

## Philippine economic and business leaders take centre stage in New York investment forum

High-level official and business delegations from the Philippines headed to New York last 3 March 2016 for the Philippine Business Investment Forum (PBIF). Organised by Inviva Link, the forum addressed the country's need to further boost investor interest as well as to assure foreign business players that despite the Philippines' upcoming government transition, the country's economic outlook remains positive and stable.

The official delegation was led by Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, and was joined by Central Bank Governor Amando Tetangco Jr., former Trade and Industry Secretary Gregory Domingo, Tourism Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr., and Agrarian Reform Secretary Virgilio de los Reyes. Speaking on behalf of the Philippine private sector were Makati Business Club Trustee Cirilo Noel, Management Association of the Philippines President Perry Pe, ICSTI Chairman and President Enrique Razon, Century Properties Group Chairman and CEO Jose E.B. Antonio, IMI Global CEO Arthur Tan, PwC-Isla Lipana Chairman and Senior Partner Alexander Cabrera, BDO Capital & Investment Corporation President Eduardo Francisco, among others.

According to Philippine Ambassador to the United States Jose Cuisia Jr., the PBIF was a great opportunity to recognise the performance of the Philippine economy over the past years. The forum had also brought to the world's attention successful reforms that have driven the country's economic transformation since 2010.

In the course of the current administration, the Philippines was able to enhance its market position and business-friendly environment through the implementation of vital pieces of legislation. Not only have these reforms increased the country's viability for investment by prompting a level playing field for domestic and international business, but also institutionalised foundations of good governance, fair competition, and transparency—all with the support of the Aquino administration.

Through the PBIF, the Philippine delegations were able to openly dialogue with their American counterparts and analysed the Philippine economic and political situations, and dispelled any possible misgivings investors had about the country's stability due to its upcoming elections. Aside from investment opportunities in Philippine capital markets and industry, discussions also focused on the country's growth outlook, reform sustainability, and basic American business sentiment.

Alongside the Philippine Government, institutional partners for the PBIF were the US-Philippines Society, Makati Business Club, US-ASEAN Business Council, the US Chamber of Commerce, Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, and AmCham Philippines.

A quarterly publication of the Philippines-United States Business Council, the **PUBC Newsletter** provides the latest socio-economic updates, as well as news on developments in trade and investments between the two countries.

**PUBC Executive Committee members**

RAMON R. DEL ROSARIO JR., Chairman  
ROBERTO F. DE OCAMPO, Vice Chairman  
RAUL T. CONCEPCION  
ROLANDO T. DY  
GUILLERMO D. LUCHANGCO  
BERNARDO M. VILLEGAS

**PUBC Executive Director**

PETER ANGELO V. PERFECTO

**PUBC SECRETARIAT**

2/F, AIM Conference Center  
Benavidez Street cor. Trasierra Street  
Legaspi Village, 1229, Makati City  
Philippines Tel (+63 2) 751-1143  
Fax (+63 2) 751-1160

Published for the Philippines-United States  
Business Council by



## Philippines Business & Investment Forum



### Join the Philippines-United States Business Council!

The PH-USBC was established in 1987 to promote trade and investments between the Philippines and the United States. The council is composed of top business executives who seek to explore business opportunities between the two countries and to promote the exchange of views on policies of mutual concern. The Makati Business Club serves as the secretariat of the PH-USBC.

For membership inquiries, contact Ms. Maria Victoria Sibal, PH-USBC Coordinator at (+63 2) 751-1143 or send an email to [v.sibal@mbc.com.ph](mailto:v.sibal@mbc.com.ph) or [mbc.businesscouncils@gmail.com](mailto:mbc.businesscouncils@gmail.com)