflict.

The first resolution has been followed with several others all aiming to enhance women’s engagement for sustainable peace and recognizing women as ‘constructive agents of peace, security and post conflict reconstruction.

Since the adoption of UNSC Resolution 1325, countries have committed to the WPS agenda and the Philippines for its part boasts as the first country in Southeast Asia to have adopted a national action plan on WPS. Currently, we are at our 3rd national action plan on WPS with its emphasis on the links of WPS with women’s human rights, anchoring the same on CEDAW General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations.

The 4 pillars of the current WPS - Empowerment and Participation, Protection and Prevention, Promotion and Mainstreaming, and Monitoring and Evaluation are observably similar to what the Commission is doing in terms of Women’s Human Rights. As Gender Ombud, we have been conducting capacity building and advocacy campaigns with women and girls, in cases of displacement and armed conflict, including in massive displacement after the Zamboanga and Marawi crisis, we have conducted monitoring and human rights investigations. However, despite of these, and despite the advance of the WPS agenda in

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<sup>8</sup> Delivered for the start of the afternoon session.

the country, the Commission admits that it has yet to adapt an agency plan specific to women, peace, and security.

Admitting this gap, and recognizing the expertise that we can tap through partner organizations/institutions, government agencies, CHR regional offices, and more importantly through civil society organizations working with women and girls in areas of armed conflict, we are now holding this forum. Specifically our objectives are:

- To Provide a forum to discuss women, peace, and security updates and current issues;
- Explore further the role of CHR as Gender Ombud in WPS by gathering insights from WPS experts, CSOs and CHR-regional offices working in areas affected by armed conflict

Of course it will not be the last, it is more of a beginning. I am hopeful that the Central oversight offices of the Commission present in this forum will take home the inputs, the insights, and the suggestions, as they draft their respective plans, activities, and programs. For our partner government agencies here present, as we all work in issues relating to WPS, may today's forum inspire us to craft our PAPs in response to the issues here presented. For our partner CSOs, working on the ground, and working with women and girls, we are grateful to your contribution, and we do hope that as you share your experiences and the challenges that you face, we will be able to learn from your experience and strive to meet your expectations from your Gender Ombud.

I need not expound more on WPS, I know that we have an expert this morning who will take you all to the journey of what WPS is and what it means for us as Gender Ombud, as Government workers and CSOs working in areas of armed conflict.

#### Current issues of WPS in the country

Despite, however, of the traction gained by UN Resolution to 1325 and the subsequent resolutions, and despite the adoption of several NAPWPS in the country, challenges and critiques on the ground implementation remain. UN Women for instance laments that 'fifteen years after the adoption of resolution 1325, more than half of peace agreements continue to make no mention of women, UN military peacekeepers remain 97 per cent male, and data gathered by OECD-DAC shows that only 2 per cent of aid to peace and security in 2014 targeted gender equality as a principal objective.' They added that 'contribution of women and girls to peacebuilding continues to go undervalued and under-resource.'

Domestically, challenges remain in making mechanisms work, in achieving concretely the goals of WPS in the lives of women and girls on the ground, and in actually seeing the impact of the NAPWPS in current armed conflicts affecting the country. Since the adoption of the first NAP-WPS, the Zamboanga Siege and the Marawi Crisis happened. Both resulted to massive displacement and continuing humanitarian crisis. Protracted internal conflicts continue not only in Mindanao, but also in Luzon and in Visayas. With these, the goals of WPS in calling for women's engagement and participation in conflict resolution remains ever relevant and even more challenging. The Commission, as Gender Ombud and as a National Human Rights Institution has a distinct role to play in advancing and promotion WPS.



## CHR's Roles as NHRI and Gender Ombud

The Commission on Human Rights, as a National Human Rights Institution monitors the country's implementation of its treaty obligations and other human rights commitments. This include commitments on women peace and security. However, the Commission has yet to adopt an agency plan on the implementation of the NAP WPS. It is only through its general mandate of promotion, protection, and policy, that the Commission and its regional offices have been performing functions responding to the NAP-WPS. As a National Human Rights Institution and as Gender Ombud, the Commission and its regional offices has been consistent in (a) monitoring armed conflict and areas of armed conflict particularly its impact on human rights; (b) gathering stories from ground and investigating alleged human rights violations in the context of armed conflict; (c) in cases of displacement, the Commission has likewise championed the observance of the UN Guiding Principles on Internally displaced Persons. In terms of promotion, the Commissions' regional offices regularly conduct capacity building on International Humanitarian Law and UNGPID; while Policy wise, it has issued advisories calling for the observance of human rights standards during and after conflict such as in the case of the Zamboanga Siege and the Marawi crisis; it also regularly submits the findings of monitoring missions to concerned agencies for appropriate action.

For the past years for instance, the Commission's central and regional offices have been conducting monitoring of human rights situation in the context of the continuing displacement in Zamboanga City, in post-conflict Marawi City, and in areas with protracted armed conflict in Lianga, Surigao Del Sur. Through the Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights Center (GEWHRC) and the Child Rights Center CRC) monitoring of the gendered and child impact of armed conflict and displacement has been previously surfaced through FGDs with displaced women and children.

Nevertheless, there is no question that there is a need to further mainstream women, peace, and security within the Commission, to highlight women's human rights in the process, to monitor how effectively General Recommendations 30 is implemented, and how responsive are the efforts to the issues raised by women and girls affected by the conflict. There is likewise no question that the Commission, as an NHRI and as Gender Ombud has to strengthen its role in contributing to the goals of women, peace, and security and in responding to current and pressing human rights issues of women and girls on the ground. The conduct of the CHR Forum on Women, Peace, and Security is a step towards this direction. Through a forum that engages partner agencies, CSOs, and oversight offices of the Commission's central offices, through highlighting current regional efforts and issues, and through seeking the views of experts on WPS and on issues on the ground, a step is taken towards a more responsive CHR as Gender Ombud.

We have Region X - Atty JV, the Regional Director is here. CAR, with Atty Rommel Daguimol, and representatives as well of CHR-XII and CHR-CARAGA. They are joined by partner NGOs who will later on expound on their experiences and challenges in responding to WPS and the role that they see for the CHR as Gender Ombud. Experts speakers on WPS will also share their grounded experiences on WPS.

As an initial forum, I am hopeful that the partner government agencies and CSOs here present, as well as the CHR Central representatives will gain deeper appreciation of the importance of pushing the WPS agenda, including an appreciation of the National Action Plan on WPS.

More importantly, I am hoping that this forum will be an opportunity to reflect on how the National Action Plan on WPS agenda is translated in the lives of women and girls in areas affected by armed conflict, how much these principles are observed, and how we, as Gender Ombud can contribute in the continuing dialogue and advocacy

It is my pleasure to welcome each and everyone of you to this forum- a first for the Commission on Human Rights – particularly focusing on Women, Peace, and Security: Monitoring current issues and exploring the Role of the Gender Ombud.

# Afternoon Session

## Panel 1: Women, Peace and Security and CHR as Gender Ombud

Guide questions:

- What are the current and urgent WPS issues in your area?
- What role do you envision for CHR as Gender Ombud to play in such issues?

### CSO Speakers

#### 1. Senceridad Soler, Mindanao Tri-People Women Resource Center, Region 12

Nakabase po kami sa Cotabato City. Affiliated kami sa local human rights movement. Tumutulong kami sa kampanya sa women's human rights, sa loob ng network tumutulong kami sa HRV na apektado ang kababaihan. Sa current issues sa konteksto namin, ito ang sumusunod:

- Domestic violence among IDPs.** Maralita na violence against women sa conflict-affected communities. Domestic violence among IDPs. Although mahirap pag-usapan among the communities, mabuting ma [prioritize] din ito.
- Illegal recruitment in Cotabato.** Sa Cotabato, critical ang usapan ng illegal recruitment and trafficking. Mga falsification ng documents at passport. Ang karamihan ay nadadala hindi lang sa Cotabato pati sa nearby conflict-affected areas.
- Violence in Saranggani.** Merong sexual harassment or violence sa Saranggani, mayroong conflict sa loob ng ancestral domain. Sa isang barangay, may case ng rape sa loob ng van
- Rape cases in the Marawi Siege.** Sa mga Marawi IDPs, meron rape cases na nangyari sa Marawi Siege
- Red tagging of local women leaders.**
- Cotabato bombing.** Merong threat and killings, although lalaki ang direct victims but may kababaihan din na victim. Halimbawa sa Cotabato bombing sa panahon ng plebisito, may bombing malapit sa public mall. Apektado ang kababaihan kasi maraming vendors sa harap ng mall.
- Minimizing of women's issues.** May killings ng babae pero may stigma. Dahil daw sa third party or sa extramarital affair ng babae. Hindi tinitignan na seryoso.
- Killings and displacement in Maguindanao.** Sa Maguindanao area, maraming killings na hindi nakikita sa TV. May displacement din. Although

hindi malakihang displacement but additional burden ng kababaihan na madisplace especially IP women.

