

## **CALL FOR SOLIDARITY FOR ELE WORKERS' FIGHT FOR FAIR PAY AND JOB SECURITY**

Join the Delegation of ELE Workers and Supporters

**BLACK FRIDAY PROTEST**

**12 PM, 19 JANUARY 2024**

- Auckland - Deloitte ay sa 80 Queen St, sa Fort St/Queen St intersection
- Wellington - Philippine Embassy, 50 Hobson Street, Thorndon, Wellington
- Christchurch - Deloitte Christchurch, 151 Cambridge Terrace, Christchurch Central City

Four weeks on since hundreds of Filipino workers were shocked by the collapse of labour hire giant ELE group.

At this stage we have three urgent aspirations for the ELE workers:

1. To get back into employment and get new visas as soon as possible, including the ELE workers who were on holiday in the Philippines when ELE went into receivership.
2. To receive the promised financial aid of NZ\$1,050 from the Philippine government before the end of this week.
3. To receive the final pay and annual leave entitlements from Deloitte before the end of January 2024.

For the NZ government, we reiterate that it's high time to investigate the practices of labour hire operators that disadvantage migrant workers. We also call for 40hrs guaranteed hours to ensure fair deal for migrant workers rather than just 30 hrs guaranteed hours. This must be on the agenda of the Bilateral Labour Agreement between NZ and Philippines.

We are hopeful that Immigration NZ will give reasonable time for the ELE workers to get new job offers and sort out new visas instead of being given a deadline within this month.

Even before the ELE collapse, we have been getting more cases of redundancy and victims of migrant workers exploitation, various visa scams and fake job offers. The Philippine government must be ready to extend financial aid not just for ELE workers but for all Filipino work visa holders in hardship.

We reiterate calls for the Philippine government through the Philippine Embassy in Wellington and the Department of Migrant Workers in Manila to fast-track the release of financial aid for all ELE workers and give high priority for ELE workers currently in the Philippines to avail OWWA assistance and waive the required application for new Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC) to be able to return to NZ without further costs and delay.