

**Report of the Philippine Academe and Civil Society-led Multi-Stakeholder Consultation  
Preparatory to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) XV  
University of the Philippines, Diliman  
21-22 November 2019**

A number of Filipino academics and civil society representatives gathered in a multi-stakeholder consultation to identify and analyze development and trade issues as well as to outline recommendations in relation to the upcoming United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) XV Conference to be held in Barbados in October 2020.

With the theme *Engaging UNCTAD XV: Perspectives from the Academe and Civil Society*, the multi-stakeholder consultation was organized by Social Watch Philippines, UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies - Political Economy Program (CIDS-PEP) and the UP Diliman College of Science. It was held at the auditorium of the UP Institute for Environmental Science and Meteorology (IESM) in UP Diliman last November 21 to 22, 2019, and aimed to engage representatives from various sectors in discussing pressing issues relevant to UNCTAD XV. The main output of the multi-stakeholder consultation is a matrix of policy positions put forth by CSOs and academe on trade and development as part of the preparatory processes for UNCTAD XV (see Attachment A).

After welcoming messages from Dean Giovanni Tapang of the UP Diliman College of Science and Dr. Ma. Victoria R. Raquiza of the CIDS-PEP and Social Watch Philippines, the discussions were opened by Exec. Dir. Roberto Manalo of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), and Mr. Miguel Bautista, Secretary of the Trade and Development Board of the UNCTAD. Both Exec. Dir. Manalo and Mr. Bautista spoke of the UNCTAD as a venue for raising the trade and development concerns from the perspective of developing countries.

Context for the Philippines' economic and development conditions, as well as its priorities, were given by Mr. Jim Donovan of the Global CEO Alliance (whose message was delivered by Mr. Soliven Ortega), Ms. Tanya Gaurano of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Office of the UN and International Organizations, and Dr. Joseph Anthony Lim of the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) Department of Economics.

The presentations of key issues were organized around three panels with speakers from CSOs and academe. The panels were on the following:

- (i) macro-development framework and relevant issues for developing countries was presented by Dr. Joseph Anthony Lim, industrial policy by Dr. Antoinette Raquiza, and labor and trade by Mr. Czar Joseph Castillo from Labor Education and Research Network;
- (ii) agricultural issues including the issue of rice importation and the Rice Tariffication Law was discussed by Ms. Jessica Cantos from Social Watch Philippines and the Action for Economic Reforms, and energy and electricity issues by Mr. Rei Panaligan from the Center for Renewable Energy and Sustainable Technology;

- (iii) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), its highlights, issues, and recommendations was discussed by Mr. Joseph Purugganan from Focus on the Global South.

Each panel also benefited from the feedback of relevant government agencies (e.g., Department of Trade and Industry [DTI], Department of Agriculture [DA]), and from additional inputs from participants during an open forum.

The activity concluded with a consensus to strengthen the engagement among civil society, government, and academe in engaging UNCTAD XV. In closing, Ms. Jenina Joy Chavez of the Action for Economic Reforms (AER), Dr. Antoinette Raquiza of the CIDS-PEP, and Mr. Miguel Bautista of UNCTAD expressed gratitude for everyone's participation and inputs, and hoped for their continued engagement for upcoming preparatory processes for and until the UNCTAD XV and beyond.

In a follow up meeting on 28 February 2020 convened by Dr. Dulce Natividad of CIDS-PEP, additional inputs on the ocean-based blue economy were presented by Ms. Dinna Umengan, on labor and employment issues by Dr. Emily Christi Cabegin, on state capacity for industrial policy as exemplified by budgetary issues related to the Manufacturing Resurgence Program and micro, small, and medium enterprises by Mr. Alce Quitalig and Dr. Ma. Victoria R. Raquiza, on migration by Ms. Ellene Sana, and on trade investments by Mr. Alvic Padilla.