- i. **Humanitarian services blockade.** Last April sa may boundary ng Bukidnon - North Cotabato, may conflict na may nahirapan sa intervention ng humanitarian services. Closely guarded ng military ang area. Hindi masyadong nalaman ng publiko ang conflict, but hindi na nakakalabas, nakakaalarma na. Nakikita namin may humanitarian services pero hindi kami nakakapagpasok, at hindi rin nagagawa ang documentation.
- j. **Gender issues in Marawi.** Sa Marawi, maraming gender issues na nakikita. May discrimination base sa kanilang paniniwala. Merong maraming checkpoints, martial law na. Strict sila sa “no ID no entry”, at hindi naman lahat ng tao may ID lalo na sa community. Merong masasakit na salita. Iba’t ibang salita ang lumalabas, halimbawa “isasampal ko yung id mo, hindi valid ID yan”. Meron ding mga babae pinipilit tanggalin ang hijab nila para ipakita yung buong mukha nila.
- k. **Discrepancies in humanitarian services.** Hindi lahat ng nakakatanggap ng humanitarian services ay totoong nanggaling sa affected communities, so may discrepancies. So mahirap i-validate. Gusto ko lang iraise na ito nagccreate ng conflict amongst IDPs at nagkagulo din ng dynamics ng CSO at community level.
- l. **Recommendations to NAP Implementing Agencies.** Recommendation hindi lang sa CHR but para sa other agencies na nagimplement ng NAP:
  - i. More public awareness lalo na sa ground; marami pa ring lider kababaihan hindi familiar sa NAP. Services for women at yung babae gumagawa ng documentation, critical ang ginagawa nila sa pag-usad ng HRV na kaso.
  - ii. Suggestion rin sana strengthen inter-agency / CSO consultation lalo na sa loob ng conflict affected communities to strengthen the support system.

*Atty. Rubin: The Commission will have an inquiry on red tagging and women's human rights defenders. The Commission will ask for submissions, from CSOs and people working on the ground. We will welcome the documentation. And issues of services blockade and how do we deal with them. Maganda yung sabi ni Ma'am Vene, what are the protocols and how are they violated.*

## 2. Myrna Siose, Region 10, Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro

I handle peacebuilding program, Mindanao Convergence - a convergence of CSOs in Cagayan, may interfaith group and multisectoral groups. In the programs, we noticed not much government agencies [were involved]. We conducted HILOM Program: Holistic, Integrative, Liberating for the survivors of Marawi hostage survivors. We also conducted Program Peace Process: we were involved hanggang sa pag-lobby.

Last February 28, with the CHR and inter-agency, we conducted peace conversation with the Archdiocese. But 2 days after, it was reported in radio reports that the Archbishop were said to lead the Left.

For the current and urgent WPS issues, I would like to highlight five:

- a. **Access to justice of women.** We were in Gingoog, in one barangay, if you are 5 months pregnant they will have to go down to the city. There are issues with access to food, roads, and security sa environment. Displacement is very much high, affected ang other services to education or health.
- b. **Confusion on the conflicting laws.** Ano ba yung karapatan ko? The context could be misunderstood, both women's point of view and the enforcers. Development projects [affect] the women also. Generally, how do they claim their right to food and other services? It's very slow because of the inability of the government to [deliver].
- c. **Education on human rights.** Ang damping terms na maganda malaman natin na hindi natin alam. Both for the enforcements and the rights bearers or duty bearers, dignity of all. Maraming terms that we have to understand but we have indicators that lack. Siguro pag-institutionalize or educate up to the ground.
- d. **Local capacity and data discrepancies.** Pag CHR napansin namin nasa regional level, but ang data nasa barangay level. Sa in between, ang hirap. Nakita rin namin na pwede mag establish ng community peace centers maybe up to the barangay. Ngayon may ginagawa silang cluster ng barangays, but there has to be a center especially the geographically isolated areas. And pag-capacitate ng locals for instance, we [need] to mobilize the CSO structures to the chapel, to the barangay.
- e. **EO 70.** Hindi masyado naraise noon but for us in Region 10, parang binibilisan talaga nila "to end local communist armed conflict" but the assumption is there will always be unrest. Walang CHR na umupo kasama namin noon. Pero kasi ito LGU rin. Yung mga CSOs pinasama kami sa task force pero yung ending is strengthen capacity ng LGU to deliver services. Is there someone in different level ng CHR to make an outright call to strengthen frontliner delivery ng services?

### 3. Ma. Jerry Delda (Panaghiusa Alang sa Kaugalingnan ug Kalingkawasan Inc. - PASAKK, CARAGA)

- a. Meron kaming 15 psychosocial na nirefer. Rape and 5 battered wife. 3 months lang sya napasok sa kulungan

## CHR Regional Speakers

### Guide questions:

- As CHR what are your experiences (Best Practice and Challenges) in responding to WPS issues in your area?

### 1. Atty. Rommel Dagumol (Regional Director, CHR-CAR)

- Legal remedies against the AFP.** [We covered] Benguet, Mt Province, Abra, Ilocos Sur, part of Ifugao, particularly Tinoc, and Nueva Vizcaya. Our experience as CHR-CAR we documented experiences involving women in peace and security, and saw saan ang possible na legal remedies to file against the AFP.
- Sagada encounter.** May nangyari din sa may Sagada, there was an encounter in that area. As a best practice made by the commission, we conducted a CBD to include the municipal LGUs or the particular municipalities and also of Bontoc, the province of Mountain Province to come up with possible acceptable solutions to both the community and the AFP and PNP. Maganda ang nangyari, nag pullout ang AFP and inaccept naman ng community at saka may promise na hindi na mauulit. The question raised by the community was the use of facilities by the military, particularly sa pagpunta nila sa kanilang farm na may na napagkamalan na NPA. There were some allegations na women were harassed. Pero wala kasi kaming makuhang testimonies to substantiate those allegations.
- Exclusion of women in indigenous frameworks.** Masaklap minsan na cultural community, indigenous frameworks have a bad effect when dealing with WPS. Sa tribal system, mostly hindi kasama ang babae. So yung violations pertaining to the rights of women hindi nakikita. Karamihan sa members of the indigenous tribal council ay mga lalaki. Based sa interactions namin, hindi lang lalaki but dapat may anak or offsprings Hindi ka pwede maging [member ng council] if you are baak\*. In ilocano. Meaning old man. Mangyayari there is still discrimination between sexes.
- Challenges in handling red-tagging cases.** Yung red tagging cases, may mga documents kami regarding cases in Cordillera. Gabriela's local organization submitted a complaint and some documents to the office. The only problem sometimes is the red tagging cycle in 2018; they submitted factsheets and complaints to the office but after some time di namin sila makuhanan ng statements. We located the individual to counter the factsheets but di rin namin malocate. So yung yung challenges ng Commission.
- Red-tagging of student organizations in Baguio City.** With respect to the red-tagging, there are postings on social media where students were [warned] not to join some organizations. There was a council hearing made by the City Council of Baguio, and an expert panel there and the city also was invited. Medyo nag apologize yung BCPO at natak down yung post. So hindi natuloy yung kaso after that, hindi nag prosper yung kaso.
- EO 70.** As per EO 70 we are sitting as a non voting member during that time [in coming up with] mechanism when dealing with AFP and PNP.

2. Atty. Jeanne Ivy F. Abrina (Regional Director, CHR-X)

- a. **Joint bulletin on red tagging.** We released a joint bulletin on red tagging. We have partnership with women's groups (Pilipina/GWAPA, PKKK, LILAK, LAHRA)
- b. **Recruitment and Use of Children in Armed Groups.** A girl was reported as a member of the NPA and issued her own firearm in 2018. Other children were reported Children were brought to Region-XI and the 2nd referral The challenge was we had no means of verifying the alleged info.
- c. **Detention of children.** Sa Talakag, Bukidnon may gagawin na community based dialogue. We were wondering they were saying CHR organized it when we were just invited by the barangay. Datu Jomo was arrested that day and they also arrested 4 adults, members of the Misamis Oriental Farmer's Association (MOFA). Along them was a 16-year-old girl and two boys (1 y/o and 2 y/o) who were also arrested. With our referral the three children were brought before the MSWDO for proper psychological intervention and they were debriefed and released to the custody of the grandmother. The local social officer of Dangcagan assisted the mother and then the baby was turned over to her relatives. They are also represented by a private lawyer. The infant may still remain with her mother.
- d. **Threats and/or attacks on schools.** On 20 February 2019, 2 boxes containing propaganda linking the Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan to the Communist Party were found in a local mall. The mall security seized the boxes. This is pending investigation and the final investigation report. The University president vehemently denied the propaganda and called it fake news. The Centrio Ayala mall denied that they ever found the 2 boxes of propaganda. The alleged writings contained writings like "Communist terrorist organizing 101" Three faculty members of Xavier University had been alleged to having links to the communist party. They also denied the linkages.
- e. **Legal Documentation and/or Assistance for IDPs in Marawi.** Our Iligan sub-office helped with legal assistance and documentation. They were guided by the RHRC in drafting and preparation of affidavit complaints who were survivors of the Marawi siege.
- f. **Promotion services.** The CHR-X conducted the following:
  - i. Human Rights Education (AFP and PNP Uniformed Personnel, WCPD)
  - ii. Kabataan Karapatan Caravan (CSAC, GCRV and IDPs)
  - iii. Inter-Agency membership in the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC)-X, Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC), Human Rights and Access to Justice Initiative (HRAJI) of the Social Action Center-Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro (SAC-ACDO)
- g. **Policy services.** The CHR-X has issued a human rights bulletin dated 11 June 2019 on the 'Practice of Red tagging vis-à-vis Martial Law Declaration in Mindanao '.]
- h. **Policy services.** The CHR-X has issued a human rights bulletin dated 11 June 2019 on the 'Practice of Red tagging vis-à-vis Martial Law Declaration in Mindanao '.
- i. **EO 70.** Before the elections, our junior had to sit through the three hours of presentation alleging certain/ specific people are communists. Two weeks ago I

received a letter from the DILG director saying for the success of the EO 70, I shouldn't prioritize activities that don't support EO 70.

