



MA. CRISTINA A. ROQUE **Secretary**

Age: 57

14F Filinvest Bldg., 387 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Chairman

Start of Appointment - August 02, 2024

Ma. Cristina A. Roque currently serves as the Acting Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), where she is responsible for advising the President on trade and investment matters, establishing policies, supervising departmental activities, and ensuring effective operations across all DTI offices and attached agencies.

Ms. Roque's leadership is characterized by her unwavering commitment to the growth and development of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), recognizing their essential role in the Philippine economy. Her extensive experience in government and a 30-year entrepreneurial career uniquely positions her to lead projects that foster a more inclusive and prosperous business environment for all Filipinos.

Before becoming Acting Secretary, Ms. Roque made significant contributions as Trade Undersecretary from February to July 2024. She led the MSME Development Group (MDG) and was instrumental in advancing MSMEs through various initiatives. She also managed key bureaus, including the Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED) and the Bureau of Marketing Development and Promotions (BMDPO), as well as the One Town, One Product (OTOP) Program Management Office and the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Management Office (CARP-PMO). In addition, she supervised the Small Business Corporation (SBCorp), the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), and the Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC).

Ms. Roque introduced ground breaking initiatives like the OTOP Retail and Learning Center, transforming OTOP hubs and Go Lokal stores into dynamic spaces that blend

retail with mentorship. She is a champion of the DTI's 5-Point MSME Agenda that advances digitalization, market diversification, enhanced access to financing, franchising, and a strong focus on mentorship and training. Her efforts are reshaping the MSME landscape, driving innovation and creating more export opportunities for the Philippine market.

Expanding market opportunities for local MSMEs, Ms. Roque pushed for digitalization and e-commerce in the DTI-Bagong Pilipinas National Food Fair and Trade Fair in 2024. She also launched the first-ever Beauty Fair organized by the DTI, offering new support and opportunities for MSMEs in the beauty and wellness sector.

As Chairperson of the Small Business Corporation, Ms. Roque implemented new policies to make SBCorp's financing programs more accessible and beneficial for MSMEs. She also launched the DTI-Bagong Pilipinas Marketplace, the country's largest B2B e-commerce platform, which promotes Filipino MSMEs' products and services both locally and globally.

Looking ahead, she plans to establish more SME hubs through the Philippine Trade and Investment Centers and in close collaboration with our Embassies world wide. These hubs will serve as platforms to showcase and market Filipino products to international audiences, thereby stimulating the manufacturing sector and contributing to job creation.

Ms. Roque holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Management Engineering with a minor in Chemical Engineering from De La Salle University.



BLESILA LANTAYONA

Undersecretary

Age: 65

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Alternate Chairman

Start of Appointment - October 04, 2024

Undersecretary Blesila A. Lantayona is the Supervising Head of the Regional Operations Group (ROG). As member of the Department of Trade and Industry Executive Committee headed by DTI Secretary Ma. Cristina A. Roque, she is expected to contribute among others, to policy formulation in the development of the country's MSME sector, trade and industry particularly bringing to core the regional/provincial viewpoints.

Under her supervision are some of the key bureaus and offices at the Head Office including the Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED), the Bureau of Market Development Promotions & OTOP (BMDPO), the DTI-Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Management Office, and the Negosyo Center Program Management Office. She supervises as well the Department's 17-Regional and 81-Provincial Offices ensuring that the policies, programs and projects of DTI are understood and effectively implemented at the local level where our offices serve as the face of DTI, providing critical frontline services to its customers as they personify the agency's core values of Passion, Integrity, Creativity, Competence, Synergy, and Love of Country.

Prior to her appointment as Undersecretary, Usec. Lantayona held various technical and managerial positions within the Department. She started in DTI Region XI (Davao Region) as technical staff, then moved up as Provincial Director of DTI-Davao Del Sur and Assistant Regional Director of DTI Region XI. She was eventually promoted to Regional Director in DTI Region III (Central Luzon) and Assistant Secretary of the DTI-Regional Operations Group based at the Head Office.

