

PARTICIPATION

of Talitha Kum Philippines and Talitha Kum Japan

We are grateful to participate at the seminar that was organized by the Office of Human Development (OHD) of Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC). The 40 participants from 11 Asian countries have gathered in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh from 11 to 17 of February 2019 for the seminar entitled "Migrants, Refugees, the Displaced and Human Trafficking and Renewable Energy Options in the Asian Context."



Participants from Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China with main presenters; Fr. Fabio Baggio, CS and Ms. Naoko Maruyama (not in the picture) from M & R Section of Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (from Vatican City).

We had the opportunity to visit and witnessed the situation and condition of displaced Rohingya in camps at Ukhaia, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. It's a heartbreaking situation but we acknowledge with gratitude the work and support of the Catholic Church in Bangladesh through Caritas with the support of the global Caritas family, international organizations and agencies, NGO's, church organizations and local people to act promptly in providing the basic needs of the displaced Rohingya.



Rohingya Volunteers for Barefoot Counselors



It's also a privilege for us to reflect upon deeply the presentation about the 20 Pastoral Action Points by Migrants and Refugees and the Pastoral Orientations on Human Trafficking (POHT) that was given by Father Fabio Baggio and Ms. Naoko Maruyama from the office of M & R Section of Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. We had a good interaction workshop on the practice and implementation of the Four Verbs- to WELCOME, to PROMOTE, to PROTECT, and to INTEGRATE migrants and refugees and victims of human trafficking in our own countries. We recognize the challenges but we continue to strengthen the collaborative effort and deepen our commitment to fight against human trafficking.

We learned a lot from the country report about the situation on Migrants, Refugees, the Displaced and Human Trafficking and Renewable Energy Options in the Asian Context.

We were also inspired by the address of H.E. Cardinal Patrick D' Rozario and his conferees bishops about the issue of migrants and refugees. We were also fortunate to have the presence of Apostolic Nuncio HE George Kocherry as he gave the message of His Holiness Pope Francis and blessing to the participants of this seminar. It was a profound message that we are all encouraged to continue to be a prophetic voice of the church.

By the intercession of Saint Josephine Bakhita, we pray for the people who are vulnerable to human trafficking.

— Sr. Vivian Fernando, HFB from Talitha Kum Philippines and Sr. Abby Avelino, MM from Talitha Kum Japan



(L-R) Sr. Vivian Fernando from Talitha Kum Philippines and Sr. Abby Avelino from Talitha Kum Japan with Father Fabio Baggio, CS



Ms. Naoko Maruyama from the office of M & R Section of Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

