

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES NEW YORK

PRESS RELEASE

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13 September 2019

Investment Forum Held in New York



PCGNY officials and staff, Mr. Mon Abrea of the Center for Strategic Reform of the Philippines (CSR), Special Trade Representative Nicanor S. Bautista of Philippine Trade & Investment Center New York (PTIC), Mr. Eric Bustamante, General Manager of Philippine National Bank – New York (PNB) and members of the Filipino-American communityduring a forum entitled "Kapihan at Kuwentuhan: Investing in the Philippines" held on 11 September 2019 at the Philippine Center Kalayaan Hall. (Photo by NYPCG)

13 September 2019, New York – The Philippine Consulate General in New York, the Philippine Trade and Investment Center (PTIC), the Center for Strategic Reforms in the Philippines (CSR) and Philippine National Bank – New York (PNB New York) conducted a forum entitled "Kapihan at Kuwentuhan: Investing in the Philippines" on 11 September 2019 at the Philippine Center Kalayaan Hall.

Mr. Mon Abrea, founder of *Center for Strategic Reforms of the Philippines (CSR Philippines)* – an organization that aims to empower the fast-growing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector, and currently serves as an adviser to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue on tax administration reforms, discussed about entrepreneurship, doing business, and tax reforms in the Philippines. More than twenty members of the Filipino-American community in the US northeast who are interested in business participated in the event.

Special Trade Representative Nicanor S. Bautista of PTIC presented short video clips which highlighted the government's economic gains and targets, and the benefits of investing in the Philippines. His presentation was followed by PNB – New York General Manager Eric Bustamante who gave an overview of the products and services they offer to the public to promote business and investment.

Consul General Claro S. Cristobal moderated the event which was streamed live on Facebook and watched online by members of the Fil-Am community who were not able to personally attend the forum.

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(L-R) Consul General Claro S. Cristobal, Mr. Mon Abrea of CSR Philippines, Special Trade Representative Nicanor Bautista of PTIC and PNB – New York General ManagerEric Bustamante. (Photo by NYPCG)



Atty. BetheenaDizon of Ernst & Young during the Q&A portion of the forum. (Photo by NYPCG)



Special Trade Representative Nicanor Bautista of PTIC (3^{rd} from left) answers a question from one of the members of the Filipino-American community. (Photo by NYPCG)