



**KASAMBAHAY WAGE ORDER NO. RB VIII-01**

**PRESCRIBING NEW MINIMUM WAGE RATES  
 FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS IN  
 EASTERN VISAYAS**

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board VIII (RTWPB VIII) is mandated under R.A. No. 6727 (The Wage Rationalization Act), to periodically assess wage rates and conduct continuing studies in the determination of the minimum wage applicable in the region or industry.

**WHEREAS**, Section 24 of R.A. No. 10361, entitled (An Act Instituting Policies for the Protection and Welfare of Domestic Workers or Batas Kasambahay) which took effect on 10 February 2013, sets the minimum wage rates of domestic workers to Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) a month for those employed in chartered cities and first class municipalities, and One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) a month for those employed in other municipalities; and mandated the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards to review, and if proper, determine and adjust the minimum wage rates of domestic workers one (1) year from the effectivity of the law and periodically thereafter;

**WHEREAS**, after due notice to concerned sectors, the RTWPB VIII conducted a random survey in all provinces and key cities in the region on September 1-10, 2015; a public consultation in Maasin City on December 10, 2015; a validation survey in Catarman, Northern Samar on January 29, 2016; and a public hearing in the City of Tacloban on February 4, 2016;

**WHEREAS**, the results of the surveys, consultations, and public hearing, as well as review of economic indicators have revealed the need to grant relief to kasambahays minimum wage rates of Eastern Visayas;

**NOW THEREFORE**, by virtue of the power and authority vested under R.A. 6727 and R.A. No. 10361, the RTWPB VIII hereby issues this Wage Order.

**Section 1. NEW KASAMBAHAY MINIMUM WAGE RATES IN EASTERN VISAYAS.** Upon effectivity of this Wage Order, the new monthly minimum wage rates of domestic workers in Eastern Visayas shall be as follows:

- a) P 2,500.00 - in chartered cities and first class Municipalities
- b) P 2,000.00 - in other municipalities

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**Section 2. COVERAGE.** This Wage Order shall apply to all domestic workers in Eastern Visayas whether on a live-in or live-out arrangements, such as but not limited to:

- a) General househelp
- b) Yaya
- c) Cook
- d) Gardener
- e) Laundry person; or
- f) Any person who regularly performs domestic work in one household on an occupational basis:

The following are not covered:

- a) Service providers
- b) Family drivers
- c) Children under foster family arrangement; and
- d) Any other person who performs work occasionally or sporadically and not on occupational basis.

**Section 3. PAYMENT OF WAGES.** The wages of the Domestic Workers shall be paid in cash at least once a month. No deductions from the wages of the domestic worker shall be made other than those mandated by law.

**Section 4. APPLICATION TO PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES (PEAs).** In the case of hiring/contracting of domestic workers services through a licensed PEAs, the wage rates prescribed in this Order shall be borne by the principals or clients of the PEAs and the contract shall be deemed amended accordingly.

In the event, however, that the principals or clients fail to pay the prescribed wage rates, the PEAs shall be jointly and severally liable with his principal or client.

**Section 5. NON-APPLICABILITY OF EXEMPTION.** This Wage Order does not allow exemption.

**Section 6. APPEAL TO THE COMMISSION.** Any party aggrieved by this Wage Order may file an appeal to the National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC), through the Board, in three (3) printed copies, not later than ten (10) days from the publication of this Wage Order, subject to compliance with Sections 11 and 12 of the NWPC Guidelines No. 01 Series of 2014.

Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom of the page. From left to right: a stylized signature, a signature with a horizontal line, a signature with a circle around the end, the name 'Cherardoy' written in cursive, and another signature. There is also a small mark on the far right edge.

**Section 7. COMPLAINTS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.** Complaints for non-compliance with the Wage Order shall be filed before the DOLE Field/Provincial/Regional Office No. VIII and shall go through the thirty (30) day mandatory conciliation under the DOLE Single Entry Approach (SEnA) program to exhaust all efforts for settlement.

The DOLE Regional Director shall decide and issue an order within ten (10) days from the submission of the case for resolution.

**Section 8. UNLAWFUL ACTS AND PENALTIES.** Withholding and interference in the disposal of wages of the Domestic Workers are declared unlawful and shall be punishable with a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than Forty Thousand Pesos (P40,000.00) without prejudice to the filing of the appropriate civil and/or criminal action by the aggrieved party pursuant to Section 40, Article IX of Republic Act 10361; and Sections 1 and 2, Rule XII, of its Implementing Rules.

