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February 28, 2023



"MAPping the Future" column in INQUIRER

"A SOCIAL ROLE FOR BUSINESS IN

THE POST-COVID ERA

Implications for Business Strategy and Management Education"

Dr. NICETO "Nick" S. POBLADOR

February 27, 2023

(1st of 2 Parts)

The widespread economic and social suffering, resulting from major shifts in the global economic and political landscapes, global warming, the coronavirus pandemic, and other global crises, have brought into sharp focus the social responsibility of business.

Business is increasingly being called upon to address the major problems faced by Philippine

society today. Foremost among these is the marginalization of a large segment of society that is mired in abject poverty, and the increasing concentration of wealth and income in a small number of individuals. This observation is supported by the most recent report of the Social Weather Stations which shows that as of the end of 2022, fully half of all Filipino families consider themselves as Poor, and only one-fifth regard themselves as Not Poor. SWS Emeritus CEO Mahar Mangahas laments that despite substantial increases in our Gross Domestic Product and a doubling of per capita income in recent years, "so little of it is shared." At the recently-held World

(continued on page 2)



"MAP Insights" column in BUSINESSWORLD

"Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA)"

February 28, 2023

Sec. RAFAEL "Raffy" M. ALUNAN III

he Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) was signed on April 28, 2014. It supplements the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) under the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT), intended to bolster the alliance of both countries. The Supreme Court upheld its constitutionality twice in 2016, the second one with finality.

It's the most significant defense agreement

between the US and the Philippines in decades. Because the US is constitutionally barred from establishing permanent military bases, the EDCA allows the US to rotate its troops in the Philippines and allows build-operate facilities on Philippine bases for both their military forces. The Philippines has personnel access to American ships and planes.

In January 2019, the first major project under the EDCA was completed at Cesar Basa Air Base in (continued on page 3)

"A SOCIAL ROLE FOR BUSINESS IN THE POST-COVID ERA"...

(from page 1)

Economic Forum, OXFAM reported that the seven richest families in the Philippines accumulated more wealth in 2022 than the poorest 55 percent of the population.

While economic inequality is largely the outcome of the failure of the state to serve the material needs of the economically disadvantaged members of the community, and to provide equal access to economic opportunities to all, business too has been equally culpable.

By long-standing tradition, business firms seek to maximize profits for their owners. The single-minded pursuit of profits was often carried out **at the expense** of the economic interests of customers, workers, business partners, and the community.

A contrary view holds that business enterprises can best achieve their profit objectives by creating economic value for, rather than by appropriating value from, their stakeholders.

This idea has the following strategy implications:

- Create value for consumers by enhancing product quality, by selling products and services at reasonably low prices, and by providing adequate customer care;
- Create value for workers by offering comfortable wages and other financial benefits and by providing a healthy work environment;
- Create value for suppliers and distributors by engaging them in a mutually beneficial, trusting and collaborative relationship;
- Create value for the rest of the community, primarily by developing the untapped productive potential of those at the bottom of the social pyramid – the poorest and the least productive members of society; and
- Devote resources to maintain a healthy and sustainable eco-system.

To do so, however, business must change the way it does business. It goes without saying that management educators must change the way they teach future business managers.

Rethinking Management Education

By and large, existing programs and courses in management are **business-friendly** and emphasize measures by which business firms can enhance profits, or shareholder wealth.

We propose instead that business education should be rethought to make it more focused on the material interests of the firm's stakeholders, notably the economically disadvantaged members of society.

Existing Program Formats

Most existing graduate programs in business offer a number of courses in common. Typically, introductory courses include Economic Analysis and the Fundamentals of Management. In addition, the MBA program of the Virata School of Business also requires Corporate Financial Planning and Managerial Accounting and Control at the beginning of the program.

The introductory management course typically includes the long-standing concepts and principles which consist of (1) the traditional subclassifications of management into planning, organizing, staffing, leading and controlling, and (2) usual textbook principles of management (division of work, unity of command, unity of direction, subordination of individual interests, chain of command, etc).

Progressive management thinkers and practitioners regard these concepts and principles as hackneyed and of little relevance in today's world of business.

Basic or core subjects typically consist of the socalled four functional areas of management; namely, marketing, production, financial management and human resources management.

We should note, however, that in the real world of business, management problems and concerns, such as the launching of a new product, or scaling up operations seldom fall exclusively within a particular management function, and should therefore be treated holistically.

Interspersed among the required subjects are elective courses, such as Quantitative Methods (aka Management Science), Management Information Systems, Managerial Economics and courses that cover specialized sub-areas of the four functional fields, such as Financial Markets, Management of Innovation, and Managing Organizational Culture.

In our thinking, statistical and mathematical models of choice, such as Linear Programming and other quantitative tools, are inappropriate for dealing with situations that are in a continuous state of flux. Today's managers face complex and ill-defined problems that are said to be "out of equilibrium" and are best "solved" with the help

of sophisticated computer algorithms and applications, such as high-performance computing, cloud computing and Big Data Analytics.

