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DTI bids Secretary Cristobal farewell

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) bid farewell to **Secretary Adrian S. Cristobal Jr.** during the flag ceremony on 27 June 2016.

Leading the farewell were members of the DTI Executive Committee **Undersecretaries Victorio Mario A. Dimagiba (CPG), Nora K. Terrado (IPG), Zenaida Cuison-Maglaya (ROG), Prudencio M. Reyes Jr. (SCG),** and **Assistant Secretary and Officer-in-Charge Ireneo V. Vizmonte (MSG),** as well as other officials including **PITC President and CEO Maria Lourdes T. Baua.**

In his message to the DTI family, the Secretary acknowledged that the Department was up to the speed of the challenge he posed six months ago.

"You accepted the challenge - we did go full speed ahead and, happily - so did the economy," the Secretary said.

The Philippines is back on a high growth track. The country overtook 11 other Asian countries including China with a growth rate of 6.9% in the first quarter of 2016, he said as he acknowledged the contributions of the Department to economic development.

"Thank you for rising to my challenge to go full speed ahead. The ride was exciting and was made especially memorable by your generous cooperation and support," Cristobal noted.



In his speech, Cristobal (4th from left) commended the Undersecretaries for all the achievements of the Department during his post. He was joined by (l-r) MSG Assistant Secretary and OIC Vizmonte, CPG Undersecretary Dimagiba, ROG Undersecretary Maglaya, IPG Undersecretary Terrado, and SCG Undersecretary Reyes.

Cristobal served in the Department for more than 15 years and capped his career as DTI Secretary for the first six months of the year.

“The organization in which I ‘grew up’ is steeped in the culture of excellence and committed to render outstanding service. The incoming and future stewards will do well to recognize and treasure this jewel of an agency. It has been an honor and a distinct privilege to have served with such an outstanding complement of officers and staff,” he said.

Prior to Cristobal’s farewell, the Department, through the Corporate Planning Service (CorPlan), conducted the 2016 DTI-Wide Mid-Year Assessment on 13 June 2016 at the Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC).

All DTI Officials, including Regional and Provincial Directors and Heads of Attached Agencies, were present during the event. An assessment was made on the Department’s achievements in its initiatives for the first half of 2016.

During the Secretary’s Hour, part of the program engaged Secretary Cristobal in discussing the highlights and challenges of his stint as DTI Chief.

Moreover, the first DTI Trade and Industry Development (TID) Talks was held featuring **Board of Investments-Industry Development Group (BOI-IDG) Executive Director Ma. Corazon H. Dichosa, Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB) Director James E. Empeño, Internal Audit Service (IAS) Director Edgar C. Herrera, Export Marketing Bureau Assistant Director Anthony B. Rivera, and DTI-Mountain Province Provincial Director Juliet P. Lucas** which discussed their past and present experiences to inspire their fellow DTI Officials.

The 2016 Mid-Year Assessment was capped with an “ASEAN NIGHT” program wherein the DTI Officials were given the opportunity to show honor and appreciation to the Secretary. In turn, Cristobal expressed his sincerest gratitude to the DTI ExComm and to the rest of the organization.

“What kept me going is DTI’s passion and commitment to its mandate,” Cristobal said as he thanked the men and women of the Department for investing their lives in improving the organization.



In the event’s 1st session, (left) DTI-Compostela Valley Officer-in-Charge (OIC) Lucky Siegfred M. Balleque, (3rd from left) DTI-Agusan del Norte Provincial Director Gay A. Tidalgo, and (right) DTI-Region 11 Assistant Regional Director Edwin O. Banquerigo hosted the Secretary’s Hour wherein Secretary Cristobal answered relevant questions from the hosts and audiences.