*Atty. Rubin: It's our mandate to monitor programs that will affect human rights but they are asking the Commission to prioritize support to EO 70.*

*Atty. Abrina: Yes, it was for the RHRC and also the NEDA. We also received localization of the PDP but the RDP 2017 to 2022 on mainstreaming gender and development. So CHR yung pinadalhan nila ng appendix.*

*Atty. Rubin: The regional offices have already released their position on red tagging, national has not yet issued. We belong to the policy cluster*

### 3. SI Rizalyn Isnani-Concha (Special Investigator, CHR-XII)

- a. **Good practices of the CHR-XII.** For the good practice, we are a regular member of the protection cluster composed of the UN agencies based in Cotabato city. We are regular member dun. Region 12 have experienced decades of conflict sa struggle ng mga kapatid natin sa Bangsamoro. We were part of the final phase of UN-MNLF action plan, as facilitator and observer sa disengagement and separation ng girl and child soldiers. We were part of verification of numbers and listings nila

*Atty. Rubin: Please include this sa regional report ninyo.*

- b. Region 12 is also partner of Bangsamoro Center for JustPeace in the Philippines, Inc. (BCJP). We had immersion of conducting forum sa members of MILF. Mga commanders na pala lahat yung nandun. I also had the chance to immerse sa Bangsamoro Women's Auxiliary Brigade (BIWAB).
- c. **Tampakan Mining impact.** We also part of Human Rights Impact assessment ng Tampakan mining. We had a case filed kay juvy capion, IP na pinatay kasama ang dalawang anak nya. Filed by our previous RD, this was a violation ng RA 9851? Napatawag na ata for testimony yung respondents. Si judge din po ay nakapag-testify sa chain of custody. We saw the hardships of women IPs, especially burden of IP mothers during the displacement.
- d. **Kidapawan rice case.** Kidapawan case tungkol sa bigas. Dito sa central office dinala yung case and sila nagffile.
- e. **Lake Sebu case.** [This case involved] IP community, development aggression. Sa Consunji na coffee plantation, may namatay na IP leader. May consequential burden sa IP leader. May sunod sunod na kaso sa 27th IB based on South Cotabato.
- f. **Updates on the Bangsamoro struggle.** Maraming challenges we encountered. Sa Bangsamoro struggle, nasa transition phase na sila. Medyo safe na magtravel sa Maguindanao area at 9pm, we have already done it thrice, medyo safe na because of the result of the peace process with the MILF. Hoping tayo na tuloy-tuloy.
- g. **Client-based human rights education.** Challenge na client-based human rights education. Barangay based orientation. Sa Makilala, member kami ng CTFMR country task force monitoring reporting. May school kami sa Makilala na school in a conflict areas na twice na sinunog. Doon kami nagconduct ng one stop shop,



kinausap namin ang DepEd, nagconduct kami ng orientation for VAWC and palaro for children. Ginawa ng promotion na quarterly na for women, children, IDP rights. Nagbibigay ng orientation on UNGPID. Nagawa na rin namin ito sa Arakan, this is also a conflict area na maraming red tagging. Fr .Peter Jeremiah na partner namin, binigyan kami ng list ng pangalan ng mga na red tag. Barangay-based orientation or client based human rights education.

- h. **Red tagging.** Sa dialogue sinasama namin ang red-tagging sa client based human rights education. Na-news din yung closure din ng Lumad schools. You could just imagine 10 counts of murder filed sa teacher and na red tag sya. We monitor this case and she is being assisted by the lawyer of KARAPATAN.
- i. **Security concerns.** Pinaka-challenge is the security for us and our clients. Challenge on cultural diversity. Merong Muslims, Lumad, sa Region 12. Meron din kaming challenge that victims of rape or even GBV during armed conflict are generally low ay because of stigma talaga. And pinaka naidentify namin is lack of psychosocial support. Dapat nandun na lahat sabi ni Prof Vene, victim-centered support, pero wala talaga kaming nakikita yan.
- j. **EO 70.** Nainvite rin kami sa EO 70 [meeting], yung chief namin 3 hours din umupo, wala pa action na napagusapan.

#### 4. SI Maria Theresa Rallos Neri (Special Investigator, CHR-Caraga)

- a. **Resource-based conflicts.** Sa Caraga, maraming tourist regions. Including Dinagat island province, Siargao. So the major conflicts are resource-based conflicts dahil meron ding mining area. And insurgency is also a major conflict.
- b. **Heavy armed presence in Caraga.** May dalawang brigades na nagooperate sa Caraga: the 402nd brigade and 401st brigade. There are three brigades in CDO, Bukidnon, Region 10. The two brigades nasa Caraga kasi malaki ang Front Committee<sup>9</sup> na sinasabi na NPA. Marami talaga problema between government forces and NPA rebels.
- c. **Human rights promotion services for IDPs.** What we do, we conduct promotion services, create IEC materials particularly on internally-displaced persons (IDPs). Every year palagi may displacement. There were 1000 bakwit from Diatagon, Lianga . Sabi nila “bakit sila magbabakwit wala namang encounter doon”? But iba yung definition natin ng IDP - yung nafifieel na ng tao na in danger na sya. Hindi yung may mangyari na bago sya mag bakwit. We shared that with the regional DRRMC.
- d. **Center for Human Rights Education (CHRE).** We had a CHRE Memorandum of Understanding signed between CHR and Agusan Colleges Inc, and we targeted to have at least 1 CHRE per Province.
- e. **Protection Services - Investigation**
  - i. Investigate and resolution all forms of human rights/GAD related violations/Child abuse incidents;
  - ii. Investigation and documentation of reported cases of recruitment of child combatants (5 boys and 3 girls);

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<sup>9</sup> Guerilla Front Committees (FC) identified in Caraga: FC-8, FC-16A, FC-16B, FC-19A, FC-21B, FC-21C, FC-4A, FC-88

- iii. Provision of legal assistance to women complainants of Red Tagging/Red Baiting
- f. **Protection Services - Jail visitation.** We conduct jail visitations as monitoring activity and assistance rendered to women arrested and detained for reason of armed conflict
- g. **Policy.** We released three HR advisories: (1) On Who Are IDPs, (2) SOGIE Protocol 3, and (3) On Children Involved in Armed Conflict. We also released two (2) Position Papers: (1) On Use of GAD Budget and (2) City Ordinance on Elderly Abuse
- h. **CBD core group.** We convened a core group to focus on conflict affected areas: Agusan del Norte – Kitcharao, Agusan del Sur – San Luis, Surigao del Norte – Gigaquit, Surigao del Sur – Lianga, and Dinagat. This is also a venue to popularize UNGPIL and IHL.
  - i. RGADC was invited, the last conversation that we attended was yung Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform (PEPP) for Northeastern Mindanao
  - ii. Meron na pala silang kaso, nag-attend sila ng CBD. Nagsabi sila na meron nang kinasuhan pero wala pang warrant of arrest. Talagang naano na kami na 2 months, after lumabas ang warrant. We assisted them. Yung dating lawyer namin na ngayong councilor of Butuan city assisted them. So nadismis ang kaso.

*Atty. Rubin: ang security ng participants ang concern dito. We don't intend to put communities at risk, pero although hindi rin natin alam na yun ang objective sa kanilang gagawin, but from your story they were tracked na pala, those that were invited sa CBD were arrested after.*

*Atty. Abrina: Different po is composition ng attendees. With CBD, regionalized version ng CBD projects. Nakaupo po yung security sector. Ang CSOs, meron ding alternative law group, yung ibang groups like Gabriela, ISI, Rural...they wouldn't want to sit in CBD sessions with the security sector so we have provided a different venue with them - NEDA, DILG minus the security sector para makaprovide din sila nung context ng conflict.*

## Question & Answer

*Darwin, Policy Office: Aggravating circumstance ba ang martial law declaration? Can you reflect it in situation reports?*

*Atty. Rubin, GEWHRC: Probably it's there, but the manner how you gather, some of the regional offices hindi narereflect sa report. So pagdating sa taas its not reflected.*

*Atty. Dagumol, CHR-CAR: Hindi lang sa Mindanao, meron din sa Ilocos, yung ginamit na camp ng military is barangay hall na katabi mismo ng daycare center. Noong 2014 pinasabugan ng grenade.*

*SI Isnani, CHR-XII: Sa child soldiers, dati it was held confidential. But now nasa mainstream na sila, MILF is now part of the BARMM. Pwede na namin ireport yun. Pero noon really confidential yun.*

*Atty. Rubin, GEWHRC: Yung nadedetain na girls, recruited as soldiers as well.*

(Awarding of certificates)

## Panel 2: Expert Panel on WPS - Urgent Issues and the role of CHR as Gender Ombud

### Guide Questions:

1. What are the current & pressing issues of WPS in the context of your organization's work?
2. What role do you envision/expect that CHR as Gender Ombud should play/prioritize in WPS?