The attached matrix of key trade and development issues, together with corresponding recommendations, serves as the combined input of the academe and civil society to the Philippine position on the UNCTAD XV. This document represents the collective analysis and ambition for a more pro-development, pro-poor, pro-socially excluded and pro-environment policy regime in the realm of trade and development that arose primarily from the lively and energetic discussions of the multi-stakeholder consultative meeting held last 21-22 November 2019, as well as the follow-up meeting held in February 2020.

The multi-stakeholder consultation held in November 2019 and the February 2020 follow-up meeting were participated in by the following:

#### **Academe**

- Chancellor Fidel Nemenzo, UP Diliman
- Dr. Joseph Anthony Lim, Ateneo de Manila University
- Dr. Teresa Encarnacion Tadem, UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies
- Dr. Antoinette Raquiza, UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies
- Dean Giovanni Tapang, UP Diliman College of Science
- Dr. Menandro Berana, UP Diliman College of Engineering
- Dr. Emily Christi Cabegin, UP School of Labor and Industrial Relations
- Dr. Laura David, UP Marine Science Institute

#### **Civil Society**

- Dr. Maria Victoria R. Raquiza, Social Watch Philippines and UP National Center for Public Administration and Governance
- Ms. Jenina Joy Chavez, Action for Economic Reforms

- Mr. Alce Quitalig, Social Watch Philippines
- Mr. Joseph Purugganan, Focus on the Global South
- Mr. Roberto Verzola, Center for Renewable Energy and Sustainable Technology
- Mr. Rei Panaligan, Center for Renewable Energy and Sustainable Technology
- Ms. Jessica Cantos, Social Watch Philippines and Action for Economic Reforms
- Mr. Czar Joseph Castillo, Labor Education and Research Network
- Ms. Dinna Lacsamana-Umengan, Tambuyog Development Center
- Mr. Alvic Padilla, ChristianAid Philippines
- Ms. Ellene Sana, Center for Migrant Advocacy
- Ms. Czarina Villarama, Center for Migrant Advocacy
- Ms. Ana Maria R. Nemenzo, WomanHealth Philippines
- Ms. Mercedes Fabros, WomanHealth Philippines
- Ms. Fe Manapat, WomanHealth Philippines
- Ms. Raquel Castillo, Sustainability and Participation through Education and Lifelong Learning
- Mr. Josua Mata, Alliance of Progressive Labor
- Dr. Milton Amayun, Global Compact Network Philippines
- Ms. Cynthia Arce, Global Compact Network Philippines
- Ms. Maria Luz Javier, Global Compact Network Philippines

#### **Government**

- Exec. Director Roberto Manalo, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Ms. Maria Tanya Gaurano, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Dir. Anthony Salazar Aguirre, Department of Foreign Affairs
- Undersecretary Ceferino Rodolfo, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Myrene Sabina Bedaña, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Regina Samantha Castro, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Hananiela Domingo, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Cheska Enriquez, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Jollan Margaret Llana, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. Jasmina Magsino, Department of Trade and Industry
- Ms. France Bicomong, Department of Science and Technology
- Ms. Marione Comboy, Department of Science and Technology
- Mr. Kyle Dominic Ta-ay, Department of Labor and Employment
- Ms. Maria Catherine Castillo, Department of Agriculture
- Ms. Maribel de Leon, Board of Investments
- Ms. Grace Tangcangco, Board of Investments
- Mr. Ferdinand Ortilla, Department of Finance
- Mr. Daniel Agustin, Landbank of the Philippines

#### **International Organizations**

- Mr. Miguel Bautista, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- Mr. Habih El-Haddad, United Nations Institute for Training and Research

**Private Sector**

- Mr. Soliven Ortega, ADEC Innovations, as the representative of Mr. Jim Donovan of the Global CEO Alliance
- Former Amb. Jaime Bautista, Philippine Council for Foreign Relations
- Mr. Albert Velasco, Philippine Council for Foreign Relations