From 2019 to 2023, she was designated as Acting Chairman of the Small Business Corporation, Ex-Officio Board Member of the Cooperative Development Authority, Board Member of the Philippine Guarantee Corporation and the DTI GAD Focal. In 2023, Usec. Lantayona served as the Chairperson of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on MSME (ACCMSME), a body comprised of high-level representatives from ASEAN Member States tasked to formulate policies, programs and activities on SME development and reports to the Senior Economic Officials Meeting under the mandate of the ASEAN Economic Ministers.

She also served briefly as Chief of Staff at the Office of the DTI Secretary under the leadership of Secretary Ma. Cristina A. Roque. Recently, Usec. Lantayona was designated as the Supervising Undersecretary of the Rural Agro-Enterprise Partnership for Inclusive Development and Growth (RAPID Growth) Project, a value chain-based and market-driven initiative of the DTI, funded by IFAD.

Usec. Lantayona holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture, Major in Economics (Cum Laude) from Xavier University-Ateneo de Cagayan in Cagayan de Oro City; and an MBA in International Business from the European School of Management (Ecole Europeene des Affaires) in Paris, France as scholar of the EU-ASEAN Scholarship Program.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FRANCISCO TIU LAUREL JR. Secretary

Age: 59

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex-Officio

Start of Appointment - November 22, 2024

Agriculture Secretary Francisco "Kiko" P. Tiu Laurel shares the vision of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to modernize the agriculture sector, uplift the lives of farmers and fishers, and ensure food security for Filipinos.

Secretary Tiu Laurel has decades of experience managing companies engaged in the field of fisheries, most prominently the family-owned Frabelle Fishing Corporation, as well as marine enterprises, food processing, cold chain and logistics, real estate, and power.

His vast experience in these development industries starting from a young age has provided him with invaluable real-world expertise in navigating challenges and opportunities therein.

Beyond his individual success through the years, he has led numerous organizations such as the World Tuna Purse Seine Organization, where he has actively championed sustainable fishing practices, and advocated for responsible resource management and environmental preservation.

As Agriculture Secretary, he aims to revolutionize the sector by focusing on science-based approaches, promoting mechanized farming and leveraging on technological advancements.

He envisions a future where Filipino farmers thrive through improved farming practices—equipped with advanced knowledge and tools to optimize yields and weather challenges—contributing to a food-secure and self-sufficient Philippines.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



PHILIP CHAN YOUNG Assistant Secretary

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DA Alternate Representative
Start of Designation - January 10, 2025

ACADEMIC

- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
 - De La Salle University
 - Jose P. Rizal First Honor Award

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

- INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT
 - Businessman and an Active Advocate

MEMBERSHIP

- PHILIPPINE FOOD PROCESSORS AND EXPORTERS ORGANIZATION (PHILFOODEX)
 - Founding Member
- EXPORT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (EDC)
 - Chairman - Networking Committee on Agri Policy)EDC - NCAP)
- PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
 - Member
- PHILIPPINE EXPORTERS CONFEDERATION, INC. (PHILEXPORT)
 - Member
- PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD INC. (PCAFI)
 - Trustee

Has travelled and exports to more than 40 countries, representing the Philippines and his companies at various international meetings, conferences, trade missions, and exhibits.

He was the LONE REPRESENTATIVE, FOOD SECTOR TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY(before establishment of the European Union (EU) in EU Headquarters, Belgium for the EU Food Harmonization.

In 1989 awarded with DTI GOLDEN SHELL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EXPORT MARKETING, a Prestigious National Export Award for recognition of its export performance, product innovation, market development.

Also in 2004 awarded AGORA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN EXPORT MARKETING,



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

a Prestigious National Export Award for recognition of its export performance, product innovation, market development

Also in 2004 awarded AGORA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN EXPORT MARKETING

Highest recognition given by the Philippine Marketing Association (PMA) for product innovation and export sales performance in global market

Distinguished as the “Father of Nata de Coco” in Philippines and Japan for introducing Nata de Coco for its multi-food, beverage and dessert application. Also, had developed Nata de Coco for medical uses (wound care bandage) for a U.S. & European Company .