### Expert Panel Speakers

#### 1. Ms. Judy Pasimio, LILAK Purple Action for Women

- a. Hindi po nainvolve ang LILAK sa pagbubuo ng National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, hindi sya yung area na ginagalawan ng LILAK. Pero dahil po naimbitahan kami na magsalita, at ang tanong ay ano yung current and pressing issues of WPS, ang s Our government is led by anti women, has poured blood in all over the roads to peace, has waged war against us, against human rights defenders, the poor, against women...and has put at risk everything - our security, our sovereignty, our lives, and our future.
- b. So yung kinwento po ng mga nasa frontline natin na mga CSOs and People's Organizations, at maski yung mga CHR Regional Offices, nafflesh out po ng sitwasyon natin ngayon. Three years into power, the Duterte administration has wreaked havoc on women, peace, and security. Kung paguusapan po natin ang armed conflict, the entire country is caught in a conflict situation. The war on drugs, tens of thousands, 27,000 in 2018, and more – pero nung nakaraang buwan, nagkumahog po yung PNP, na baguhin yung records nila. Bumaba yung mga napatay at tumaas yung bilang ng mga pulis na put into justice daw. But so far, sa records po, maski na binabanggit ni Comm. Karen Dumpit, iilan lang talaga ang nagkaroon ng penalty, yung iba nilipat lang.
- c. **Children as 'collateral damage'**. More than a hundred children, babies in fact are some of them, have been considered collateral damage in this war on drugs. Situations in indigenous communities in this war have not been fully or systematically documented. Yun din po yung gusto kong itanong sana sa regional offices kasi pag kausap po namin yung mga katutubo for example sa Saranggani, ang mga kwento po talaga nila ay P10,000 otherwise, isasama ka sa listahan sa tokhang. Sa Zamboanga Sibugay, sabi nung Tinuay na kausap namin, palitan ang patayan dun. Kung hindi sa nagpoprotesta sa Consunji, nilalagyan na lang ng “ako ay isang drug addict, wag tularan”. So there are indigenous victims but these are not recorded. So I imagine the 27,000 plus, which are mostly in Central Luzon, parang hindi yun nasasama yung iba na nasa kanayunan at sa mga katutubong pamayanan.

- d. **War on Drugs.** The War on Drugs has also exposed the vulnerabilities of women. Narinig natin yung palit-katawan, at ang sabi talaga ng noon pa nagtatrabaho sa mga juvenile justice ay noon pa daw kalakaran ang palit-katawan, lalo na sa mga bata. So children are being sexually abused before being turned over to DSWD. Kaya naman din ang nailabas noong kampanya sa nung pinopropose ang panukalang batas sa pagpababa ng criminal age of responsibility. So this war on drugs has not only killed 27,000+, it has killed our future. It has killed the sense of what is right and what is wrong. It has killed due process, and it has reinforced impunity.
- e. **Resource conflicts.** Isa rin pong mitsa sa buhay lalo na ng mga katutubo ang Build Build program ng pamahalaan. Ang isang pinangangalagdakan niyang pangunahing programa ay yung Kaliwa Dam, na ngayon ay pag kausap na namin ang lider kababaihan ng katutubo, sobra yung insecurity nila dahil sa red-tagging. Sa TAMASCO, maganda na nailabas ito, pero hindi lang isang lider ang napatay. Ang tawag po dito ay Tamasco Massacre because 8 po ang pinatay nung December 3, 2017. Ang pangunahing chieftain, si Datu victor, pero po 7 po sa mga kasamahan nya, dalawa dun ay anak nya, isa dun ay in-law nya, ay pinatay noong isang umaga ng December 3. Hanggang ngayon nagsiseek ng sanctuary ang anak niya na babae na pwersadong mag take on ng leadership role. Lahat ng po lalaki sa sitio datagon lang (?) ay may warrant of arrest dahil sa mga trumped-up charges. Para talagang killing resistance sa mga katutubo doon laban sa Consunji Coffee Plantation. Ngayon po ay pumapasok na rin ang coal mining, indi lang 27th IB ang nandoon sa area, pati din po 33rd lb. In fact, lahat po ng points para makarating sa area nila, dadaan ka sa military.
- f. **Oceanagold FTAA Renewal.** Ang bitidyo, kung saan ang oceanagold po, isang Australian mining corporation, ang unang binigyan ng FTAA (Financial and Technical Assistance Agreement) sa mining, ay nag expire na. They are pushing for renewal, pero syempre ang tindi ng resistance since day 1 po. Fifteen years ago, ang laki na ng resistance. May napatay na po sa area na yun at ngayon may nakapaskil po na mga pangalan ng leaders na sinasabing sila ay NPA. Yan ay nangyayari sa panahon na nagrenew sila ng kanilang FPAA.
- g. **War against human rights defenders.** Habang tumitindi ang war sa resource conflict, lalong napupwersa ang mga lider at mamamayang katutubo at mga nasa kanayunan na lumaban at iassert ang kanilang mga karapatan sa kalikasan, sa kanilang lupaing ninuno. Kaya rin naman ang laki ng backlash sa ganitong struggles nila. Malaking porsyento ang bilang ng katutubo at magsasaka, doon sa 155 ayon sa Karapatan a napatay na human rights defenders. Ang mga partners namin lalo na kababaihan, kahit matapang silang nandiyan, pero pag kami kami lang, nagpapahayag talaga sila ng takot. Bat ka naman hindi matatakot sa kanila, ang nagmumula sa bibig ng presidente, kung ito ay rebelde. , barilin sa puke. At hindi ya joke, hindi po ito hyperbole dahil noong Abril, meron talagang napatay, si Tirado po sa Tagum. At kung nakita po yung katawan Ayon sa report, her vagina was shattered with bullets. So hindi siya simpleng joke, these are clear instructions from the commander-in-chief that this is how you deal with so-called rebels. And with all of

this, we are experiencing shrinking space. In fact that's a wrong term at this point, the space has shrunk so little. The entire Philippines is still in the state of emergency. Proclamation no. 55, Martial law, sinabi na yan kanina, naka ilang beses na ng renewal, Memorandum Order 32 kung saan para palakasin ang anti-insurgency, more more presence of military and police sa Visayas at Bicol Region. At kanina nabanggit ang Executive Order 70 kung saan may task force to end local communist insurgency. Eto ay very reminiscent of Marcos dictatorship in low-intensity conflict. Doon tayo sa baba, magcreate ka ng mala-masa masid, yung mga NGOs na pinaparegister, they're pitting them against each other. Kasi ang mga mandato daw nung mga NGOs na accredited ay hindi lang for delivery of service kundi magbigay din ng listahan sino sa tingin niyo ay involved sa rebellion. So we don't need to have a martial law declaration for the entire country.

- h. **Militarized bureaucracy.** Bukod sa mga proclamations na ito, we have a militarized bureaucracy. Yung mga key positions that we deal with, DILG, si dating General Año, na dati syang chief of intelligence division noong panahon na nainvolve siya, nahighlight ang kanyang role sa pagkadukot kay Jonas Burgos. National Irrigation Administration. Bakit kailangan ng militar dun? Pero si Ricardo Visaya. MMDA, Danilo Lim. DSWD, Rolando Bautista. TESDA. DENR Roy Cimatu, at yung pinakamalapit sa puso namin, bago po nga yan, pero yung National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, si Allen Capuyan po, ang tawag po sa Mindanao ay berdugo. Sya po ay nainvolve noong panahon ni Gloria na sangkot sa maraming operasyon ng pagkalikas ng katutubong mamamayan. So if we're talking about prevention of conflict, we have to prevent this government from doing and propagating the sense of fear na siyang nagsisilbi nang mitsa ng mga conflicts.
- i. **Role of CHR as Gender Ombud.** Anong magiging role ng CHR? Una siguro sa lahat, as Gender Ombud, please rub off some courage to PCW who has remained silent in all of these violations. Well of course may mga press releases, but that's all it has to do. So una yun. Encourage other commissions such as PCW to play a role of highlighting the violations that we experience. In fact, yung finile namin na case against then-Mayor Duterte for violating the Magna Carta of Women, it was the first case that the Gender Ombud has to deal with. And we're glad that it was handled very quickly and very fairly, pero syempre ang malaking limitasyon ngayon, saan ipapasa ngayon ang recommendation. Pero siguro maganda sa mga cases na ganyan ay yung education work, information that this sitting president is actually violated the MCW since Day 1, even before he sat. So kahit under his presidency napirmahan ang Anti-Bastos Law, it is not his legacy. That has to be promoted and that has to be highlighted.
- j. **Sexist remarks as precursor to femicide.** Talking with the Honduran women activists where femicide, or the killing of women has a very large percentage in their society. In fact, in 2019, in January alone, thirty women have been killed in very violent ways, they said. Ang sabi nila, nag umpisa lahat yan, ang ganung kultura ng pagpatay ay pagkamuhi sa mga kababaihan, nagumpisa lamang sa mga bastos na pananalita ng mga nasa poder. So continually hearing jokes and words, especially

nung SONA, nakailan yan, yung pagpupunta sa mga kababaihan sa Boracay, pageencourage ng – iresolve ang water crisis para mabango – lahat ng yan are not harmless because they penetrate the subconscious of our children, and of ourselves. So darating ang panahon, six years wala na si Duterte, or at least yung tatay, papasok na yung anak, mga anak, mahirap na talagang bawiin ang mga sinimula nya, at baka mag-escalate pa siya into what Honduras, Mexico, and other South African countries that are experiencing now, femicide. So matindi talaga na pangunahan ng Gender Ombud ang pagpapalaganap ng karapatan ng kababaihan at pag call out at papanagutin, mula presidente, hanggang senador, hanggang kongresista, hanggang mga artistan na nagsasabing “yung mga bumabatikos kay Presidente ay mamatay kayo”, sana lahat yan magkaroon ng mas sistematikong pagpapanagot ang CHR.