As a rule, the capstone Strategic Management course is offered at the tail end of the program. Also known as Strategic Planning and Control, this course typically covers long-standing concepts and procedures, such as environmental scanning, preparing the organization's vision and mission statements, and specifying the organization's goals and objectives.

In a world characterized by rapid, unpredictable change, strategic decisions are made in real time. In such dynamic settings, visioning, missioning, goal setting and planning are inappropriate.

(To be continued)

(The article reflects the personal opinion of the author and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines or MAP. The author is a Retired Professor of Economics and Management at UP Diliman. Feedback at <map@map.org.ph> and <nspoblador@gmail.com>).

"Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA)"...

(from page 1)

Pampanga. There are on-going EDCA projects at four other locations - Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija, Lumbia Air Base in Cagayan de Oro, Antonio Bautista Air Base in Puerto Princesa, and Mactan Benito Ebuen Air Base in Cebu. Last week, four additional locations in Northern Luzon and Palawan were designated under the EDCA, but the exact locations remain confidential pending further consultations.

Extensive access to key locations facing the West Philippine Sea, Luzon Strait and, possibly, the Pacific Ocean, underscores America's goal to develop integrated deterrence. The Philippines occupies strategic real estate vital to our national interests and that of many nations. It's vital to China, aiming to be the center of the universe. It's vital to the economic interests of countries who rely on safe passage through our sea lines of communication. It's vital to countries in the Indo-Pacific region dissuading China from pursuing its hegemonic plans.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s (PFMJ) decision to fully implement and expand the scope of the EDCA is a sharp departure from former President Rodrigo Duterte's swing to the left before belatedly returning to the center. Although Duterte's independent foreign policy of being a

"friend to all" has been upheld by PFMJ, his allout support for the PH-US defense alliance serves as leverage against an increasingly warlike China. As such, Balikatan exercises have dramatically increased in the number of joint activities and participating troops.

In 2016, France and the Philippines signed a defense pact to help modernize our military amid tensions with China. The agreement covers bilateral cooperation that relates to defense equipment, logistics and defense industry development. It provides for "high-level visits to increase cooperation; defense policy consultations; capacity-building training and exercises; exchanges of information; and the development of naval cooperation". Both countries are also eyeing a strong partnership on nuclear energy.

France has built 5 ships for the Philippine Coast Guard - (1) 83-meter Offshore Patrol Vessel and (4) 24-meter Fast Patrol Boats - and intends to build a PHP1.5-B shipyard. It also includes a 5year program for preventive maintenance, spare technical assistance and training. Previously, France submitted three confirming financial support for the Department of Transportation's upcoming projects; financial aid to support a training boat contract for the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy; and a possible maritime expert proposal.

Last November, the Philippines and France signed a MOA to strengthen the country's maritime safety and security, particularly in ship building and ship repair. France will deploy a maritime expert to provide the necessary technical assistance, training and consultancy service on best practice to ensure SOLAPS, create a National Transport Plan and help implement the 10-year Maritime Industry Development Plan to modernize the local fleet.

Last week, PFMJ and Japan PM Fumio Kishida agreed to sharply boost defense ties allowing Japanese troops greater access to Philippine territory on account of rising volatility in the East and South China Seas. It allows Japan to deploy its forces for humanitarian missions and disaster response in the Philippines; conduct more joint exercises; reciprocal port calls and aircraft visits; transfer of Japanese defense equipment and technology; and strengthen trilateral cooperation with the US

PM Kishida and PFMJ also agreed to strengthen cyber and economic security; reinforce the capabilities of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and improve port facilities at Subic Bay. In recent years, Japanese ODA funded the construction and delivery of two 97mtr and ten 44mtr patrol

vessels for the PCG. There are reports that Japan may provide five more patrol vessels under similar arrangements.

Last December, Japan adopted key security and defense policies that sharply depart from its post-World War II policy of self-defense; as well as development assistance for maritime safety and upgrades. security Consequently, announced a 600 billion yen (US\$4.6 billion) economic assistance package for the Philippines through March 2024 to improve infrastructure, information and communication technologies, energy security and industrial development.

The Philippines and Australia, also inked an MOU on Cooperative Defense Activities in 1995. Australia is one of the Philippines only two VFA partners. Both countries enjoy a significant degree of security cooperation, including the presence of Australian mobile training teams for capacity-building on counter-terrorism, urban warfare, maritime security, and other fronts. Yet, despite the broad range of ongoing bilateral activities, the significant potential for enhanced cooperation remains a largely unexplored opportunity.

We must step up. Modernization is slow, erratic and inadequate. To this day, we don't have clear rules of engagement to deal with China's gray zone tactics. We don't have a road map to obtain guarantees from our allies, in exchange for the EDCA arrangements that place us in the crosshairs of China, such as:

- Bankrolling the total annual repairs and maintenance expenses of the AFP, PCG and PNP.
- Swift access to energy, food, smart munitions, ammo stockpiles, manned and unmanned war-fighting systems and assets (air-sea-land-space-cyber) at preferential terms.
- 3. Continuous joint hybrid warfare training and sea-air patrols.
- 4. Hardening our vital human security and military infrastructure.

