

(ACRP) RELIGIONS FOR PEACE, PHILIPPINES COUNTRY REPORT 2015

Dr. Lilian Sison, Secretary General

I. Summary

1. Co-hosted International Conference on Religious Pluralism February 2, 2015
2. Participation in other international conferences, lectures and dialogues on Religious Freedom and Religious Extremism
3. Regular meetings of the IRC and Uniharmony Partners – reflections on the peace process

II. Details

In celebration of the 2015 UNIHARMONY WEEK, ACRP Philippines co-sponsored the international symposium with the theme “Peace and Harmony in the Reality of Religious Pluralism” (Feb 2, 2015) The symposium was held at the University of Santo Tomas. It was cosponsored by the Pacific Dialogue Foundation, The Journalists and Writers Foundation of Turkey and the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines

Representatives from Turkey, USA and Philippines delivered speeches on Islam, Judaism and Christianity. They stressed the vital role of dialogue and in understanding one’s beliefs and the beliefs of others in managing conflicts and resolving issues related to inter-religious and inter-ethnic violence.

2. ACRP Participation in Other Forums

The International Conference on **“The Approach of Islam and Christianity Towards Religious Extremism and Violence”** sponsored by Center for Interreligious Dialogue and Civilization of IRAN and the CBCP held last April 24-25, 2015 was participated by the members of ACRP Philippines with Dr. Lilian Sison delivering a talk on the “Role of Faith-based Organizations in Promoting Collaborative Actions on the Challenges of Contemp

Dr. Sison also served as Pamjel of Reactors in the Schillebeeckx Lecture Series 2015 highlighting Interreligious Dialogue and Religious Freedom. The lecture was attended by seminarians from the Faculty of Theology (UST)

3. Regular Meetings of the Inter Religious Council (IRC) and UNIHARMONY Partners –

The meetings focused on the on going peace process with the Bangsamoro Basic Law now being legislated in the Philippine Congress. Suggestions for possible involvement of IRC and ACRP on the need for peace communication and peace monitoring once the BBL is passed into a law.