- k. **Iceland Resolution.** A ray of hope is yung UN Human Rights Council Resolution (Iceland Resolution) kung nasaan napasa ito at sinabi na dapat magkaroon ng komprehensibong human rights report sa Pilipinas at i-urge ang gobyerno na hayaang makapasok ang human rights mechanisms to do the report without fear of backlash or persecution, at inuutusan rin ang pamahalaan na gawin ang lahat ng kaya niyang magawa para pahintuin ang extrajudicial killings. Sana pangunahan ng CHR, hindi man makapasok dito ang UN mechanism, pangunahan ng CHR ang paglikom ng mga dokumento, ng mga kwento, ng mga testimonya, at kami sa LILAK at IDEFEND ay tutulong para mangalap din ng mga storyang nakakagimbal pero kailangan ipaalam sa buong mundo.

## 2. Ms. Maricel Aguilar, UN Women

- a. **Implementation of CEDAW by the Gender Ombud.** Pageemphasize lang ng sinasabi ni Vene in the form of a diagram, na yung papel ng CHR as the Gender Ombud, yung CEDAW as the major platform or major convention, emphasizes on three counts: (1) One is nondiscrimination. Marami tayong napagusapan na human rights violations. Pero naguugat itong lahat sa diskriminasyon ng kababaihan, so maganda lang na ipaalala sa ating lahat na maaring may mga nakalabas na mga human rights violations ay naguugat sa discrimination against women. At kaya nangyayari ang mga violations na ito, kaya napakahalaga na gamitin ng CEDAW bilang pagpapaalala na ang mga violations na ito ay nagmula doon. (2) Pangalawa, habang we are fighting against discrimination against women and girls, we are looking at substantive equality kasi hindi lang numero ang binibilang natin. We were discussing a little bit on around the area of indicators, but I think government has the tendency to generate those numbers without the face of those numbers. At sinasabi natin kanina sa diskusyon na at the end of the day ano ba ang nagawa natin sa kalagayan ng kababaihan, substantive equality. (3) Pangatlo na elemento sa CEDAW, state obligation. Sinasabi na accountability, hindi pwede na ilalabas lang natin ito in the form of statements. At the end of the day, there should be an obligation for the state to protect and uphold and fulfil women's human rights. So napakahalaga lang na balikan natin itong napakahalagang tatlong elemento para sa pagimplement ng CEDAW.

- b. **Multiple contexts in Bangsamoro women's issues.** Ang UN Women kasi dito sa Pilipinas, hindi pa sya umiikot sa ibang parte ng Pilipinas para sa implementasyon ng Women, Peace, and Security, nakafocus po kami at this time sa Bangsamoro. Tingin ko resonating po ito doon sa kailangan nang pagkakaroon ng pagkilala at pag-understand doon sa konteksto ng conflict at violence sa isang lugar, kasi dyan po natin lalagyan ng mukha yung mga babae na naviolate sa ating lugar. Hindi ho pwede na kausap natin yung victim-survivor pero wala tayong pagkilala saan ba siya nagmula, saan ba siya nanggaling, bakit ba nangyari itong mga nangyari sa kanya. Mahirap lang ba sya? O mahirap na sya, babae pa sya, byuda pa sya – Sabi nga natin, dignity for all – we cannot do our work na walang pagkilala sa konteksto kung saan sya nagmula.
- c. In the context of the Bangsamoro, gusto ko lang linawin sa inyo na Bangsamoro is not just a territory, it is also the people. It's not only the Muslim Filipinos, but also the indigenous peoples and the Christian settlers. Napakahalaga din na tingnan na ang Bangsamoro ay konteksto ng poverty, natural at human-induced disaster, armed conflict, and violent extremism. Kung sa Bisaya pa, sagul-sagul na siya. Tandaan din natin na ang Bangsamoro may mahabang history ng women's human rights violations. Yung nararanasan ngayon because of the Marawi siege and Martial law, malalim pa yan. Marami pang unresolved women's human rights violations noon pa, at kailangan tingnan yan with the lens ng transitional justice. Mahalaga ring tingnan ang sociocultural underpinnings. Ang babae sa konteksto ng maraming kultura sa bangsamoro, at among the Bangsamoro people, sila ay kinikilala bilang subordinates – hindi pwedeng magsalita, hindi pwede maging lider, eto ang sinabi ng Qur'an, ito ang sabi ng mga timway meron talagang sociocultural underpinings yung discrimination and violence against women sa lugar na ito.
- d. If we look at gender, peace, and security issues ng Bangsamoro, marami po iyan, at maganda pong ibreak into the pillars ng women, peace, and security along prevention and protection, empowerment and participation, relief and recovery and rehabilitation, and again I'm emphasizing on discrimination.
- e. **Prevention and protection.** I would emphasize conflict-related issues. Minsan nakikita lang natin ang violations during times of conflict. But those violations are indicative, pag nagkaroon nyan ng time of peace, lalabas po ulit yan pag nagkaroon ulit ng conflict. So intermittent po ito, hindi po natin pwedeng tingnan lang yung time of peace na tinatamasa ngayon sa Bangsamoro, as indicative of real peace. Kasi pwedeng ngayon tahimik tayo pero merong nagbbrew na possible forms of violence later on.
- f. **Trafficking and prostitution.** Gusto po namin i-emphasize ang trafficking and prostitution as a form of violence. Lumalabas na po after the Marawi siege and even Zamboanga, forced prostitution among the women evacuees.



- g. **Forced and arranged marriages of children in Marawi.** Marami pong batang babae ang pinapangasawa for evacuees under the Marawi siege. The DAFAC, yung card po nila where they could get relief, ang pamalit doon ay pag-asawa sa bata, dahil din sa kahirapan. Kaya hindi rin natin masisi ang mga magulang ay ibinenta kumbaga nila ang kanilang mga anak, kasi nasa sitwasyon sila ng poverty. Poverty bago nagkaroon ng siege, poverty pa while in the evacuation camp, and succeeding poverty pa at the outlook.
- h. **Exploitation of women for intel in the context of violent extremism and conflict.** Gusto ko po iemphasize na hindi pa ito lumalabas. Marami po yan, either detainees or simpleng civilian, they are exploiting the women or intelligence. Hindi po natitingnan yan as a violation against women.
- i. **Access to livelihood and other socioeconomic opportunities.** Hindi natitingnan ang socio-economic and cultural rights. Palagi lang pong nandoon sa areas ng civil and political, pero nakakaligtaan din natin na ang pagkamkam ng mga lupa ay paraan din po ng discrimination and violence.
- j. **Brewing elite capture in the Bangsamoro transition.** Because of the transition, there's a brewing elite capture. Yung mga IPs natin, yung mga Christian settlers are not represented in some of the mechanisms. It may not be treated as violation, but they are discriminated against in the current transition to the Bangsamoro, and we should be on the lookout for it kasi this can be an opportunity para mawala yung mga issues na yan at the forefront of agenda-building.
- k. **Relief, recovery, and rehabilitation.** Madalas binibigay talaga ang socioeconomic intervention pero nakakalimutan ang psychosocial at legal support. Access to justice, marami po dyan wala pa ring identities, wala pang lupa. For example, in the case of Marawi, pwede kang magclaim sa pagkasira ng bahay mo pero hindi mo pwedeng maclaim yung land kasi government settlement ang Marawi City, lupa ng governo yan, so wala kang maclaim na lupa.
- l. **Addressing issues of men as victim-survivors.** Sa panayam ng UN Women sa mga kalalakihan na IDPs, marami sa kanila are not being heard, and are being creating more domestic violence. They too have been traumatized by the Marawi siege, for example. There's no space for psychosocial support kasi ang pananaw ng service providers, lalaki naman kayo eh. Feed the family, look for a job. Pero nakakalimutan na sila din ay nakakita ng violence during times of armed conflict.
- m. **Sexual discrimination on orphans.** Need to emphasize din sexual discrimination a orphans, yung mga orphanages ngayon kinacrackdown especially sa Cotabato City, breeding ground daw po ng mga violent extremist groups.
- n. **Role of CHR as Gender Ombud.** Alam po natin magkaiba ang RHRC at CHR pero magandang tignan ang interfacing ng CHR with the BAR-RHRC and the accompanying regional CHR offices, considering na may mga Bangsamoro people

sa inyong mga lugar. Either in the form of technical assistance, capacity development, advocacy, m&e. Kasi at the end of the day kayo pa rin ay Gender Ombud.