Our defense pacts with these countries are crucial for regional stability, human and ecological security. Yet, there's no integrated and systematic action so essential in deterring China. Everyone must focus and close ranks to protect our common national interests. If we've been paying attention, war is just around the corner. The clock is ticking. We better move it.

(This article reflects the personal opinion of the author and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines or MAP. The author is former Governor of MAP. He is the Vice Chair of Pepsi-Cola Products Philippines, Inc. He is a Member of Philippine Council for Foreign Relations, and sits on the boards of other companies as Independent Director. Feedback at <map@map.org.ph> and <rmalunan@gmail.com>.)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

6 Secret tools to become a ruthless CEO who gets things done

and triggers

Most of the world's top
CEOs switch between different
personalities by using triggers



PROFIT PUSH

members.

Alot of people are too "soft" when it comes to these areas. Therefore, they either fall in too pleadership positions or—in case they inherited the positions, not by merit but by age or other factors—they fall in taking the business to the next level and therefore they fall in making sure it survives until the next generation.

In the past week, three of our clients approached me with the same request; all of them were business owners and CEOs at the same time. They asked me, How can I been world's top CEOs use a piece of clothing, a watch, the sense of getting finings due to or of our failers and call on the same strengers. They were been successed to the test of the the same strengers and call on the same strengers. They can be come more ruthless as a CEO in the sense of getting finings due to the street of the same transport of the median of the same and the same transport of the median of the same transport of the same transport of the same transport of the median of the same transport of the same transpor

but 'probe'

I was born in Germany.
There is a German saying that
goes: "Vertrauen ist gut, Kon-

trolle lst besser." It means, "It client or an employee. But emis good to trust but it is better pathy becomes a problem if you to control." This caused a lot of Cannot switch to a different hat laughs at a recent client dinner but most Germans indeed open. Who is not performing.

blaughs at a recent client dinner but most Germans indeed operate that way. And it is essential for business success.

Unless you can be 100-percent sure that you are surrounded by star performers, bepople who are 10/10, you will be have to set up your own personal system of checks and controls to make sure the jobs that you delegate get done.

Tool 4: Master the balance between being nice/approachable and tough/ruthless
Realize that these are not mutually exclusive. Most of the best Fortune 500 CEOs and bifficient in the second bifficient



individual: the comfort zone in this is where most people live), at the stretch zone (where every individual and business should be) and the panic zone. If you stay in the comfort zone for too long, life will put you in the panic zone before you realize it, samples. Constantly leaning, growing, being uncomfortable and hard but necessary—will put you firmly in the stretch zone and avoid that you suddenly find yourself in the panic zone. If the panic zone is the panic zone is the panic zone is the panic zone if they have been comfortable and companies into the panic zone if they have been comfortable for long. It is a law of the stretch zone and a long it is a law of the stretch zone.

One of our clients, the American CBO of a family business conflomerate, approached us with the request to make one you best bet is to stay in the stretch zone.

One of our clients, the American CBO of a family business conflomerate, approached us with the request to make one you be collaborated with their leadership team, did extensive analyses and created solutions together with the top mans to the panic zone.

Top 1. Was a sure the would devenue the funding the top the same they would do ust a fine on their own. In the panic zone is the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone.

In this case, he should have been panic zone.

Top 2. Use anchors and the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone in the panic zone in the panic zone is the panic zone in the p

Tool 2: Use anchors and triggers.

Tool 3: Don't micromanage but "probe".

Tool 4: Master the balance between being nice and approachable, and being tough and ruthless.

Tool 5: Hold yourself accountable—not just others.

Tool 6: Live and grow in the "stretch" gone see



A social role for business in the post-COVID-19 era; Implications for business strategy and management education

(First of two parts)

The widespread economic and social suffering resulting from majors shifts in the global economic and political landscapes, global warming, coronavirus pandemic and other global crises has brought into sharp focus the social responsibility of business.

Business is increasingly being called upon to address the major problems faced by Philippine society today. Foremost among these is the marginalization of a large segment of society that is mired in abject poverty, and the increasing on-centration of wealth and income in a small number of individuals. This observation is supported by the most recent report of Social Weather Stations, which shows that as of the end of 2022, half of all Pilipino families consider themselves poor and outly one-fifth regard themselves as not poor. SWS emertus CEO Mahar Mangahas laments that despite substantial increase to economic opportunities to all, business to has been equally culpable.

