

Welcome Address
Orientation on Accreditation
07 June 2016

Good afternoon Ladies and gentlemen!

It is my privilege to welcome all of you to this orientation on accreditation.

A better understanding of one of the pillars of the National Quality Infrastructure which is Accreditation (along with Standardization and Metrology) can lead us to make better choices in the products and services we consume for ourselves and for our business undertakings. Accreditation hinges on trust that gives assurance of product and safety, quality as well as accurate, reliable and competent testing, calibration and certification.

The need for accreditation becomes more pronounced in complex and highly competitive markets where confidence is required particularly when products or services are traded between economies. As more trading takes place, consumers are exposed to risks on product safety and quality. Consumers need to be assured that they are protected from these risks... and this is where conformity assessment and accreditation count. In the context of international trade, mutual recognition agreements in accreditation can result in the removal of trade barriers as signatory members agree among themselves to recognize as equivalent each other's accreditation systems

Conformity assessment bodies ensure compliance and conformance of products and services to standards, regulations and other specifications through certification, testing, inspection and calibration. An Accreditation Body, through accreditation, gives that assurance that conformity assessment services performed by CABs can be trusted. Ultimately, a system of quality infrastructure works to enhance global trade through the confluence of accreditation and conformity assessment.

We have organized this orientation with the purpose of raising awareness on accreditation and its benefits; and also to reach out to more conformity assessment bodies to get accredited through the Philippine Accreditation Bureau.

I will not attempt to preempt the discussions on key concepts of accreditation and product certification and make way for the resource persons of these topics to get the ball rolling. Let me just end this talk with high hopes that you will benefit from this orientation and be encouraged to use accreditation to your advantage. Again welcome and have a good day.