Introduced to a multi-national food conglomerate the use of Banana Chips for breakfast cereals/muesli.

Founded and managed 2 Distribution Companies in U.S.A. for exclusive distribution of National Branded Filipino and Asian Food and Non-food products.

Has extensive experiences in International Trades, Agri-Fishery Based Products, Rice Milling, Grains Trading

(palay and corn), Agricultural Fertilizer and other agricultural input distributions, aquacultures (Shrimp, Bangus and Tilapia) farming and aquaculture feeds manufacturing.

The Food Processing Plants are ISO Certified FSSC 22000, GMP/GHP, HACCP and Halal Certified. Also with EU Accreditation.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



JUANITO VICTOR C. REMULLA Secretary

Age: 58

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Triangle, Quezon City, Philippines 1104

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex-Officio

Start of Appointment - November 22, 2024

Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Catibayan Remulla is the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government. He has almost three decades of experience in public service, having served as Governor and Vice Governor of Cavite province, and Board Member of the 2nd District of Cavite.

Under his leadership, Cavite was cited as the most business-friendly province in the country in 2024, and the first provincial government in Asia to be ISO 9001:2008 certified. The province was also recognized by the DILG as one of the Top 10 High Performing Provinces in the Philippines based on the Local Government Performance Management System.

Other notable accomplishments of Cavite under Remulla's leadership include the Gawad Edukampyon for Capacity Development – Province Category in 2024; the Beyond Compliant commendation in the 22nd Gawad KALASAG Awards in 2022; Most Business-Friendly Local Government Unit – Province Category awarded by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 2021; and the Seal of Good Housekeeping Award from 2010 to 2012.

Remulla graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He took up his secondary education at the Ateneo de Manila University and his primary education at De La Salle University-Manila.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



MARIO L. IRINGAN Undersecretary

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DILG Alternate Representative Start of Designation - March 12, 2025

Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Catibayan Remulla is the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government. He has almost three decades of experience in public service, having served as Governor and Vice Governor of Cavite province, and Board Member of the 2nd District of Cavite.

Under his leadership, Cavite was cited as the most business-friendly province in the country in 2024, and the first provincial government in Asia to be ISO 9001:2008 certified. The province was also recognized by the DILG as one of the Top 10 High Performing Provinces in the Philippines based on the Local Government Performance Management System.

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Remulla graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He took up his secondary education at the Ateneo de Manila University and his primary education at De La Salle University-Manila.



DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



DR. RENATO U. SOLIDUM, JR. Secretary

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex-Officio

Start of Appointment - November 22, 2024

Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Catibayan Remulla is the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government. He has almost three decades of experience in public service, having served as Governor and Vice Governor of Cavite province, and Board Member of the 2nd District of Cavite.

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Remulla graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He took up his secondary education at the Ateneo de Manila University and his primary education at De La Salle University-Manila.



DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



NAPOLEON K. JUANILLO, JR., PHD **Assistant Secretary**

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Taguig, Metro Manila, Philippines**
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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DOST Alternate Representative **Start of Designation - February 11, 2025**

Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Catibayan Remulla is the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government. He has almost three decades of experience in public service, having served as Governor and Vice Governor of Cavite province, and Board Member of the 2nd District of Cavite.

Under his leadership, Cavite was cited as the most business-friendly province in the country in 2024, and the first provincial government in Asia to be ISO 9001:2008 certified. The province was also recognized by the DILG as one of the Top 10 High Performing Provinces in the Philippines based on the Local Government Performance Management System.

Other notable accomplishments of Cavite under Remulla's leadership include the Gawad Edukampyon for Capacity Development – Province Category in 2024; the Beyond Compliant commendation in the 22nd Gawad KALASAG Awards in 2022; Most Business-Friendly Local Government Unit – Province Category awarded by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 2021; and the Seal of Good Housekeeping Award from 2010 to 2012.

