

## **Closing Remarks**

**Undersecretary Lourdes M. Trasmonte**

**Signing of Joint Statement on Road Transport Safety**

**11 November 2011**

**The Bayleaf Hotel, Intramuros, Manila**

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On behalf of the Department of Labor and Employment, and the members of the Technical Working Group that conducted the study on the working conditions and compensation schemes in the bus transport sector, we would like to thank the industry players, specifically the bus operators, drivers and conductors, including the government regulating agencies and experts from the academe in the fields of engineering and traffic psychology, for their valuable support and contributions during the conduct of our rapid survey and focus group discussions.

With the signing today of our Joint Statement on Road Transport Safety, we can conclude that our efforts did not go in vain. We realize these measures will entail a lot of sacrifice from all of you, especially on the part of bus operators. But let us always keep in mind what that sacrifice is for: to protect the safety and welfare, not only of the passengers and your drivers and conductors, but the public in general.

The Secretary mentioned about the alarming number of fatal accidents involving buses, the President's concern to substantially reduce road crashes and the global efforts to improve road safety by the World Health Organization and the UN Road Safety Collaboration. With your commitments to adopt and implement groundbreaking measures to ensure road transport safety, I can say that we are well on our way to realize that vision.

On this note, we would like to express our full support to all your future endeavors to promote road transport safety vis-à-vis the welfare of your workers. Again, thank you and it has been a fruitful partnership.

A pleasant morning to all of you.