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Rethinking management education

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Interspersed among the required subjects are electrical productions, and courses that cover specialized sub-areas of the four functional fields, such as financial mathematical models of choice, such as linear programming and other quantitative tools, are inappropriate for the concluded in real time. In such dynamic strains and mathematical models of choice, such as linear programming and other quantitative tools, are inappropriate field of the concluded in real time. In such dynamic strains and mathematical models of choice, such as linear programming and other requinitiative tools, are inappropriate for the concluded to the such as a constraint of the programming and other required subjects are electrically and particular to the concluded in real time. In such dynamic strains and mathematical models of choice, such as linear programming and other required to the concluded in real time. In such dynamic strains and mathematical models of choice, such as linear programming and other required to the concluded to the such as a constraint of the programming and other required to the concluded to the such as a constraint of the programming and other required to the concluded to the concluded to the such as a constraint of the programming and other required to the concluded to the concluded to the concluded to the



Philippines needs guarantee roadmap for security pacts



Crisis narratives as hindrance to growth and freedom

eb. 24 list week marked the first anniversary of Bussia's invasion of Ultraine. The Ukraine crisis has morphed from a border war between the two countries to a potential nuclear conflict in Europe. Here are five major crisis narratives which have had a bij impact on economic.

mobility restrictions of locksowns and human bolation, while expanding government spending and borrowing. House Bill 6522 and Senate Bill 1869 will create a new bureaucracy — the Philippione Center for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), these two objections against this bill. One, it controls the National Government Rightsizing Program (NGEP) of the Marcos Jr. ad-ministration which arms to reduce reducing cyre displication of functions, and reduce government sending Sen Bill and the Sending Sending push ("Feb. 20), instead of reducing the existing bursecurative, the bill is creating a new agency with ever plantifle positions and more personnel with national and regional offices. Two, the same people and professions who distract natural immunity from natural infection from COVID-93 and pushed to trust only vaccine

Korea

India Indonesia

Canada Germany

italy

Actual GDP growth and required growth to attain economic recovery Actual growth

MY CUP OF LIBERTY BIENVENIDO S. OPLAS, JR.

ence to impose political and medical tyranny.

2. The economic/poverty crists, Covernment-imposed lockdowns then overspending and borrowing for said yado and subsidies will lead to more taxes in the future to pay for the huge borrowing.

Bellow I make two computations: a.) required growth in 2021 to reach the level of 2007s gross dimensic product (GOP), and, b.1 percular growth in 2023 to expand by 15% over 2019's GOP level.

recovered recovered

recovered recovered

Required growth (a) in 2021 (b) in 2023 tbi 2019 15% 2019

The results show that for many East Asian economies, their GDP growth in 2021 has enabled them to recover a smillar GDP size of 2009. For the Philippiese, 37 GDP growth in 2021 should have been 10% and not but as 37% fac be at the same, GDP size or level of 2019, and, bigorith in 2023 should be at least 11 7% faughet flag to have at least at 15% expansion 12025 over 2009 level (See Table f). By 2021, many of our misphors in East Asia had already recovered to the 2018 levels — the Philippines duri on Meaning that the effects of the government's lockdown and bismass batteries to shall be seen to shall be shall

Life expectancy at birth, NCDs share to total deaths

Country		Life expectancy, in years					NCDs/Total deaths, %		
		1960	1980	2000	2019	2020	2000	2010	2019
	Japan	67.7	76.1	811	84.4	84.6	79.8	80.3	84.8
	Singapore	64.7	72.2	78.0	83.6	83.7	80.1	77.5	75.0
	S. Korea	54.3	66,0	75.9	83.2	83.4	81.6	80.2	77.9
	Thailand	51.0	64.0	72.3	79.0	79.3	63.3	71.2	76.6
	China	33.3	64.4	71.9	78.0	78.1	81.0	86.4	89.5
	Malaysia	56.5	68.2	72.8	75.8	75.9	73.2	71.5	73.4
	Vietnam	59.7	66.2	72.5	74.1	75.4	72.9	78.4	81.4
	Philippines	59.2	62.5	69.4	71.9	72.1	55.2	64.0	59.7
	India	45.2	53.6	62.7	70.9	70.2	44.0	54.8	65.9
	Italy	69.1	73.9	79.8	83.5	82.3	60.5	69.1	76.3
	France	69.9	74.1	79.1	82.8	82.2	92.0	92.2	90.6
	Canada	71.1	75.1	79.1	82.0	81.7	85.5	87.2	87.3
	Germany	69.1	72.8	77.9	81.3	80.9	89.8	88.7	89.8
	UK	71.1	73.7	77.7	81.2	80.9	91.9	91.5	90.6
	US	69.8	73.6	76,6	78.8	77.3	85.2	89.3	88.2
	Russian Fed.	67.5	67.0	65.5	73.1	71.3	87.9	88.3	88.1
	World	50.9	62.2	67.7	73.0	72.3	83.1	86.3	89.3

impation, machine and fertilizer subsidies, and so on.
Going back to Feb. 25, 2022 — or day belone the Russia invasion of Ukraine — and even a year before that, commodities like rice, com, coffee, wheat, soybeans; palm oil, lean hops; poultry, beef, fertilizers fall prices this month that were smillar or even lower than last year's prices (See Fable 5).