- o. **Assisting in the filing of cases.** Wala pa kayong nakikitang kaso ng VAWC, or sexual and gender-based violence in the context of conflict, hindi nyo mahahanap sa dokumento. Kasi meron pong culture of silence, may tinatawag po na **maratabat**. Kahihyan po ng mga pamilya para sabihin na sila ay na-harrass o na-rape. “Wag mo na yan sabihin, kinakahiya yan ng pamilya natin. I-rido na lang sila, magpatayan na lang ang mga pamilya natin. Ganun natin ireresolve. Wag mo na yang iakyat sa authorities.” Kaya paghanap ng kaso ng women's human rights violence, lalo na rape and other forms of sexual violence, hindi nyo talaga yan makikita at mahahanap. Pero mahalagang maintindihan yung culture na ito sa mga lugar na ito.
- p. **Investing on public and popular language.** Yung lenggwahe ng human rights, hindi ho yan nakakain sa baba. Hindi ho yan papakinggan pag pinaguusapan natin ay karapatan. Kailangan po natin gamitin natin sa isang popular na paraan, gamitin ho natin ang mga unibersidad, gamitin ho natin ang mga theatres, yung mga community-based. Para maging mas katanggap-tanggap base sa lengwahe at kultura ng mga tao ang karapatang pantao, lalo na ang women's human rights.
- q. **Information on Human Rights Mechanisms and Procedures.** Yung transitional justice; maraming galit sa RHRC. For example, hindi nila alam saan pwede magfile ng claims ng human rights violations during Martial Law, HRCVB po ito. Pero this is just one form of kakulangan – saan ba pupunta ang tao if their rights have been violated? Will they be protected when they go there, and they report? Mainam din po na maging popular ang ating language on the mechanisms available and procedures.
- r. **Aftercare and rehabilitation for women's human rights victim-survivors.** Coordination din po sana sa ating mga aftercare and rehabilitation for women's human rights victim-survivors. Dito po tayo nagkukulang, matapos po natin sila kausapin, san po natin sila dadalhin? Meron po bang counseling? Gaano kadalas ang counseling, paano ho sila babalik? Sino ang mag-aalaga, paano po ang security nila ang at ang kanilang pamilya. Mainam din pong imonitor yung de jure at de facto. Kadalasan dun tayo nakapako sa number. Pero yung quality, yun ang kailangan mailabas, put a human face in the reports that we make. May kultura din tayo ng silence, complicity and impunity.
- s. **Increasing accountability.** Dito pa mahina ang CHR, kasi wala pa talagang kagat ang Gender Ombud guidelines and even the Magna Carta doon sa claiming the accountability of agencies and state agents in women's human rights violations.
- t. **Process and substance.** Yung mga nasabi ko have something to do with substance of women's human rights. But the process, having the heart for the people who go to our offices, is very crucial. We cannot have a very substantive report or set of outputs as an agency if you don't have the heart in talking with our clients. So the process in

engaging with our clients is very crucial, not just to generate information but actually to make them feel that “yes, I am being valued as a human being, and I have rights.”

3. Ms. Gertrude Ranjo-Libang, Vice Chairperson, Gabriela

- a. **Culture of macho-fascism.** Ito ang umiiral ngayon sa ating bansa. Simula't mula pa, noong si Duterte, nangangampanya pa lang bilang presidente, nagrape joke na sya. Sandamakmak na women's groups at kababaihan ang nagcriticize sa kanya, hanggang ngayon ay ginagawa pa rin nya. At ano ang epekto nito? Sa pagpunta namin sa Lumad community, sinasabihan kami na ang threat ng rape and other forms of VAW, talagang dinidibidib yan ng kababaihan.
- b. **Threats of rape in Marawi.** Nung pumunta si Rep. Arlene Brosas sa Marawi, talagang sinabi ng mga babae, “noong pinapalayas kami, sinabi am, lumayas kayo agad, mag-evacuate kayo agad-agad. Kung hindi, irerape namin kayo.” Nakakacreate talaga ng terror.
- c. **Sexual harassment in Lumad communities.** Sa ibang Lumad communities, darating daw ang mga sundalo roon, tatanungin “sino sa inyo ang walang asawa?” O kaya magtatanong, “sino dito ang mga bayarang babae?” Yung mga nanay, terror stricken talaga sila kasi yung kanilang mga young daughters, cinacatcall, minsan sinusundan-sundan talaga. Sa isang area sa Surigao, yung ginawa nila, nagself-imposed 4PM curfew para yung mga anak nilang babae ay nasa kanila nang mga lugar bago pa man dumilim. O kaya ginagawa nila, kahit malaking sakripisyo man iyon, talagang pinupuntahan ang mga anak at sinusundo mula sa eskwela.
- d. **Culture of silence in rape.** Ang kultura ng silence sa rape, mas lalong grabe ngayon. Maraming threats sa rape, pero walang reports na nakukuha. Kasi grabe talaga yung takot. Ibig sabihin magrereport ka, mananatili ka sa community, ano naman ang mangyayari sa yo? Maski yung tiwala rin nila sa gobyerno bumaba na rin lalo ngayon. Kung ang presidente ganun ang bibig, ano ang ibig sabihin naman sa kanyang nasa ilalim?
- e. **Red-tagging of women's groups.** Noong February this year, pumunta kami sa CHR at nag-ano kami ng cases ng mga kababaihan, mga leaders, members, at organizers namin. Yung isa, kinuha sa Nueva Ecija at na-torture pa sya bago pinalabas. Ngayon, red-tagging. May isan pag case kami, yung litrato nya inilagay sa isang roads gallery ng mga wanted at pinalaganap sa maraming komunidad. At vulnerable sya to anything, kung sino man may galit sa kanya, pwede syang mapatay.
- f. **COMELEC disqualification.** Ngayong hapon na ito, ang Gabriela's women party namin ay nasa COMELEC kasi kinasuhan ng disqualification. Kinasuhan kami ng National Task Force, NTF against communist activities, ng disqualification sa COMELEC. Nung una, kasama kami, kaya lang, hindi naman kami under COMELEC, so inalis kami. Recently, bilang proteksyon sa sarili namin, nagfile kami together with KARAPATAN and Rural Missionaries of the Philippines ng petition for writ of amparo

and writ of habeas data? Hindi kami binigyan, kasi daw yung nilagay namin ay not enough to warrant that kind of writ. Tapos kinasuhan kami ng perjury. Kasi yun daw mga pinaglalagay namin dun ay hindi totoo. Pag nagsalita ka, magcriticize ka, makakasuhan ka.

- g. **Trumped-up charges in Butuan City.** Hindi ko alam kung alam na ito ng CHR, merong isang lider sa Butuan na nakasuhan among the 200, arson and murder ata yung kaso. Robbery. 200 actually sila, dahil ang daming Jane Does. Nakakatakot yung kasi pag nakuha ka nila, suddenly you're one of the Jane Does, may alyas ka na pala na hindi mo alam. So may mga kaso talaga na inihahain sa amin.
- h. **Death threats and EJKs.** Yung takot talaga, yung red-tagging at EJK, magkadikit talaga yan. Yun ang sinasabi namin sa aming writ of amparo and habeas data. Hindi lang kami nirered-tag, hindi lang nilalagay sa mga papel na "Gabriela, NPA, terorista" - isa sa ginagawa pa nila ay sinusundan-sundan ang aming mga kasama. At meron na kaming leaders na nakakauha ng death threats, either through social media or text. Ang hirap nun para sa kanila kasi nasa area sila, sa community. Yun yung direct effect. Sa amin, while hindi pa nangyayari, pero sa ibang organizations, after nakuha ang death threat, talagang nagiging bahagi ng EJK.
- i. **The president's sexist "jokes" as policy directives.** Bakit macho-fascism ang umiiral ngayon? At nagagalit kami kasi deka-dekada naming pinaglalaman ang karapatan ng kababaihan, at sinasabing ang pyudal-patriyarkal culture ay dapat maalis, tapos ngayon binabaliktad yan ng presidente ngayon. Kahit anong sabihin nya, na joke lang yan, hindi yan joke. Ang ginagawa ng joke ay tinitrivialize nya yung isang totoong problema, rape. Yung rape para sa isang babae ay nakakatakot na mangyari yan sa kanyang mga anak. Pangalawa, yung kanyang mga sinasabi, actually policy directive yan, kahit sabihing joke ay tinitingnan yan ng nasa ilalim nya bilang direktiba nya sa kanila. Halimbawa sa drug war, may kasama yang rape, sexual harrasment sa mga kababaihan. Pati sa military, meron ding kaakibat na pang-aabuso sa kababaihan. Yung mga joke ay tinitingnan ng nasa baba nya bilang utos ng presidente para sa kanila.
- j. **Service blockade due to red-tagging.** Itong red-taggingay nililimit ang aming kakayahan na magbigay ng serbisyo, mag-organisa. Yung aming mga kasama na sumasama sa national interfaith humanitarian mission, nakakasuhan. Halimbawa, pumunta sila sa isang lugar, merong mga bata dun na nasa school na militarized at gustong bumaba. Sumama yung aming mga kasama na ilabas sila dun sa community, nakakasuhan sila ng kidnapping at pag-abuso ng mga bata. O kaya, hindi pinapapasok sa area kahit ang dami nilang goods na dala. Sa women's organizing, meron akong personal experience, nagbibigay ako ng orientation sa Gabriela. May pinakita sa akin na text, "Happy Independence Day, wag kayong paloloko sa sumusunod na komunista-terorista. Garbiela ang isa sa nakalagay. Nagbibigay ako ng orientation, yan ang papakita sa akin. Although tanong ko "ano epekto sayo nyan?" Sabi "ah, actually, matagal na kami nakakakuha ng ganyan, bago pa mag eleksyon". So parang nakikita nya na "eh kilala naman namin sa inyo".

Maganda yun, alam nila ang organisasyon. Pero maraming natatakot, at dahil dito maski yung pag-unawa ng kanilang mga karapatan ay kinikwestyon na rin nila. Kasi kung ang mga ito, sinasabing “ito ang iyong mga karapatan”, pero bakit ganun yun rin ang ginagawa sa kanila? Pwede ko bang iassert ang aking mga karapatan, samantalang itong group na ito na matagal nang andyan na nagseserbisyo, ay nirered-tag ang leaders nila, ay hinuhuli, tinetail, at hinaharass.

