

INCLUSIVE INNOVATION CONFERENCE 2017

Welcome Remarks

Dr. Ceferino S. Rodolfo

BOI Managing Head and Undersecretary

Acknowledgements...

Good morning.

Why we are holding the Conference

- We are gathering once more as we continue moving forward in our Manufacturing Industry Roadmap. You will recall that in last year's **MANUFACTURING SUMMIT**, we stated that our goal is to develop innovation-driven, infrastructure-enabled, import-/export-competitive, and inclusive Philippine industries characterized by deep participation, particularly by small and medium enterprises, in regional and global production networks and global value chains.
- Today's Conference follows through on **recommendations** made during the Summit, where it was recommended (1) to “foster a dynamic innovation ecosystem of government, academic, and industry stakeholders” and (2) to “promote

collaborative agreements between industry, government, and the academe to encourage partnerships in support of advanced manufacturing.”

- The primary objective of the **INCLUSIVE INNOVATION CONFERENCE** is to bring stakeholders together and discuss how we can establish an inclusive innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in the country, which would help in creating more income and employment opportunities towards shared prosperity for all Filipinos, here in Metro Manila and in the country’s regions.

Where we are and what have we been doing so far

- We are on our fifth year, since beginning this journey of reviving the manufacturing industry (since 2012). Our economic performance in recent years shows that our industrial sector is experiencing a **manufacturing resurgence**, which is sustaining the growth of the Philippine economy.
- Over this period, DTI has been implementing a **new Philippine industrial policy**, with government acting as enabler of the private sector, who, in turn, remains to be the driver of economic growth through investments and entrepreneurship. For us at the DTI, we have been strengthening our industrial base and working to remove

the most binding constraints to the growth of our industries.

- We have also formulated and continue to carry out the **Comprehensive National Industrial Strategy (CNIS)**, which aims to harmonize the nation's plans for the agribusiness, industry, and services sectors, ensure coordination between and among concerned national and regional agencies and stakeholders, and leverage sectoral programs towards an integrated approach for the country's industrialization.
- Five industries are prioritized by the CNIS – **manufacturing, infrastructure and logistics, agribusiness, IT-BPM/KPO, and tourism** – and it recognizes that there are three important channels affecting industry growth: **competition, productivity, and innovation**. As such, our industry development programs are geared towards enhancing competition in the market, providing support for improving firm and industrial productivity, and promoting innovation in economic activities.

What we are planning to do

- Beginning with today's **Conference**, DTI is embarking on a major push towards establishing an innovation ecosystem

and setting up inclusive innovation center(s) in the country. Among the steps we are taking are the following:

- We have been in close coordination with the **Department of Science and Technology (DOST)**, exploring ways for better coordination and collaboration of our programs in support of research and innovation. We are also coordinating with the **Commission on Higher Education (CHED)** for human resource development and with the **Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)** for our country's technological requirements.
- We have sought the technical assistance of the **USAID Science, Technology, Research, and Innovation for Development (STRIDE) Program** in assessing the state of industry innovation in the country. Through this assessment, we aim to have a clearer understanding of where things stand in terms of our innovation conditions and identify areas that we need to focus on. We will hear about the results of this study later this afternoon.
- We have been in continuous communication with renowned Filipino engineer and pioneer **Dado Banatao**, learning from his wide experience as an innovator and technology entrepreneur.
- We have also been reaching out to members of the **academe and research community**, and help push for the commercialization of research and strengthen their linkages with industry.

- And of course, as we have been doing for years now, we are continuously engaging **industry players and associations** to ensure that we provide them with the support they need and help them become more competitive, productive, and now innovative.

What we hope to achieve through the Conference

- Through the Conference, we hope that we will exchange ideas and find possible ways forward to foster innovation among our firms and industries, further develop our human resource, and enhance industry-academe collaboration; and
- Reaffirm our commitment to strengthen coordination and collaboration between and among government agencies, industry stakeholders, and the academic and research community in pursuit of manufacturing competitiveness and inclusive growth.

I wish to thank our guest speakers from the University of California at Berkeley and from Wave Computing for being here with us to share their expertise on innovation. Our gratitude goes as well to our local speakers from industry and the academe, who will share with us their valuable insights on promoting innovation in our country.

Thank you to our partner government agencies in organizing this Conference – DOST, CHED, and DICT – as well as our partners from USAID, STRIDE, RTI International, and PhilDev.

Good morning once again and may we have a productive conference.