Remulla graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He took up his secondary education at the Ateneo de Manila University and his primary education at De La Salle University-Manila.



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



MARIA THERESA P. LAZARO Secretary

Age; 66

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex-Officio

Start of Appointment August 15, 2025

Secretary Ma. Theresa “Tess” Lazaro is a career diplomat and lawyer who was sworn in as the 29th Secretary of Foreign Affairs by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on July 1, 2025. Before her appointment, Lazaro served as DFA Undersecretary for Bilateral Relations and ASEAN Affairs since 2022, playing a key role in negotiating maritime issues and advancing Philippine interests in foreign policy.

Secretary Lazaro has a long diplomatic career, including serving as Philippine Ambassador to France (2014-2020) and Philippine Ambassador to Switzerland (2008-2011), and Consul General to Sydney, Australia (2005-2008). She is the second female career diplomat to head the DFA after Secretary Delia Domingo Albert. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Maryknoll College (now Miriam College) and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of the Philippines Diliman.



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



CHARLES C. JOSE Undersecretary

Age: 64

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Pasay City, Metro Manila 1302 PHL

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DFA Alternate Representative 1 Start of Designation - February 12, 2025

DIRECTORSHIPS

- PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, KUALA LUMPUR
 - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
 - 2017 - 2023
- DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 - DFA Spokesperson, & Assistant Secretary for the Diplomacy
 - 2014 - 2017
- PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN SHANGHAI
 - Consul General
 - 2011 - 2014
- PHILIPPINE CONSULATE IN CHONGQING
 - Consul General
 - 2009 - 2011
- PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, BANGKOK
 - Minister and Consul General, & Deputy Permanent Representative to UNESCAP
 - 2007 -2009
- DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 - Executive Director of The Office of Asian & Pacific Affairs - 2005 - 2007
 - 1st Secretary, then Minister (on secondment to the APEC Secretariat as Program Director) - 1999 - 2005
 - Special Assistant on the Office of Policy and Planning and Coordination, Office of the Undersecretary for Policy- 1997 - 1999
 - Director, North Asia Division, Office of Asian and Pacific Affairs - 1995 - 1997
- PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, BEIJING
 - Third Secretary and Vice Consul, and Vice Consul, then Second Secretary and Consul, the First Secretary and Consul
 - 1986 - 1989

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

- INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT
 - Businessman and an Active Advocate

AWARDS RECEIVED

- GAWAD MABINI, WITH THE RANK OF DAKILANG KAMANONG (GRAND CROSS), CONFERRED BY PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE
 - 26 June 2019
- PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF MERIT CONFERRED BY PRESIDENT BENIGNO S. AQUINO III.
 - 28 June 2016

ACADEMIC

- MASTER IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES
 - National University of Singapore
- BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS
 - University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City

As of September 2025, Charles C. Jose is the Philippine Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and International Economic Relations. A career diplomat, he previously served as the Philippine Ambassador to Malaysia and as the spokesperson for the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



RHENITA B. RODRIGUEZ ASSISTANT SECRETARY, OIER

Age: 59

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DFA Alternate Representative 2 Start of Designation - August 15, 2025

DIRECTORSHIPS

- Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM)
- Export Development Council (EDC)
- Interagency Investment Promotion Coordinating Committee (IIPCC)
- Technical Working Group of the Philippine Halal Export Development and Promotion Board
- Technical Committee on Tariff and Related Matters (TCTRM)
- Technical Committee on WTO Matters (TCWM)
- Technical Committee on Non-Tariff Measures (TCNTM)
- Philippine Statistics Authority Board (PSAB)
- National Innovation Council – Executive Technical Board (NIC-ETB)

- The Business Star
 - Assistant Editor 1992
- Radio Corporation of the Philippines
 - FM Radio Announcer 1988 – 1991
- Dominican School, Tarlac
 - High School Teacher 1986 – 1988

ACADEMIC

- Masters in Communication
 - University of the Philippines - Diliman (cousework completed)
- Mastes in Public Administration
 - Tarlac State University (units)
- BA Mass Communication
 - University of the Philippines - Diliman