**Section 9. BOARD, LODGING AND MEDICAL ALLOWANCE.** The employer shall provide for the basic necessities of the domestic worker to include at least three (3) adequate meals a day and humane sleeping arrangements that ensure safety.

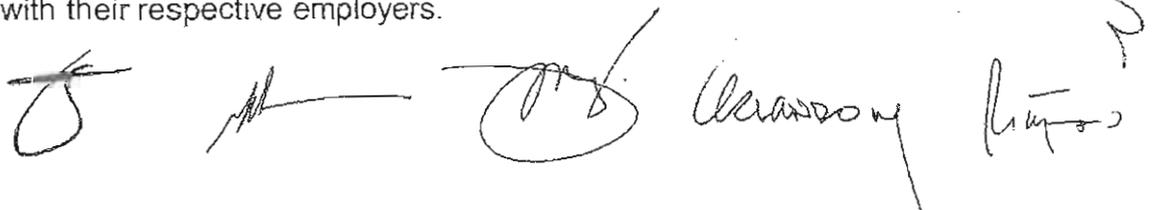
The employer shall provide appropriate rest and assistance to the domestic worker in case of illness and injuries sustained during service without loss of benefits.

At no instance shall the employer withdraw or hold in abeyance the provision of these basic necessities as punishment or disciplinary action to the domestic worker.

**Section 10. NON-DIMINUTION OF BENEFITS.** Nothing in this Order shall be construed to reduce any existing wage rates, allowances and benefits of any form under existing laws, decrees, issuances, executive orders and/or under any contract or agreement between the workers and employers.

**Section 11. PROHIBITION AGAINST INJUNCTION.** No preliminary or permanent injunction or temporary restraining order may be issued by any court, tribunal or other entity against any proceedings before the Board.

**Section 12. FREEDOM TO BARGAIN.** This Order shall not be construed to prevent domestic workers from bargaining for higher wages with their respective employers.



**Section 13. COMPETENCY-BASED PAY.** Household employers and their domestic workers may voluntarily and mutually agree to adopt a competency-based pay scheme in setting and adjusting the pay of domestic workers over and above the applicable wage.

**Section 14. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Wage Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

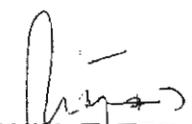
**Section 15. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision or part of this Wage Order is declared unconstitutional, or in conflict with existing law, the other provisions or parts thereof shall remain valid.

**Section 16. IMPLEMENTING RULES.** The Board shall submit to the Commission the necessary Rules and Regulations to implement this Order subject to approval of the Secretary of Labor and Employment not later than ten (10) days from the publications of the Wage Order.

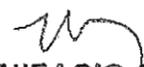
**Section 17. EFFECTIVITY.** This Wage Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the region.

**APPROVED** this 3rd day of March 2016 at Tacloban City.

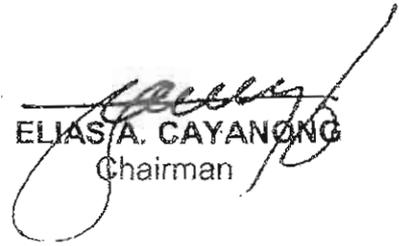
  
**ORLANDO C. UY**  
Employers' Representative

  
**MIGUEL T. TEZON**  
Workers' Representative

  
**EFREN M. GABRIOLA**  
Workers' Representative

  
**BONIFACIO G. UY**  
Vice-Chair, NEDA

  
**CYNTHIA R. NIERRAS**  
Vice-Chair, DTI

  
**ELIAS A. CAYANONG**  
Chairman



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Labor and Employment  
National Wages and Productivity Commission  
REGIONAL TRIPARTITE WAGES AND PRODUCTIVITY BOARD VIII  
Tacloban City



**RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING  
WAGE ORDER NO. RB VIII-DW-01**

Pursuant to Section 16 of Wage Order No. RB VIII-DW-01, Prescribing New Minimum Wage Rates for Domestic Workers in Eastern Visayas, and NWPC Guidelines No. 01, series of 2014, the Rules of Procedure on Minimum Wage Fixing for Domestic Workers, the following Rules are hereby issued for the guidance and compliance by all concerned in Eastern Visayas.

**RULE I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1. Title.** These Rules shall be known as the Rules and Regulations Implementing Wage Order RB VIII-DW-01.

