



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL NEW YORK  
**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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**NEW YORK CONSULATE, ADVOCATES VOW CLOSER COOPERATION TO FIGHT  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**



**L-R 1<sup>st</sup> row Atty. Carol Tanjutco, OWWA Welfare Officer Petrona Bergado, Consul General Theresa De Vega, Undersecretary Sarah Arriola, with Deputy Consul General Kerwin Tate and other migrant concerns advocates (photo by NYPCG)**

NEW YORK CITY – Following a Focus Group Discussion held at the Philippine Center on 17 February 2018, various Anti-Human Trafficking organizations and migrant concerns advocacy groups promised closer coordination and cooperation with each other and the Philippine Consulate General in New York in fighting human trafficking.

The discussion, led by Department of Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Sarah Lou Arriola, was participated in by various organizations, including representatives from the

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DAMAYAN Migrant Workers Group, the New Jersey Office of Welcoming Communities, the Filipino – American Legal Defense and Education Fund (FALDEF), the Mission to End Modern-day Slavery, Diocese of Brooklyn Migrant Center, I Am Pinoy Proud Ako, media, volunteer lawyers and other community and church-based migrant advocates.

Undersecretary Arriola stated emphatically the Department of Foreign Affairs' determination to combat human trafficking, and the continued effort by the government to stamp out irregular schemes which victimize Filipinos hoping to find overseas employment.

The participants each expressed their willingness to be even more pro-active in working together to stop the victimization of Filipinos whether in the U.S. or elsewhere in the world. END



Migrant concerns advocate share their inputs and experiences in anti-Human Trafficking cases