CAREER INFORMATION

- Philippine Embassy, UK
 - Minister and Consul then Deputy Chief of Mission and Consul General 2019 July to 2025 July
- DFA - ASPAC
 - Director 2017 July to 2019 July
- Philippine Embassy, China
 - Career Minister and Consul 2010 September to 2017 July
- Philippine Embassy, Canada
 - Third Secretary and Vice Consul then Second Secretary and Consul 2002 September to 2008 October
- Innodata
 - Indecer / Abstractor 1992 – 1999
- Fashion Accessories Magazine
 - Assistant Editor 1992



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM



MA. ESPERANZA CHRISTINA GARCIA FRASCO Secretary

Age: 44

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Metro Manila

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex-Officio

Start of Designation- November 22, 2024

Philippine Tourism Secretary Christina Garcia Frasco is a former three-term mayor of the Municipality of Liloan in the Province of Cebu before she was catapulted to the executive branch of government when President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. handpicked her to join his Cabinet and lead the Department of Tourism (DOT) in 2022.

Born to a family of public servants, her legacy as a local chief executive saw the rise of Liloan as a top model and most resilient municipality in the Philippines. Her outstanding work did not go unnoticed, meriting a Presidential Lingkod Bayan Regional Award for Excellence in Public Service and ranking number 1 among all municipal mayors in Central Visayas.

As the youngest member of the Marcos Cabinet, she has consistently been ranked one of the top-performing Secretaries of the Marcos administration, delivering solid outcomes and achievements for the Department.

From back-to-back international accolades for the Philippines to breaching tourism targets, her visionary leadership has propelled the country onto the world stage. Most recently, with the Philippines' election as vice presidency of the UNWTO General Assembly, a position once held by the country more than two decades ago, alongside the chairmanship of the UNWTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific.



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

As she makes a mark in the tourism industry, she has laid out some of the most ground breaking innovations yet, leveraging on collaborative and shared governance that leaves no destination and people behind, with the Filipino at the heart of the industry. Lauded by the entire tourism industry, SKAL International recently distinguished her with the prestigious Tourism Good Governance Award.

Since her assumption to office, tourism reclaimed its pole position in the Philippine economy as the 2nd top driver of the country's growth and development, employing millions of Filipinos. Their world-renowned brand of warm hospitality has made the world "Love the Philippines," bringing us a step closer to fulfilling the President's vision of transforming the Philippines into a tourism powerhouse in Asia.



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM



BERNA C. BUENSUCESO UnderSecretary

Age: 60

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DOT Permanent Alternate Representative Start of Designation - February 26, 2025

DIRECTORSHIPS

Within DOT

- Member, Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Preparation, Organization, and Hosting of the 2025 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship. 18 February 2025 - Present
- Member, Steering Committee for the Tourist Assistance Call Center Program, 2023-Present
- Marketing and Promotions Committee Head, Project Secretariat for the Expo 2025 Osaka, 2023-Present
- Member, DOT Change Management Team, 2023-Present
- Vice Chair, DOT FIBA World Cup 2023 Committee, June-September 2023
- Vice Chair, Bisita, Be My Guest (BBMG) Program Committee, 2022-Present
- 21st World Travel and Tourism Council Global Summit National Organizing Committee, Secretary General, 2021-2022
- Special Projects Review Committee (DOT-SPRC), Chairperson, 2019-16 March 2025
- Kain Na Working Group Lead, 2019-2022
- Project Steering Committee to implement the Competency-Based Career Development Program of the DOT, Member, July 14, 2015-2016, 2019-Present
- Special Review Committee for the DOT Overseas Offices Operations Manual, Member, July 14, 2012-2016
- APEC 2015 DOT Working Sub-Committee on Souvenirs, Member, July 9, 2014-December, 2015
- Committee that will study, revise and draft the proposed amendments to the provisions of RA No. 9593, member, June 24, 2014-2016
- Foreign Tourism Service Officers Corps, member, January 14, 2013-Present
- Halal Tourism Committee Member, 2016