BIENVENIDO S. OPLAS, JR. is the president of Bienvenido S. Oplas, Jr. Research Consultancy Services, and Minimal Government Thinkers.



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BusinessWorld

MAIL LOCANT Former WURDO G RYES Editor in Chief North AND STATE AND STA



MAP General Membership Meeting

in celebration of



ROLE OF WOMEN IN BRIDGING AND BUILDING A PROGRESSIVE FUTURE

A Project of MAP Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee

March 8, 2023, Wednesday 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM Grand Ballroom B&C, Level 3
Shangri-La The Fort

Fireside Chat Panelists:



Amb. LAURE BEAUFILS UK



Amb. MARYKAY L. CARLSON US



Amb. ANKE REIFFENSTUEL Germany

Regis	strat	tion	Fees:
A CASA TO	770 - 62		2007-000

MAP Member	FREE
Guest	P2,000 each

MAP Circular 009 - 2023



Articles/Papers from MAP Members

1. "'Provincializing' agriculture"

from MAP Governor CIELITO "Ciel" F. HABITO's "No Free Lunch" Column in the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER on February 28, 2023

You know agriculture is in great trouble when so many op-ed columns are being written on the sector, even from writers who don't normally deal on the subject. The attention is well deserved, as I consider agriculture the backbone of our economy. It stands out as the sector most evenly spread across all regions of the country, unlike services, where only two regions (Metro Manila and Calabarzon) already account for over half of the sector's gross domestic product (GDP) contribution. In industry, only three regions do (with the addition of Central Luzon). In agriculture, it takes six regions to comprise half its output, and regional contributions are more even. One might say it's the sector that binds them all together.

But agriculture directly accounts for barely a tenth of our GDP now (from about a third in the 1940s). It could, and should, account for more, especially in a country as naturally well-endowed as ours. But it's time for a new approach to managing the sector, and it hinges on provinces taking primary responsibility to make their farmers and fishers productive, competitive, and profitable. Three observations lead me to this:

One: Devolution was a good idea, but badly executed.

After the Local Government Code of 1991 became law, municipal agricultural officers (MAOs) were largely left on their own. It seemed that the Department of Agriculture (DA) felt no compulsion to provide them technical supervision as municipal employees. Worse, mayors with little regard for agriculture made them all-around workers, even drivers. Still, the DA continued to work top-down, managing things centrally and prescribing one-sizefits-all programs, even where unsuitable. My favorite field anecdote was when I asked the village chief of a poor upland Mindanao barangay what he would ask of the government if granted one wish. His reply: carabaos (for tilling the idle grasslands around them). I asked what they were getting from government; he said fertilizers and hybrid seeds. So I asked what they did with them. He said they had no use for them, so they simply sold them.

When I chided the MAO for not telling the DA of their real need, she replied, "I keep telling them that every year, but they've made up their minds to give fertilizers and hybrid seeds." This incident alone firmly convinced me that recentralizing agricultural extension—like at least one DA secretary wanted—cannot be the way to go.

Two: Agriculture needs a much higher budget allocation.

Something is wrong when less than 2 percent of our total government budget goes to agriculture when our closest neighbors reportedly allot from 3.4 percent (Indonesia) to 6.5 percent (Vietnam). But it's hard to justify raising the DA budget when its absorptive capacity is slow, and the quality of its spending is low. For example, it spends more on farm inputs (yes, fertilizers and hybrid seeds) with one-off benefits, when it should be investing more in public goods like irrigation, rural roads, and postharvest facilities with lasting productivity-enhancing effects. DA can leverage more funds for agriculture by downloading their budget to provincial governments via matching grants that give the latter one, two, or more pesos for each peso they spend on agricultural development—with necessary safeguards on fund use. This yields a double dividend of improved DA disbursements (helping them better justify increased budgets), while drawing out even more funds from the units of government closer to the actual problems on the ground, hence more knowledgeable on solving them.

Three: Agriculture is everyone's concern.

It is much too important to leave to the DA alone. It must be a joint accountability of the DA and the provincial agricultural offices coordinating the MAOs, along with other institutions like church, academe, and big business. Agriculture outcomes impact food consumers, and that means everyone, especially the poor that counts farmers among them—leading them to food insecurity and malnutrition when productivity is low and food prices high. All have a part to play to address the pervasive and long-term effects of our troubled agriculture sector. And in our suggested playbook, provinces must step up if things are to get better.

cielito.habito@gmail.com

2. "Farewell"

from MAP Past Governor PETER WALLACE's "Like it is" Column in the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER on February 27, 2023

This will be my last column for the Inquirer. I won't go into the details here, but we had a disagreement that made writing for the paper difficult.

It's been a 10-year ride after a decade with the Manila Standard of writing on an ever-so-wide range of subjects. From politics to economics. From business to daily living. Even sneaked in a few personal bits. I enjoyed it.

