



Babaylan

Philippine Women's Network in Europe

CIRCULAR TO ALL COUNTRY REPS AND NETWORK MEMBERS

Date : October 08, 2007
From : Babaylan Interim Committee (BIC)
Subject : Conference and Congress 2007
Jugendherberge Köln-Deutz
Siegesstrasse 5
50679 Köln (Cologne), Germany

Dear Ka-Babaylanes and interested women,

Our Babaylan conference is just around the corner and we are sending this circular to give you more information about the content of the conference and the planned program as well as to remind you of the Babaylan congress after the conference.

As mentioned in the previous circular sent by Mary Lou in August, the theme of the conference as decided upon on the CR meeting last June, will be on "Gender, Migration and Development". We, of the Interim Committee, also serving as conference coordinators, have therefore planned the conference to evolve around these themes. We have invited speakers from the Philippines and Europe to give inputs about the Gender issue – how it relates to Migration, affecting migrant women not only in the familial context but also in the social, cultural and economic aspect as can also be seen in the development discussions. Workshops will be held on gender, migration and development policies in Europe and our home country, as well as development trends, and also on gender and literature in the cultural context, and a hands on regarding building cooperatives. We have also of course invited our Honourable Ambassador to Germany, H.E. Delia Domingo-Albert.

This conference, which also marks Babaylan's 15th year anniversary is entitled:

***Empowering Philippine Women in Europe: Their participation in the
Development Processes in Europe and in the Philippines***
"The Gender dimensions of migration and development"

For the conference and congress flow, please see attached program.

With regards to the Congress, we would like to remind you that there are several points which have to be decided upon, and which the country delegations have to discuss with their members beforehand and take a stand on. Foremost to be discussed and decided upon is the one-year tenure of the Interim Committee which ends during the Congress 2007, as well as holding elections for a new Executive Committee. The Congress is also the vehicle with which to make motions for amendments to the Constitution that any member country can bring up as a motion. In such a case, please note that the motion has to be well prepared and presented, and of course discussed and agreed upon by the members of the country bringing up the motion.

Reading the existing Constitution and recent amendments is recommended. A copy of the constitution and amendments will presently be available on our website, www.babaylan-europe.org. A pending issue from the last congress which has to be resolved is that of gay membership. Please be sure to discuss this on the country levels to prepare for the discussions in the congress. And please remember to bring along your country membership fee payment which currently is only 60 euros but donations are always welcome!

Please also note, that as an added attraction, there will be a **Tombola** which is also a fundraising activity and as such we are requesting each country to please bring along 5 pcs. of tombola prizes worth not less than 10, - € (can be more!) and 5 more @ 5 euros. These could be nice things you have around the house which you have a double of, or do not use (white elephants) and are still unused/new. You can likewise solicit these from other sources: like rich friends and supporters, generous neighbours. Please be creative not only in procuring interesting and worthy items but also in wrapping these prizes creatively.

For those arriving early Friday, there will be the opportunity to visit the famous Dome of Cologne which is near the venue, or even take a short boat ride on the Rhine. The same can be done on Sunday afternoon after the conference for those having time before their homebound journeys.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible so together, with your active participation, we can plan the future of BBLN. We hope to welcome new members as well as prospective members and we hope to offer you interesting and profitable insights on our Theme “Gender, Migration and Development.

For the Interim Committee – BBLN Europe
With warmest regards,

Lina Gschwend

How to get to the venue

From the airport: Take the train to Köln Hauptbahnhof (main train station)
Get off at station Köln-Deutz (Trade Center)
Exit at the travel Center main door.
In front of the station is a huge building - LVR
The Jugendherberge (youth hostel) is just at the left of it.

From the main train station of Cologne:

The venue is just across the bridge from the main station
If you don't want to walk, go to Platform 10, all trains
from this station stops at Köln-Deutz station
Proceed as above