Outside DOT

- Assistant for Philippine National Day and Special Events Committee, Project Secretariat for World Expo 2025 Osaka, 07 November 2024 - Present
- Ex-Officio Member (Permanent Alternate Representative), Philippine Creative Industries Development Council, 2023-Present
- Member, Philippine Retirement Authority Board of Trustees, 2022-Present
- Member (Alternate Representative of the Secretary), Design Advisory Council, 2022-Present
- Member (Alternate Representative), FilmPhilippines Board of Trustees, 2022-Present
- Member, UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines, March 14, 2017-2020 (Three-year term)
- DFA-led Inter-agency Committee on the crafting of a Joint Order on Guidelines for Government Agencies with Officials in the Philippine Foreign Service Posts, 2014-2015

ACADEMIC

- Bachelor of Arts in Humanities
 - University of the Philippines Diliman
- Masters in Communication
 - University of the Philippines Diliman



DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM



CHRISTINE JOY E. CARI Assistant Secretary

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DOT First Alternate Representative

Start of Designation - February 26, 2025

Philippine Tourism Secretary Christina Garcia Frasco is a former three-term mayor of the Municipality of Liloan in the Province of Cebu before she was catapulted to the executive branch of government when President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. handpicked her to join his Cabinet and lead the Department of Tourism (DOT) in 2022.

Born to a family of public servants, her legacy as a local chief executive saw the rise of Liloan as a top model and most resilient municipality in the Philippines. Her outstanding work did not go unnoticed, meriting a Presidential Lingkod Bayan Regional Award for Excellence in Public Service and ranking number 1 among all municipal mayors in Central Visayas.

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DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM



PAULO BENITO S. TUGBANG Director, Office of Product Development

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

DOT Second Alternate Representative Start of Designation - February 26, 2025

Career Information

- Department of Tourism Director for Product Development and Farm Tourism Program June 2022
- Department of Tourism Director for Health and Wellness Tourism March 2022
- Interagency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases IATF Secretariat Technical Lead January 2020 – June 2022
- Department of Health Program Manager - Health Tourism September 2021 – March 2022
- Department of Health Executive Assistant to the Secretary November 2018 – March 2022
- Department of Health Municipal Health Officer - Doctor to the Barrios Program November 2016 – November 2018

ACADEMIC

- Master in Public Management (Health Systems and Development)
 - Development Academy of the Philippines
- Doctor of Medicine (Public Health and General Preventive Medicine Residency Program)
 - Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health
- Master in Business Administration (Health/Health Care Administration/Management)
 - Ateneo Graduate School of Business

NOTABLE AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Presidential Citation - Office of the President of the Philippines Received the Presidential Citation as part of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases Secretariat recognizing the invaluable contribution in the implementation of the national strategy against COVID-19
 - June 2022
- 40 Most Distinguished Alumni - West Visayas State University College of Nursing Awarded as one of the 40 Most Distinguished Alumni (Young Achiever Category) of the West Visayas State University College of Nursing Alumni Association during its 40th Grand Alumni Homecoming
 - January 2018



Government Service Insurance System



JOSE ARNULFO “WICK” A. VELOSO PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER

Age: 57

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex Officio

Start of Appointment - January 10, 2024

Jose Arnulfo “Wick” A. Veloso is a multi-awarded CEO and veteran banker with nearly 40 years of experience in banking and finance. As the President and General Manager (PGM) of GSIS since July 5, 2022, he leads the institution in enhancing financial security and welfare programs for government employees and pensioners.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

