

## National Council of Women of the Philippines celebrates Women's Month

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The National Council of Women of the Philippines (NCWP) in partnership with the Women's Federation for World Peace – Philippines (WFWP), together with the full support of the Universal Peace Federation Philippines (UPF), celebrated International Women's Month last month. On March 27, 2021, the NCWP Interfaith Dialogue Event was held centered on the theme, "Surmounting Greater Challenges Amidst the Pandemic Through Interfaith Dialogue." There were 473 participants pre-registered and a total of 751 participants who joined via Zoom and Facebook live.

The event was a breakthrough partnership of WFWP Philippines, NCWP -- a top civil society women organization, women leaders of the Philippines, along with 11 other partner organizations to overcome the challenges of the pandemic through interfaith dialogue and cooperation among women leaders.

UPF, working alongside WFWP played a very important role in providing top-notch, high-level support, in both human and technical resources, providing a platform to make the event possible.

The event was graced with prominent women leaders both in government and non-governmental organizations, with a line-up of inspiring guest speakers including WFWP Philippines National President, IVP, Chief Administrative Officer, Deputy Director, Office for UN Relations of WFWP International, Ms. Merly Christina B. Barlaan; FFWPU Asia Pacific 2 Regional Vice President, Dr. Julius B. Malicdem; SSS Commissioner/ PMWC President and Philex Mining Director, Bai Norhata Alonto; and the Human Rights Commission Chairperson, Hon. Gwendolyn Pimentel-Gana. Also present at this event was the United Nations Association of the Philippines President, Dr. Amelou Benitez Reyes.

The women organizations of the Philippines worked together to forge healthy relationships, opening the opportunity for more collaborations and partnerships in the future and thus providing solutions to issues concerning women and girls.