**Section 2. Definition of Terms as used in these Rules.**

- a. **Order** – refers to Wage Order No. RB VIII-DW-01;
- b. **Commission or NWPC** – refers to the National Wage and Productivity Commission;
- c. **Board** – refers to the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB) VIII;
- d. **DOLE**– refers to the Department of Labor and Employment Regional Office No. VIII;
- e. **Republic Act 10361 (Domestic Workers Act or Batas Kasambahay)** – the law enacted by Congress known as an “Act Instituting Policies for the Protection and Welfare of Domestic Workers”;
- f. **NWPC Guidelines No. 01, Series 2014** – refers to the rules of procedure on minimum wage fixing for domestic workers;
- g. **Domestic Worker** - refers to any person engaged in domestic work within an employment relationship, whether on a live-in or live-out arrangement, such as, but not limited to, general househelp, “yaya”, cook, gardener, or laundry person, but shall exclude service providers, family drivers, children who are under foster family arrangements, or any person who performs domestic work only occasionally or sporadically;

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- h. **Basic Necessities** - Basic Necessities is defined pursuant to Rule IV, Section 13, Rules Implementing R.A. 10361 to include: a) at least three (3) adequate meals a day, taking into consideration the Kasambahay's religious beliefs and cultural practices; b) appropriate rest and medical assistance in the form of first-aid medicines in case of illness and injuries sustained during service without loss of benefits; and, c) humane sleeping conditions that respects the person's privacy for the live-in arrangement and space for rest and access to sanitary facilities for the live-out arrangements.
- i. **Private Employment Agency (PEA)** – refers to any individual, legitimate partnership, corporation or entity licensed to engage in the recruitment and placement of domestic workers for local employment;
- j. **Single Entry Approach (SENA)** – refers to an administrative approach to provide a speedy, impartial, inexpensive and accessible settlement procedure of all labor issues or conflicts to prevent them from ripening into full blown disputes;
- k. **Competency-Based Pay Scheme** – refers to a compensation system that rewards domestic workers with additional pay in exchange for formal certification of the domestic worker's mastery of skills, knowledge and/or competencies.

## RULE II

### WAGE ADJUSTMENTS

#### Section 1. Coverage of the Wage Order

The Wage Order shall apply to all domestic workers, whether on a live-in or live-out arrangements, such as but not limited to:

- (a) general househelp;
- (b) yaya;
- (c) cook;
- (d) gardener;
- (e) laundry person; or
- (f) any person who regularly performs domestic work in one household on an occupational basis.

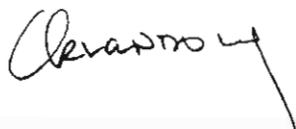
Not covered are the following;

- (a) Service providers;
- (b) Family drivers;
- (c) Children under foster family arrangements; and
- (d) Any person who performs work occasionally or sporadically.

#### Section 2. New Monthly Minimum Wage Rates

Upon effectivity of the Wage Order, the new monthly minimum wage rates for domestic workers in Eastern Visayas shall be:

- (a) P 2,500.00 - In chartered cities and first class municipalities
- (b) P 2,000.00 - In other municipalities



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**Section 3. Mode and Frequency of Payments of Wages**

The wages of the domestic workers shall be paid in cash at least once a month. No payment by means of promissory notes, vouchers, coupons, tokens, tickets, chits, or any object other than cash shall be allowed.

**Section 4. Deduction for Loss or Damage**

Other than those mandated by law, the employer shall not deduct any amount from the wages of the Domestic Worker without his/her written consent or authorization; provided that deduction for loss or damage shall only be made under the following conditions:

- a) The domestic worker is clearly shown to be responsible for the loss or damage;
- b) The domestic worker is given reasonable opportunity to show cause why deductions should not be made;
- c) The total amount of such deductions is fair and reasonable and shall not exceed the actual loss or damage; and
- d) The deduction from the wages of the domestic worker does not exceed 20% of his/her wages in a month.

The DOLE shall extend free assistance in the determination of fair and reasonable wage deductions and compliance under this Section.

**Section 5. Deduction for Loans**

By written agreement, the employer may deduct the loans from the wages of the domestic worker, which amount shall not exceed 20% of his/her wages every month.