- PRESIDENT & GENERAL MANAGER, GSIS (2022 – PRESENT)
- OVERSEES PENSION FUND MANAGEMENT, INSURANCE SERVICES, AND FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.
- PRESIDENT & CEO, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK (PNB) (2018 – 2022)
- LED PNB'S COVID-19 CRISIS RESPONSE, EARNING AWARDS FOR BEST MANAGED BANK DURING COVID-19 AND BEST CEO RESPONSE TO COVID-19 (2020, THE ASIAN BANKER).
- PIONEERED CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) INITIATIVES, MAKING PNB THE BEST BANK FOR CSR (ASIAMONEY, 2020).
- PRESIDENT & CEO, HSBC PHILIPPINES (2012 – 2018)
- FIRST FILIPINO CEO OF HSBC PHILIPPINES, LEADING THE BANK TO MULTIPLE RECOGNITIONS, INCLUDING:
 - BEST GLOBAL BANK AWARD (2018)
 - BEST DEBT HOUSE IN THE PHILIPPINES (2008-2012, 2014-2017)
- PRESIDENT, BANKERS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (BAP) (UNTIL MARCH 2022)
- WORKED WITH BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP) AND CONGRESS TO IMPLEMENT REFORMS IN THE BANKING SECTOR.
- GLOBAL & INVESTMENT BANKING CAREER (1986 – 2018)
- HSBC (1994 – 2018): HELD SENIOR ROLES, INCLUDING MANAGING DIRECTOR OF HSBC GLOBAL BANKING & MARKETS AND HEAD OF INTEREST RATES TRADING & CREDIT DERIVATIVES FOR ASIA-PACIFIC.
- CITIBANK (1989 – 1993): FIXED INCOME PORTFOLIO MANAGER, WHERE HE BUILT HIS REPUTATION AS A LEADING TREASURY AND TRADING EXPERT.
- ASIATRUST BANK (1988 – 1989): TREASURY DEPARTMENT MANAGER.
- URBAN BANK (1986 – 1988): STARTED AS A MANAGEMENT TRAINEE, RISING THROUGH THE RANKS.

EXECUTIVE TRAINING & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- PGM VELOSO HAS ATTENDED EXTENSIVE LEADERSHIP, CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, AND FINANCIAL MARKET TRAINING, INCLUDING:
 - CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & STRATEGIC PLANNING SEMINARS (2020-2024)
 - GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKET FORUMS (STANDARD CHARTERED, BLOOMBERG, CREDIT SUISSE, BANK OF AMERICA)
 - ASEAN & INTERNATIONAL BANKING POLICY CONFERENCES



Government Service Insurance System



KHRISTINE JANE B. EJERCITO CHIEF OF STAFF

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

GSIS Alternate Representative

Start of Designation - March 18, 2025

Khristine Jane B. Ejercito is a highly experienced Philippine-qualified lawyer with over five years of post-qualification experience. Her background includes working in a prestigious international law firm, serving in an international organisation, and gaining valuable experience in both international and domestic courts.

As a former Staff Attorney at Volterra Fietta, a renowned public international law firm in London, United Kingdom, she contributed to the firm's complex legal matters involving investor-state disputes and commercial arbitration. Prior to her time in the U.K., she served as a Judicial Law Clerk at the Philippine Supreme Court and as Chief of Staff for a Senior Member of the Philippine Senate, demonstrating diverse legal capabilities and managerial skills. Furthermore, she completed prestigious legal internships at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in Hamburg, Germany, and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, UK.

Her academic achievements include holding LL.M. degrees in Public International Law from Queen Mary University of London and Cross-Border and Regional Practice from the University of the Philippines, certificates in Public and Private International Law from The Hague Academy of International Law, and an executive training certificate on Investment Treaties and Arbitration from the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, a joint center of Columbia Climate School and Columbia Law School.

Khristine is also a Chevening scholar of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, UK, and a Professional Fellow of the United States Department of State.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

FREDERICK D. GO

Secretary, Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Investment And Economic Affairs



Age:55

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San Miguel, Manila, Philippines

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Board Ex Officio

Start of Appointment - January 10, 2025

Frederick D. Go is a seasoned Filipino government official and business executive with decades of leadership experience in private enterprise and public service. He currently serves as Acting Secretary of Finance of the Republic of the Philippines, bringing strategic economic insight to the national fiscal agenda. Prior to this appointment, he was the Special Assistant to the President for Investment and Economic Affairs, where he coordinated and implemented key investment and economic policies for the Marcos administration.