- k. **Role of CHR in conducting inquiries.** Yung inquiry o pagtingin ng patterns, yung red-tagging, ay patterns yan. Yung mga sa communities na yung kababaihan ay naharass, threatened ng rape. Isang negatibo talaga sa mga sundalo ay mas madali silang makapangloko, makakilala ng kababaihan, lalo na mga young women na napaka impressionable, na kaibiganin nila. Na dahil trusted na sila madaling ma-rule into rape, gawing girlfriend, o “asawa” for the time being, pero pag sila ay nabuntis ay iwanan rin sila. Hindi lamang yung masama sila sa barilan, pero maski yung VAW an perpetrated by the men in uniform, mas nageescalate yan.
- l. **Documentation and education.** Yung positive experience sa isang region, idocument and pwedeng gawin sa ibang region. And education, yung unang gagawa ng education ay CHR people themselves. Kasi sa pakikipagdeal namin with CHR people from the different regions, minsan iba-iba rin ang intindi nila dun sa dapat nilang gawin, sa definition ng kung ano ang rights violation o hindi. Kaya kailangan din magkaisa. Kaya makakatulong din na may clear indicators. Pero ang indicators dapat hindi lamang quantitative, dapat rin qualitative. Doon makikita kung yung goal ay naacchieve o hindi.
- m. **Government agencies’ silence in WHR violations.** I agree with what my colleagues said about PCW, kailangan ipush pa sila. Sila dapat yung number one defender ng women's rights. Pero hindi sila masyadong nagsasalita ngayon. At the same time, challenge din to CHR iyon. As Ombud, anu-ano ba yung mga inilalabas na executive and administrative orders na ito, na sa tingin ninyo ay against human rights? O maglilead sa violations ng human rights. Ngayon nagsasalita kayo, but say more. Yun ang kailangan talaga, akala ng mga tao na tama ang ginagawa kasi wala masyadong nagsasalita. Kung mga CSOs and NGOs lang katulad namin ang nagsasalita, sasabihin “eh kasi talagang against yan sa gobyerno from the beginning til the end”. Merong talagang bite pag nasa government ang nagsasalita.
- n. **Priority bills towards tyranny and fascism.** Maraming batas ngayon ang sinasabing priority, halimbawa ang amendments to the Human Security Act na hindi na kailangan magkaroon ng Martial Law declaration sa buong bansa, kasi yung mismong amendments na yun ay magpput ng buong bansa under martial law hindi lang ngayon kundi forever, o hanggang ang batas na iyon ay umiiral. Yung mandatory ROTC, bahagi rin yan towards fascism. Maski yung lowering ng MACR, and death sentence. Ang daming batas na sinasabing priority ay tyrannical, fascist talaga. At dapat talaga magsalita ang CHR kaugnay dito.

## Question and Answer

*Mr. John, OPAPP:* I've been working as a gender specialist for more than 10 years and community organizer din po ako. Wag lang din nating kalimutan na in this government, there are also people who are fighting inside the government. Besides, marami na sa amin ang umalis siguro because they have the power to do so, or may another option. But we remain inside this government for whatever reason. Kasi kung aalis kami, sino na ang magiinfluence sa loob ng mga ahensya ng gobyerno. And there are also some stories of good people in this government.

*Atty. Rubin, GEWHRC:* Same question I asked sa panel ng region. Yung red-tagging laging nangyayari sa organizations. Sa case ng Gabriela, nagfile sila ng case ng amparo. Nakita ba natin pano rumisponde yung korte on that. In case of red-tagging communities, ano yung nagwork na response ng organizations nyo or individuals, considering na ito yung ating political climate?

*Ms. Ranjo-Libang, Gabriela:* Yung pakikipagugnayan sa iba't ibang mga sektor like simbahan, CSOs, even the local government, pwede gawin yan. Kasi ang response dapat is response ng marami, hindi response ng iisa o dalawa. Yung isa pa, basta may nangyari sa inyo, document agad, padala sa amin. Kasi isa sa mga nagiging problema namin, yung kwento-kwento, dahil may pakwento Kaya yung pagfile namin dito sa CHR, isang pagsasabi namin na meron pa ring naman mga tao sa gobyerno at merong government agencies na pwede tayong puntahan at magfile tayo ng ganitong case. At meron pa naman din tayong mga kaibigan sa loob ng gobyerno, hindi naman ang gobyerno ay isang isip lamang.

Halimbawa, dito sa nirered-tag kami, merong broad na pakikipag-isa sa iba't ibang organisasyon ng kababaihan. Hindi lang naman kami ang narered-tag na women's org, even ang mga local din narered-tag din. Kaya magkaisa, para labanan red-tagging na ito.

*Ms. Maricel Aguilar, UN Women:* Update ko lang po kay Ma'am Vicky Corpuz, totoo na successful yung pagpapabilis. Pero yung mga solidarity groups abroad have been telling us that the team of the Duterte administration, a well-funded team. Umiikot yan sa Europe, sa iba't ibang bansa at may powerpoint sila. Andun pa rin si VP. Kahit patuloy yung pangangampanya nila, hindi pa rin tinitigilan ang mga na red-tag na ito.

Isa pang dagdag na recommendation sa Gender Ombud, isama ang digital [harassment]. Everything is digital, from services, even threats. Napakaraming harassment na nangyayari, and we cannot brush it off, yung online harassment. Sa offline, things happen. At sa totoo lang, it's very unnerving, para kang nirerape pag binabasa mo yung mga sinasabi sa yo.

I agree with Ma'am Juds, yung ibang kasama namin sa ground, halika, itago muna natin ikaw. Pero ang sagot nila 'hindi, kailangan kong lumabas nang lumabas at ipakita na wala akong kinakatakutan kasi wala akong ginagawang masama at illegal at madidikit mo sa terorismo'.

Though on the CBD, while others opt for it, ang recent experience namin sa TAMASCO ay nag CBD kami, pero paglingon ng kasama namin merong hooded guy na nagtetake ng pictures. So over the past months we were losing trust sa CBD, but of course depende yan sa area. Because it has been used as a way to identify yung aming mga kasama.

*SI Riza Isnani-Concha, CHR XII* - About sa CBD, sa amin, yung house rules ay klaro. Bawal ang taking of pictures, kasi picturean ang attendance, kasi doon yung info.

*Darwin, CHR Policy Office:* Hindi dahil popular ang isang bagay ay tama. Pero kasi sa dami ng maling ginagawa ng pangulo, lalo na sa mga sinasabi nya sa mga kababaihan, ang question is bakit nanatili pa rin syang popular, sa kabila ng mga pagkakamali nya. Ano kaya ang magandang gawin ng CHR in partnership doon sa CSOs para mabago ito.

*Ms. Maricel Aguilar, UN Women:* Mabilis lang na reaction, yung word na popular siguro it has been checked. What you can see online, it might be an indicator of him being popular, but if you go to the grassroots level, or to those communities that have been victimized by human rights violations, iba yung narrative. I think yung popularity, nagdwindle. It has to be in check. If you remember in 2016 there really was heightened popularity for this president. But the surveys would show you an indicator of how the popularity has been stable. If you look at the statistics, hindi pwedeng maging stable yan kasi over the years, popularity in terms of policy is nagdwindle. Bottomline ko lang is the popularity must be held in check. And also ensure the need to generate a whole of nation approach, hindi lang yung mga civil society in creating an environment that is actually respectful of people's diversity and rights of women. Ang problema din kasi, gamit na gamit yung mainstream media, yung newspapers. So saan ka tatakbo? Yung pag-oorganisa ay napakahalaga, at sa grassroots babalik ulit yung una at simulang gawain ay yung pag-oorganisa.

*Ms. Ranjo-Libang, Gabriela:* At yung on ground campaign, halimbawa, yung epekto ng TRAIN lang, galit ang mga tao talaga dyan. Kasi ibig sabihin kagutuman para sa kanila yan. Actually, kung minsan, TRAIN, hindi nila naiintindihan pero pag nag-on ground ka, sasabihin mo "ibig sabihin nito ganito, ito ang ibig sabihin ng TRAIN". Halimbawa sa isang community namin marami talaga dun pro-Duterte. Sila apektado na lang ng TRAIN law, nasa isang lugar pa sila na aalisin sila dahil sa Build, Build, Build na ang nagpopondo ay galing sa TRAIN. Kaya ang sinasabi nila, kami pala ay ginigisa sa aming sariling mantika ng dalawang beses, hindi lang minsan.

*Ms. Judy Pasimio, LILAK:* Dagdag rin, yung popularity kailangan i-check. Kunyari, may mga kwento sa isang roundtable discussion, na bago raw gumawa ng nakaschedule survey, may mga patayang nangyayari. Tapos pagpasok, tatanungin ng very ambiguous na tanong na "gusto mo pa ba nila si Duterte?" So out of fear, sumasagot ng positive. Hindi naman siguro sa laht ng area, pero merong case na ganyan.

Ikalawa, inaasociate yung popularity nya sa popularity ng war on drugs sa pagpayag sa patayan. Survey has also shown na gusto ng mamamayang Pilipino na buhay ang mga nadampot sa war on drugs. Tapos recently, bukod po sa TRAIN, nasa defensive na talaga ang Duterte administration sa isyu ng patayan dahil dun sa human rights council resolution.