I've never been a writer. In fact, I remember well in my first year in engineering at university, English was a required course. I asked the professor, "Why are we learning English again, I learned all I needed to know at school." He replied, "Mr. Wallace if, and I stress if, you do graduate and become an engineer, you'll have to write reports. We'll be teaching you how to write reports."

Well, I did become an engineer and did have to write reports. Nowadays, writing is a major part of my life. Interestingly, it turns out my grandmother was a writer and the editor of a newspaper. The first woman ever. And my great-grandfather, too. My father published a regular newsletter on a bridge (he was a world champion). So it must be in my genes.

The 48 years I've lived in the Philippines have been a joy. Such a tumultuous country, but how can you not love it? No day is ever predictable. That makes it easy for a writer, of course, as there's always something to comment on.

I've made a point of always trying to offer a solution to the issues that arise, as I see them. Hopefully, some of these have helped the decision-makers to make a decision that helped move the Philippines forward. Experience seems to say it has. My small voice has influenced some important issues.

I came here in 1975 to build a factory for an American company. Moved on to a conglomerate with a number of factories and service businesses. And then to manage a country's largest distributor at the time. I employed thousands of Filipinos, so I got to know them well. Enough to want to be one of them. Congress under the leadership of Senate President Manny Villar and Speaker Sonny Belmonte offered me citizenship. President Benigno Aquino III signed a law granting it in 2016.

I started my own business, a think tank, in 1982 to advise CEOs of what's happening outside their business operations. At the time, information about the environment for business was sparse. It led to me being intimately involved with the top political

leaders from Cory Aquino on. It's been a successful business, celebrating 40 years of existence.

We have a fascinating five years ahead of us where the President will face some very serious challenges to resolve. Difficult ones that will require careful skill to handle. On the international scene, top of the list will be the confrontation between the United States and China, a growingly deteriorating one. And China's threat to annex Taiwan where we can't help but be involved.

Domestically, it's agriculture and education. Filipinos must eat and children must grow up to become productive citizens. Able to have a decent standard of living. Something the President has to strive for. In a fiercely world, building job-creating competitive businesses are going to be a tough task. So I'm glad the Senate agreed to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. It's an essential step in job creation. But there's ever so much more that must be done. The President and his economic team will have their job cut out for them in providing every Filipino with a decent, well-fed standard of living.

So I'll remain involved as I move into my twilight years. I can't imagine a day of being inactive. It's not in my nature.

So I bid you all farewell from telling it LIKE IT IS in this newspaper. But will continue to TELL IT LIKE IT IS elsewhere because it's in my nature.

Thank you all for sticking with me through the decade.

Farewell.

Email: wallace.likeitis@gmail.com

MAP Talks on Youtube

February 8, 2023 MAP Economic Briefing and General Membership Meeting (GMM)



November 22, 2022 MAP Annual General Membership Meeting and "MAP Management Man of the Year 2022" Awarding Ceremony



November 11, 2022 3rd MAP NextGen Conference 2022



September 13, 2022 MAP International CEO Hybrid Conference



January 31, 2023 MAP Inaugural Meeting 2023 and Induction of MAP 2023 Board of Governors

MMAP

75th MAP Inaugural Meeting 2023

Guest Speaker and Inducting Officer
Chief Justice ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO
Supreme Court of the Philippines

October 13, 2022 MAP GMM



September 8, 2022 MAP – PMAP Joint GMM



August 19, 2022 MAP GMM



July 1, 2022 MAP Webinar



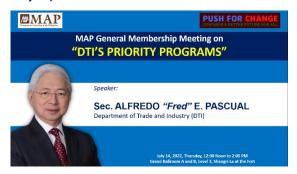
May 19, 2022 MAP GMM



April 29, 2022 MAP Webinar



July 14, 2022 MAP GMM



June 23, 2022 MAP GMM



May 2, 2022 MAP Webinar



April 29, 2022 MAP Webinar



Happy Birthday to the following MAP Members who are celebrating their birthdays within March 1 to March 31, 2023

MARCH 1

1. Arch. BENJAMIN "Bing" S. AVILA Principal Architect, Avila Architect

Atty. RAYMUND JOSEPH IAN "Raji" O. MENDOZA
 Managing Partner, Mendoza Calnea Mangundayao
 and Associates

3. Atty. EDUARDO "Ed" M. PANGAN

Partner, Mendoza and Pangan Law Offices

4. Mr. PHILIP G. SOLIVEN

Vice Chair, Multico Prime Power Inc.

MARCH 2

5. Mr. EDMUN H. LIU

Chief Finance Officer, LH Paragon Group of Companies

6. Mr. FAUSTO R. PREYSLER JR.

President and Chair, Smith Bell Corporation

7. Mr. SIMPLICIO "Jun" P. UMALI JR.

President and General Manager, Gardenia Bakeries (Phils.), Inc.