Go's professional foundation includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Management Engineering from Ateneo de Manila University. His broad experience encompasses corporate governance, large-scale project oversight, and economic strategy, making him a key figure in both the private sector and national economic policy. His transition from business leadership to public service highlights a commitment to leveraging private-sector expertise for national development and investment growth.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MA. ANGELA E. IGNACIO

Undersecretary, Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Investment And Economic Affairs (OSAPIEA)



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San Miguel, Manila, Philippines
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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

OP Alternate Representative

Start of Designation - March 17, 2025

Angel Ignacio is a senior Philippine government official serving as Undersecretary in the Office of the Special Assistant to the President for Investment and Economic Affairs (OSAPIEA). In this role, she works on advancing the country's investment agenda, engaging with both domestic and foreign investors, and helping shape economic policy aimed at driving inclusive growth and attracting strategic sectors like infrastructure, energy, agriculture, semiconductors, and cybersecurity. Her contributions include delivering keynote presentations and participating in economic forums where she outlines government priorities for investment growth and foreign direct investment initiatives.

She got her double degree in Applied Economics and Commerce, major in Management of Financial Institutions from De La Salle University in 1994 where she was on the Dean's Honor's List. She also received the award for Best Thesis from the Economics Department in 1993 for her work on Financial Distress Prediction Models in the Philippines. She earned a Master's degree in Applied Finance from the University of Melbourne in 2000 where she was recognized for her outstanding achievement in the program. She also obtained a diploma in Financial Services and Planning from PS146 Training Australia in 2006. She is a Certified Finance and Treasury Professional (CFTP) and a Member of the Finance and Treasury Association in Australia. She is RG 146 compliant and licensed to give general and personal financial advice. She was also a Licensed Stock Broker with the Philippine Stock Exchange from 1994 to 1998



Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions

ROMLEAH JULIET P. OCAMPO Executive Director



Age: 66

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CITEM BOARD DESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENT

CITEM Appointive Member

Start of Appointment - June 4, 2024

Romleah "Leah" Pulido Ocampo is the Executive Director of the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM), the export promotion arm of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). With over 23 years of experience in international trade, industry development, and MSME growth, she has played a pivotal role in positioning the Philippines as a global trade and investment hub.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CITEM (JUNE 2024 – PRESENT)
- LEADS INTERNATIONAL TRADE EVENTS AND EXPORT PROMOTION PROGRAMS FOR PHILIPPINE INDUSTRIES.
- DTI REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR REGION 2 FOR ALMOST FIVE (5) YEARS SINCE JULY 7, 2019
- FORMER PROJECT DIRECTOR, CITEM
- MANAGED MAJOR EXPORT PROMOTION INITIATIVES, INCLUDING:
 - MANILA FAME
 - INTERNATIONAL FOOD EXHIBITION (IFEX)
 - CREATE PHILIPPINES
 - GO LOKAL PROGRAM
 - FOODEX JAPAN, GULFOOD DUBAI, NY NOW (NEW YORK), BOSTON SEAFOOD SHOW, ANUGA, AND CHINA-ASEAN EXPO
- LEADER, PHILIPPINE BUSINESS MISSIONS
- SPEARHEADED GLOBAL TRADE DELEGATIONS ACROSS KEY BUSINESS HUBS, INCLUDING:
 - JAPAN (TOKYO, OSAKA, KOBE)
 - MALAYSIA, BRUNEI, VIETNAM, HONG KONG, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA, CHINA, UAE
 - USA (LOS ANGELES, BOSTON, NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, TORONTO, CANADA)
 - EUROPE (SPAIN, BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS, GERMANY)

EXECUTIVE TRAINING & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- INTERNATIONAL TRADE & EXPORT PROMOTION – THE NETHERLANDS
- INVESTMENT PROMOTION – CHINA
- DIGITALIZATION FOR MSMES – VIETNAM
- MSME DEVELOPMENT – JAPAN