



## ABAC PH 2017: First Meeting with APEC PH Senior Official

20 January 2017 | Namayan Room, Fairmont Makati, Makati City

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

I. Undersecretary Manuel Teehankee, APEC PH SOM welcomed the guests and called the meeting to order.

II. Usec. Teehankee introduced the new ABAC Philippines 2017 members and alternates:

- a. **Mr. Tomas Alcantara, member**
- b. **Mr. Lance Gokongwei, member** (*represented by Mr. Renato Salud*)
- c. **Ms. Joanne de Asis, member**
- d. **Dr. Francis Chua, alternate**
- e. **Mr. Guillermo Luz, alternate** (*alternate since 2013*)

III. Ms. Doris Ho, former ABAC Philippines chair and Amb. Tony Basilio, ABAC Secretariat Director presented an overview of the ABAC, the 2017 theme and priorities, work plan and the schedule of ABAC meetings for 2017. Ms. Ho further elaborated on the work ABAC Philippines has done in the last five years.

IV. Mr. Tomas Alcantara has been nominated and formally designated as the **new ABAC Philippines Chair**.

#### Attendees:

##### New ABAC Members/ Alternates/Staffers

1. Tomas Alcantara
2. Joanne de Asis
3. Guillermo Luz
4. Francis Chua
5. Renato Salud
6. Vee Gee Raymond Sison
7. Jose David Gualberto

##### Former ABAC Members

8. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala
9. Doris Magsaysay Ho

##### ABAC International

10. Amb. Antonio Basilio
11. Evelyn Manaloto

##### ABAC PH Secretariat

12. Peter Perfecto
13. Patrick Chua
14. Gia Uy

##### APEC PH Secretariat

15. Manuel AJ Teehankee  
*Undersecretary*
16. Leo M. Herrera-Lim,  
*Senior Special Assistant*
17. Joyce Marison M. Camacho
18. Larisse Isabel P. Lausingco
19. Martin A. Vicencio
20. Jonel Y. Mendoza

#### Secretariat office:

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## V. Discussion Points

A. **On the ABAC Philippines Initiatives.** Mr. Alcantara inquired about how much of the Philippines initiatives have been considered in the current priorities. It was clarified that the identified ongoing projects are advocacies that were championed by the Philippines. It is important to promote the adoption of Inclusive Business Models as a way of making trade liberalization and economic integration relevant to all. Mr. Salud will relay to Mr. Gokongwei the proposal of applying the labor Earn, Learn, Return model to the aviation industry. Ms. De Asis on the other hand will consider continuing the innovation mapping project linking start-ups, incubators with venture capitals and angel investors in the region.

B. **On the ABAC Philippines Secretariat.** Leveraging on the gains from the Philippines hosting and the work of the ABAC Philippines so far, the new ABAC PH members agreed to support ABAC PH's ongoing initiatives. In order to provide continuity, the Makati Business Club, having the institutional memory as the secretariat will continue to provide the necessary administrative and substantive support to ABAC Philippines and its members. Usec. Teehankee meanwhile, raised the need to beef up support to the secretariat.

C. **Coordination with ASEAN Business Advisory Council and other organizations.** To align parallel efforts of the private sector, there will be close coordination with ASEAN-BAC, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, International Chamber of Commerce Philippines, and the heads of other major business associations to determine a unified private sector voice on Philippine trade and economic issues.

D. **On the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC).** The ABTC has been ABAC's major output, facilitating business travels in APEC economies. Alternate member and NCC Private Sector co-chair Mr. Bill Luz will be looking into improving the process for passport renewal and the application (and approval) process of ABTC. APEC National Secretariat has designated an officer, Mr. Jonel Mendoza for ABTC matters.

## VI. Next steps:

1. ABAC PH Secretariat to prepare briefing documents in preparation for the ABAC 1 Meeting, including the Dialogue with the Ministers.
2. ABAC PH Secretariat to provide briefing and relevant materials about the details of the ongoing initiatives and their specific next steps.
3. ABAC PH Secretariat to link ABAC PH members with relevant ABAC working groups with regards to specific priorities and projects.
4. ABAC PH Secretariat to prepare and meet with Chair Tomas Alcantara and members for guidance on next steps including the budget.
5. PCCI and MBC to facilitate ABTC applications of Ms. De Asis and Mr. Salud.
6. ABAC PH members to have courtesy meeting with Department of Foreign Affairs Sec. Perfecto Yasay and Department of Trade and Industry Sec. Ramon Lopez. Mr. Bill Luz to help secure and arrange the meeting with the Secretaries.

VII. In appreciation and recognition of the work and dedication in representing the Philippines in ABAC, a simple ceremony and tokens were handed to former ABAC Philippines members:

1. **Ms. Doris Magsaysay Ho**
2. **Mr. Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala**
3. **Mr. Tony Tan Caktiong** (*not present*)