**Section 6. Application for Private Employment Agencies (PEAs)**

In the case of hiring/contracting of domestic workers services through a licensed PEAs, the wage rates prescribed in the Order shall be borne by the principals or clients of the PEAs and the contract shall be deemed amended accordingly.

In the event, however, that the principals or clients fail to pay the prescribed wage rates, the PEAs shall be jointly and severally liable with their principals or clients.

**Section 7. Exemption from Compliance**

Filing of applications for exemption from compliance with the Wage Order is not allowed.

**Section 8. Provision of Basic Necessities**

The employer shall provide for the basic necessities of the domestic workers as defined in Rule I, Section 2.i of this Rules.

At no instance shall the employer withdraw or hold in abeyance the provision of these basic necessities as punishment or disciplinary action to the domestic worker.

**Section 9. Non-Diminution of Benefits**

Nothing in the Wage Order shall be construed to reduce any existing wage rates, allowances and benefits of any form under existing laws, decrees, issuances, executive orders and/or under any contract or agreement between the workers and employers

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**Section 10. Competency-Based Pay Scheme**

Household employers and their domestic workers may voluntarily and mutually agree to adopt a compensation system that rewards domestic workers with additional pay in exchange for formal certification on the domestic workers mastery of skills, knowledge and/or competencies.

Those who will adopt the Competency-Based Pay Scheme may refer to the NWPC Advisory on Competency-Based Wage for Domestic Workers issued on 24 February 2015.

**RULE III**

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1. Appeal to the Commission**

Any party aggrieved by the Wage Order may file an appeal with the National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC), through the RTWPB VIII, in three (3) legible copies, not later than ten (10) days from the publication of this Wage Order, subject to compliance with Section 11 and 12 of the NWPC Guidelines No. 01, Series of 2014.

**Section 2. Complaints for Non-Compliance**

Complaints for non-compliance with the Wage Order shall be filed before the DOLE Field/Provincial/Regional Office VIII and shall go through the thirty (30) day mandatory conciliation under the DOLE Single Entry Approach (SENA) program to exhaust all efforts for settlement.

The DOLE Regional Director shall decide and issue an Order within ten (10) days from the submission of the case for resolution.

**Section 3. Freedom to Bargain**

The Wage Order shall not be construed to prevent domestic workers from bargaining for higher wages and other benefits with their respective employers.

**Section 4. Unlawful Acts and Penalties**

Withholding and interference in the disposal of wages of the domestic workers are declared unlawful and shall be punishable with a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than Forty Thousand Pesos (P40,000.00), without prejudice to the filing of the appropriate civil and/or criminal action by the aggrieved party pursuant to Rule XII, Sections 1 and 2 of Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10361.

**Section 5. Prohibition Against Injunction**

No preliminary or permanent injunction or temporary restraining order may be issued by any court, tribunal or other entity against any proceedings before the Board.

**Section 6. Repealing Clause**

All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of the Wage Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly

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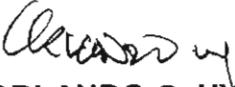
**Section 7. Separability Clause**

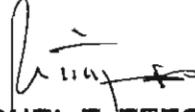
If any provision or part of the Wage Order is declared unconstitutional, or in conflict with existing law, the other provisions or parts thereof shall remain valid.

**Section 8. Effectivity**

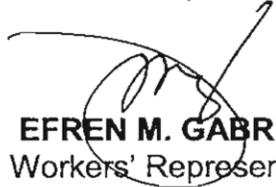
These Rules shall take effect upon effectivity of the Order.

Done this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 2016, Tacloban City, Philippines.

  
**ORLANDO C. UY**  
Employers' Representative

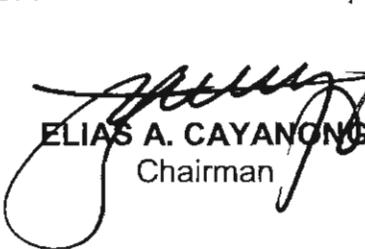
  
**MIGUEL T. TEZON**  
Workers' Representative

(vacant)  
Employers' Representative

  
**EFREN M. GABRIOLA**  
Workers' Representative

  
**BONIFACIO G. UY**  
Vice-Chair, NEDA

  
**CYNTHIA R. NIERRAS**  
Vice-Chair, DTI

  
**ELIAS A. CAYANONG**  
Chairman

Approved this 04 day of May 2016.

  
**ROSALINDA DIMAPILIS-BALDOZ**  
Secretary  
Department of Labor and Employment