

KEYNOTE ADDRESS OF UNDERSECRETARY VICTORIO MARIO A. DIMAGIBA FOR THE

PAB LAUNCHING

CITY GARDENS GRAND HOTEL

10 DECEMBER 2015

PROTECTING CONSUMERS THROUGH ACCREDITATION

1. INTRODUCTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS GOOD AFTERNOON.

LET ME START MY TALK WITH A QUOTE, "IN GOD, WE TRUST ". A POWERFUL QUOTE THAT IS THE EMBODIMENT OF ONE'S EXISTENCE WHICH IS SAYING ONE GIVES HIS ALL BECAUSE OF THAT TRUST IN GOD. AFTER ALL, TRUST MEANS RELIANCE IN THE INTEGRITY, STRENGTH, ABILITY, SURETY OF A PERSON OR THING. TRUST IS A SEAL OF CONFIDENCE THAT IS RARELY GIVEN AND IS RESERVED TO THOSE WHO WILL NOT FAIL US.

LET THIS LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR THE REST OF THIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS BECAUSE TRUST IS THE ESSENCE OF ACCREDITATION.

2. THE ROLE OF ACCREDITATION

IN COMPLEX AND HIGHLY COMPETITIVE MARKETS, CONFIDENCE IS REQUIRED WHEN PRODUCTS OR SERVICES ARE TRADED BETWEEN ECONOMIES. THE REASSURANCE IS STRENGTHENED BY ACCREDITATION. AS MORE TRADE TAKES PLACE, GLOBAL CONSUMERS ARE EXPOSED TO RISKS ON PRODUCT SAFETY AND QUALITY AND NEED TO BE ASSURED THAT THEY ARE PROTECTED FROM THESE RISKS. IT IS USUALLY THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS AND REGULATORS TO GIVE SUCH REASSURANCE TO FACILITATE TRADE AND PROTECT CONSUMERS. WITH LIMITED RESOURCES, HOWEVER, MANY REGULATORS CAN NO LONGER DO EVERYTHING THEMSELVES AND ARE INCREASINGLY RELYING ON THIRD-PARTY ORGANIZATIONS. TO REALIZE THEIR REGULATORY OBJECTIVES, THEY NEED A FAIR AND MEANINGFUL BASIS FOR IDENTIFYING QUALIFIED AND COMPETENT PROVIDERS. ACCREDITATION PROVIDES THIS DECLARATION OF COMPETENCE. INCREASINGLY, GOVERNMENTS, TRADING PARTNERS AND CONSUMERS IN GENERAL ARE APPRECIATING THE IMPORTANCE OF CREDIBLE ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE BASED ON INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNISED STANDARDS.

THE INFLUENCE AND USE OF ACCREDITATION CONTINUES TO GROW ACROSS ECONOMIES AND EXTENDS TO DOMESTIC POLICY AREAS LIKE CONSUMER PROTECTION, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION, EDUCATION, HEALTH, INFORMATION SECURITY AND FOOD SAFETY. FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION IS RECOGNIZED ACROSS THE SPECTRUM

OF BUSINESS FUNCTIONS, NOT JUST IN THE TRADITIONAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT ARENA.

ACCREDITATION BODIES LIKE PAB ARE INVESTING TIME AND RESOURCES IN RAISING AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION AMONG BUSINESSES, GOVERNMENT, REGULATORS AND CONSUMERS. THE PRIMARY MOTIVATION IS TO ENABLE ORGANIZATIONS, CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BODIES IN PARTICULAR, TO MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE ON WHICH CERTIFICATION BODIES TO USE. USING AN ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION BODY PROVIDES ASSURANCE TO THE ORGANIZATION THAT IT WILL GET THE BENEFITS AND VALUE FROM AN ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION.

3. SUPPORTING PAB AS THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BODY

HERE WE ARE AT THE LAUNCHING OF THE PHILIPPINE ACCREDITATION BUREAU WHICH IS THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BODY OF THE PHILIPPINES. BY VIRTUE OF E.O. 802. AS THE BACKDROP SAYS "PAB, YOUR PARTNER IN ACCREDITATION"

IT IS NOT OFTEN THAT WE LAUNCH A BUREAU OR OFFICE IN A GRAND WAY LIKE WHAT WE ARE DOING NOW.... WITH A 360 DEGREE VIEW OF MAKATI CITY, BEAUTIFULLY STYLIZED AND DELICIOUS BANQUET IN A GRAND HOTEL. IT IS EVEN RARE THAT DTI STAFF ARE DRESSED IN SEMI-FORMAL ATTIRE TO PROMOTE THEIR OFFICE AND THEIR SERVICES. BUT I GAVE MY SUPPORT TO THIS EVENT IN RECOGNITION OF THE CRITICAL ROLE THAT PAB PLAYS IN ENSURING THAT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES CONSUMED BY BUSINESSES AND CONSUMERS ARE SAFE, RELIABLE, AND OF QUALITY.

THERE IS STILL A LOT TO DO IN INCULCATING THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THIS LAUNCHING IS THE FIRST PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY OF PAB THAT WILL CULMINATE IN SERIES OF PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES TO ENABLE MORE SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY TO BENEFIT FROM ACCREDITATION. IN THE LONG RUN, ACCREDITATION CAN BE USED TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF REGULATORS ADOPTING ACCREDITATION AS A MECHANISM TO DELIVER A MULTI-DISCIPLINE SOLUTION THAT CAN SUPPORT OR ACT AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO LEGISLATION.

4. CLOSING

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR TAKING TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT. AT THE SAME TIME, I CALL ON :

- THE CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BODIES TO INCREASE CONSUMPTION OF OUR ACCREDITATION SERVICES TO MORE SCOPES AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE STILL NOT ACCREDITED TO GET ACCREDITED AND ENJOY ITS BENEFITS
- THE REGIONAL OPERATIONS GROUP REPRESENTED BY USEC MAGLAYA, ASEC LANTAYONA AND THE REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS TO HELP US IN PROMOTING ACCREDITATION IN THEIR PROVINCES
- THE MANAGEMENT SERVICES GROUP REPRESENTED BY USEC TERRADO AND MSG DIRECTORS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING PAB WITH THE MUCH

NEEDED ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IN THE
PERFORMANCE OF THEIR WORK

LET ME ALSO CONGRATULATE THE NEWLY ACCREDITED CABS WHO WILL BE
RECEIVING THEIR CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION LATER ON IN THE PROGRAM.

LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE DIRECTOR DIONISIO AND THE ENTIRE
PAB STAFF FOR THE SUCCESSFUL MOUNTING OF THIS EVENT.

LET THIS LAUNCHING BE JUST THE BEGINNING OF WHAT IS TO COME IN TERMS OF
BETTER THINGS FOR CONSUMERS, CABS AND GOVERNMENT THROUGH
ACCREDITED CONFORMITY ASSESSMENTS THAT ULTIMATELY YIELD CONFIDENCE
IN OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

MABUHAY!