MARCH 3

8. Ms. MELESA "Elsie" D. CHUA

President and CEO, CDC Quadrillion

9. Mr. JUAN CARLOS "Carlos" G. DEL ROSARIO

Chair Emeritus, Amalgamated Investment Bancorporation

10. Mr. ENRIQUE "Ricky" K. RAZON JR.

Chair and President, ICTSI (International Container Terminal Services, Inc.)

MARCH 4

11. Mr. WILLIAM N. CHUA CO KIONG

President, Wills International Sales and Corporation

12. Ms. GENEROSA "Gigi" PIO DE RODA REYES

President and CEO, FPG Insurance Co., Inc.

MARCH 5

13. Mr. TEOFILO "Pilo or Theo" S. EUGENIO

Former President, Asia Pacific Chartering Phil., Inc.

14. Mr. CONRADO "Conrad" G. MARTY

Vice Chair, Hyundai Asia Resources Inc.

15. Mr. EDWIN "Ed" V. MATULIN

SVP and Board Director, Synchrony Global Services Philippines, Inc.

MARCH 6

16. Mr. ALOYSIUS "Nonoy" B. COLAYCO

Country Chair, Jardine Matheson Group of Companies - Philippines

17. Mr. ALFREDO "AI" S. PANLILIO

President and CEO, PLDT and Smart Communications, Inc.

 Mr. JAIME AUGUSTO "Jaime" ZOBEL DE AYALA II Chair, Ayala Corporation

MARCH 7

19. Mr. REYNALDO "Rey" C. CENTENO

8President and CEO, General Life Assurance Philippines, Inc.

20. Cong. FELICITO "Tong" C. PAYUMO

Chair, University of Nueva Caceres

MARCH 8

21. Mr. VITALIANO "Lanny" N. NAÑAGAS II

President, Organizational Systems, Inc.

MARCH 9

22. Ms. MARIE KIMBERLY "Kim" S. BENEDICTO COO, CLB Engineering and Supply, Inc.

23. Ms. CORAZON "Cora" S. DE LA PAZ BERNARDO

Honorary President (former President - 2004 to 2010), International Social Security Association

24. Atty. ARNEL PACIANO "Arnel" D. CASANOVA

25. Engr. WILFREDO "Will" L. DECENA

CEO, Will Decena & Associates, Inc.

26. Mr. JEFFREY "Jeff" O. TARAYAO

President, One Meralco Foundation

MARCH 10

27. Mr. AFTAB AHMED CEO, Citibank, N.A.

28. Ms. HAIDEE C. ENRIQUEZ

MARCH 11

29. Atty. ARNEL JOSE "Arnel" S. BAÑAS

Deputy Secretary for Administration and Financial Services, Senate of the Philippines

30. Mr. RAINERIO "Bong" M. BORJA

President, Alorica

31. Mr. EDUARDO "Ed" V. FRANCISCO

President and CEO, BDO Capital & Investment Corporation

32. Mr. ALDIE P. GARCIA

Assurance Partner, Isla Lipana & Co./ PwC Philippines

33. Ms. CIELITO "Cielo" L. GARRIDO

CEO, San Dionisio Credit Cooperative

34. Mr. DEXTER CHUA LEE

Chief Strategy and Planning Officer, Philippine Airlines (PAL)

35. Atty. MARIA LOURDES "Malou" P. LIM

Vice Chair and Tax Managing Partner, Isla Lipana & Co./ PwC Philippines

MARCH 12

36. Mr. RENE D. ALMENDRAS

President & CEO, AC Infrastructure Holdings Corporation

37. Mr. DANTE FRANCIS "Klink" M. ANG II

Executive Editor, President and CEO, The Manila Times

38. Mr. RODRIGO "Rod" E. FRANCO

President and CEO, Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation

39. Mr. FRANCISCO "Kaiku" H. LICUANAN III

Chair, Geostate Development Corporation

MARCH 13

40. Mr. ROLANDO "Rolly" S. NARCISO

Independent Director, Wilcon Depot, Inc.

MARCH 14

41. Dr. CYNTHIA R. MAMON

COO, Enchanted Kingdom, Inc.

42. Mr. JOSE "Joe" R. SOBERANO III

President and CEO, Cebu Landmasters, Inc.

43. Mr. FERNANDO ZOBEL DE AYALA

Advisor to the Board, Ayala Corporation

MARCH 15

44. Ms. ANNA JERMAINE "Jermaine" V. BOMBASI

Managing Director, Empire Centre for Regenerative Medicine

45. Mr. WILSON CHU

Chair and President, Breadtalk Philippines, Inc.

46. Mr. ROLAND ENRIC L. DELA CRUZ Vice Chair, ANR Unlimited MPC

47. Mr. ROLANDO "Rolly" A. JAURIGUE

ButterflyHouse at KM 89 Garden

MARCH 16

48. Arch. FELINO "Jun" A. PALAFOX JR.

Founder, President and Principal Architect - Urban Planner, Palafox Associates

MARCH 17

49. Ms. COSETTE V. CANILAO

President and CEO, Aboitiz InfraCapital, Inc.