Ang survey recently nilabas sa ABS-CBN, 3 out of Filipinos would want the international community to come and investigate. So pababa nang pababa talaga. Ang huli, knee-jerk reaction ng mga kasama namin lalo na taga-Mindanao noon, ay pro-Duterte. Pero pag inisa isa mo - 'okay ba na ganito ang turing sa babae? Ay hindi, grabe'. 'Okay ka ba na kukutsa na lang daw ang pipili sa mining companies at plantations kasi tamad daw ang IPs na idevelop ang lupa nila? Ay hindi'. So pag inisa-isa natin kung ano ang ibig sabihin ng polisiya ni Duterte admin, magiglean mo sa kanila na si Duterte nga pala ang may pakana nito. So dapat magkatulungan tayo dito na himayin kung ano ang mga polisiya, programa ng Duterte administration at ano ang epekto nito sa bawat isa at sa komunidad natin.

(Awarding of Certificates to the panel by Dr. Renante A. Basas, Director, HRCMO)



# Synthesis

Atty. Krissi Shaffina Twyla A. Rubin

*OIC, Center for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights*

Thank you to our experts and thank you to our panelists. Nandito na po tayo sa pagsasara ng ating program. Nagkaroon tayo ng malaking pagtitipon today, first time ito for CHR to have a forum on women, peace, and security. Nagpapasalamat din po ako sa mga pumunta from Central, sa Region, sa ating mga speakers at ating mga experts. Gusto ko lang pasadahan ang paglalagom ng kung paano natin gagawin ang ating mandato as Gender Ombud.

Maraming namention kanina, it's good that Macel as UN Women mentioned na ibalik natin sa CEDAW ang ating mga obligasyon kasi yung ang ating document that we really anchoring our obligations and mandate in. Namention na kanina ang principles ng CEDAW na dapat sinasabuhay na natin - substantive equality, state obligation, paniningil, at yung de jure at de facto, malaking bagay yung sinasabi na ano ba yung tagos nito sa buhay ng mga bawat babae na ating nasasilbihan. And when we program, respond and mainstream WPS work, dapat ang nagpapalaman nito ay yung mga karanasan na narinig natin sa araw na ito. Yung karanasan na iyon ay hinugot mula sa experiences of our experts here, yung mga nagtatrabaho sa baba, yung issues na kanilang binitbit, at tayo as a responder, narinig na rin natin ang kanilang mga insights on how we should respond and this is really valuable. When we plan, hindi ito dapat out of nowhere. We have to go get our programs and activities for the next years from these issues that are happening, tinitingnan kung ano ang patterns na sinasabi nila na umusbong din, at kung saan yung konteksto na ginagalawan ng Komisyon as Gender Ombud.

Maganda yung minention kanina ni Ma'am Vene na tingnan natin yung ginawa natin in the past, how do we extend protection and assistance to the victim-survivors, service providers, at paano yung porma ng service at process in terms of how we render our services. Yung unang slide ng presentation kanina is a story of our regional CHR officer in Samar, sablay yung sagot nya. Yun yung nagstart yung day namin na nagreflect in terms both substance and process of how we do our work. Kasi madalas ginagawa natin ay institutional monitoring, reporting, and inquires, but Ma'am Vene said we should also focus on protection and assistance.

And these experts sa tanghali, ang ginawa nila ay lalo pang ibaba. Yung protection nasa region, but the process and the issues and the stories of the women ay nasa ground, nasa barangay, nasa bundok. How do we reach there, get there, and extend our assistance as Gender Ombud. So with this we at the GEWHRC are very thankful for everyone, very rich ang ating documentation and I hope it was the same experience for the Central Offices and Regions, na sana marami tayong makukuha kasi we're gonna be for protection, policy, and promotion. #

# Closing Remarks

Dr. Renante A. Basas

*Director IV, Human Rights Centers Management Office*

I'm glad to deliver the closing statement of this important forum on Women, Peace and Security. We have reached the conclusion of this event and I am certain that collaborative efforts contributed to richer discussions and deeper perspectives as gleaned from the lectures, sharing of experiences, evaluation, and reflection on the sufficiency of inputs and the recommendations put forward the body.

This initiative is timely as we are facing a very challenging human rights environment. For emphasis, the UNSCR 1325 which has been translated by various governments into National Action Plan on women, peace and security, recognizes women as constructive agents of peace, security and post conflict reconstruction. The Philippines is among the first country in Asia to develop a National Action Plan on women, peace and security. To date, the Philippines and Indonesia are the only two ASEAN members with a National Action Plan on the WPS agenda. In fact, the Philippines is now on its third National Action Plan covering 2017-2022 with emphasis on the links of WPS, with women's human rights anchoring on CEDAW General Recommendation 30 on women conflict prevention, conflict and post conflict situations.

Despite the traction gained by UNSC Resolution 1325 and the adoption of three NAPWPS in the country, achieving peace and security for women remain painfully slow in progress.

As a national human rights institution and as Gender Ombud, the Commission on Human Rights has been performing functions responding to the NAP-WPS but has yet to adopt an agency plan on its implementation.

It is on this aspect that the holding of this forum on WPS is very much welcome. There's a need for a sustained and regular forum specifically focused on women in conflict and post-conflict situations and on WPS.

With this, we can introduce effective ways on how to move forward in achieving the WPS agenda.

At this juncture, let's go back to the objectives of this forum: 1) To discuss women, peace and security updates and current issues with the CHR oversight units, government agencies involved in WPS and women's human rights CSOs, and 2) Explore further the role of CHR as Gender Ombud in WPS by gathering insights from WPS experts, and CHR regional offices working in areas affected by armed conflict.

Based on today's outputs, the forum is a success! You were able to accomplish the objectives. Congratulations! What comes next? For the ways forward: The best move is to monitor and report on the implementation of this initiative. Monitor how effectively General Recommendations 30 is implemented and how responsive are the efforts to the issues raised by women and girls affected by the conflict. There's a need to identify specific gaps in the implementation followed by assessing certain measures for narrowing the gaps. We can address these by creating strong partnership among civil society organizations, actively engaging stakeholders from concerned government agencies and different sectors within society, and holding government officials accountable for their actions. All of us have roles to play in this regard especially in the promotion aspect.

In conclusion, the deliberations have laid the groundwork for the ways forward. I would like to thank you all for your active and meaningful participation. Thanks to the organizers, the CGEWHR headed by its energetic and informed OIC, Atty. Twyla, the resource speakers, the discussants and the secretariat for the hard work.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all the participants, for your valuable contributions to the success of this workshop. Thank you for your attention and wish you a safe travel home.

*References: Women, Peace and Security in the ASEAN-Policy Forum  
Global Forum on Women, Peace and Security, U.S. CSWG*

## Appendix A. Programme



### CHR FORUM ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

*Monitoring of current issues and exploring the Role of the Gender Ombud*

University of the Philippines Hotel, 25 JULY 2019

Time	Activity	Speaker/Facilitator
9:00-9:15	Preliminaries	GEWHRC
9:15- 9:30	Welcome Remarks	Hon. Karen Gomez Dumpit, Focal Commissioner on Women
9:30-9: 45	Message of Support	Hon. Jose Luis Martin Gascon, Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights
9:45- 9:50	Introduction of the Key Lecturer	Ms. Leah Barbia, DMO IV, GEWHRC
9: 50- 11:45	Key Lecture: Updates on Women, Peace, and Security	Prof. Veneracion Rallonza Director, Asia Pacific Centre for Responsibility to Protect- Philippine Office; Associate Professor, Ateneo De Manila
11:45- 12:00	Open forum	GEWHRC
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
1:00- 2:45	Panel 1: <i>Women, Peace and Security and CHR as Gender Ombud</i>	CSO Speakers:  1. <b>Sinceridad Soler</b> (Mindanao Tri-People Women Resource Center, Region 12)  2. <b>Myrna Siose</b> (Region 10, Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro);  3. <b>Ma. Jerry Delda</b> (Panaghiusa Alang sa Kaugalingnan ug

		<p>Kalingkawasan Inc. - PASAKK, CARAGA)</p> <p><b>CHR Regional Speakers:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Atty. Jeanne Ivy Abrina</b> (Regional Director, CHR-10)</li> <li>2. <b>Atty. Rommel Dagumol</b> (Regional Director, CHR-CAR)</li> <li>3. <b>SI Rizalyn Isnani-Concha</b> (CHR-12)</li> <li>4. <b>SI Maria Theresa Rallos Neri</b> (CHR-CARAGA)</li> </ol> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Atty. Twyla Rubin, GEWHRC, OIC</p>
2:45-2:50	<b>Tea Break</b>	
2:50-4:50	<b>Panel 2: <i>Expert Panel on WPS - Urgent Issues and the role of CHR as Gender Ombud</i></b>	<p><b>Ms. Judy Pasimio</b>, LILAK Purple Action for Women (confirmed)</p> <p><b>Ms. Gert Ranjo-Libang</b>, Vice Chairperson, Gabriela</p> <p><b>Ms. Maricel Aguilar</b>, UN Women (confirmed)</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Leah Barbia GEWHRC, DMO IV</p>
4:50-5:15	<b>Open Forum</b>	GEWHRC
5:15 -5:20	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Dr. Renante A. Basas</b> Director, Human Rights Center Management Office

## End of Documentation Report

CHR FORUM ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY  
Monitoring of current issues and exploring the Role of the Gender Ombud

University of the Philippines Hotel  
25 July 2019

Documentation Report

Submitted to the Commission on Human Rights



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