50. Dr. CORAZON "Cora" PB. CLAUDIO

Convenor- Chair, Climate Action and Sustainability Alliance (CASA)

51. Mr. RENATO "Rene" A. FLORENCIO

Chair, GolconDIA Jewelry and TechnoMarine

52. Dr. NICETO "Nick" S. POBLADOR

Retired Professor of Economics and Management, University of the Philippines

MARCH 18

53. Mr. LEANDRO "Lean" L. LEVISTE

Founder and President, Solar Philippines

MARCH 19

54. Mr. ARTHUR "Art" N. AGUILAR

President, Negros Island Biomass Holdings, Inc.

55. Mr. JOSE "Joe" P. BANTILING

CEO, Trends and Concepts Total Interior Solutions, Inc.

56. Mr. RAUL JOSEPH "Jojo" A. CONCEPCION

President and CEO, Concepcion-Carrier Air Conditioning Company

57. Consul Gen. M. ISSAM "Sam" ELDEBS

President and CEO, DSE Connect Corporation

58. Mr. RENATO "Rene" C. VALENCIA

Chair, OmniPay, Inc.

MARCH 20

59. Mr. ALEXANDER "Alex" M. GENIL

President and CEO, ZMG Ward Howell

60. Mr. JOSE MARCEL "Jocel" E. PANLILIO

Chair and CEO, Boulevard Holdings

61. Sr. ZETA R. RIVERO, SPC

CEO, Perpetual Succour Hospital of Cebu, Inc.

62. Mr. FREDRICK "Rick" M. SANTOS

Chair and CEO, Santos Knight Frank Inc.

63. Mr. MICHAEL "Mike" G. TAN

COO, Asia Brewery Incorporated

64. Dr. REYNALDO "Rey" B. VEA

President and CEO, Mapua University

MARCH 21

65. Atty. WALTER L. ABELA, JR.

Partner and Head, Tax and Corporate Services, Navarro Amper & Co./Deloitte

66. Mr. LEOPOLDO "Leo" P. DE GUZMAN

Chair and CEO, Marigold Estate Ventures Company, Inc.

67. Mr. ARUN RAMESH "Arun" MIRPURI

President, Philippine Grocers Food Exports, Inc.

68. Mr. WILLIAM CARLOS "William" UY

Chair and President, Parity Values, Inc.

MARCH 22

69. Mr. MARK DAVID "Mark" C. ALVAREZ

Managing Director Philippines, InSites Consulting

0. Mr. CARL LESTER "Carl" S. ANG

EVP, Multi-Rich Home Decors, Inc.

71. Mr. WILSON T. LEI YEE

CEO, Simply Moving Philippines, inc.

MARCH 24

72. Mr. EUGENE "Eug" S. ACEVEDO

President and CEO, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC)

73. Ms. MA. LUNA "Luna" E. CACANANDO

President and CEO, Small Business Corporation

MARCH 25

74. Ms. MARLETH S. CALANOG

Executive Director, Ateneo de Manila University Graduate School of Business Center for Continuing Education

75. Mrs. VICTORIA "Vicky" P. GARCHITORENA-ARPON

Consultant, Family Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility March 25

76. Mr. JONATHAN JUAN "JJ" DC. MORENO

President and CEO, AF Payments Inc.

77. Mr. JESUS "Boboy" C. ROMERO COO, Converge ICT Solutions Inc.

MARCH 27

78. Mr. MANUEL LOUIE "Louie" B. FERRER

Vice Chair, Megawide Construction Corporation

79. Mr. RODRIGO SEGURA

Partner and Senior Consultant, CMC Business Solutions, Inc.

MARCH 28

80. Atty. J. ANDRES "Andy" D. BAUTISTA

81. Mr. MENELEO "Ito" J. CARLOS JR.

President, RI Chemical Corporation

82. Sec. HERMINIO "Sonny" B. COLOMA JR.
Publisher, Manila Bulletin Publishing Corporation

83. Mr. WOLFGANG KURT "Wolfgang" HARLE Managing Director, Harle Philippines, Inc.

84. Mr. RAMON "Mon" S. MONZON

President and CEO, The Philippine Stock Exchange

85. Ms. LYNETTE ORTIZ

CEO, Standard Chartered Bank Inc.

86. Mr. JOSE ARNULFO "Wick" A. VELOSO

President and General Manager, Government Service Insurance System (GSIS)

MARCH 29

87. Mr. JOHN D. FORBES

Senior Adviser, AMCHAM Philippines

MARCH 30

88. Mr. JAIME "Jimmy" F. SINGSON

President, USA BPO, Inc.

89. Mr. VICTOR JOSE "Vic" TANCINCO

President and CEO, St. Peter Life Plan, Inc. March 30

MARCH 31

90. Sec. BENJAMIN "Ben" E. DIOKNO

Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF)

91. Mr. ROBERTO "Bobby" B. TAN

President, Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC)

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