

CLOSING REMARKS

Ms. Rosette C. Librea
President
Association of DAP Public Managers, Inc.

To our Honorable Guest Speaker, Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, DAP President Dr. Eduardo Gonzales, Senior Vice President Dr. Segundo Romero, distinguished panel members and their Excellencies from the Embassies of Papua New Guinea and Malta, and to all our guests to the 4th session of the ODC Lecture Series who have come to address the pressing issue on the economic reintegration of our men and women migrant workers

Once again, we thank all of you for supporting this endeavor of the Alumni Association together with the Academy's Graduate School of Public and Development Management. We have tackled the issue of economic reintegration of migrant workers as our agenda for this fourth session of the ODC Lecture Series as an urgent and serious governance agenda. Just like our past ODCs, this is our way of raising higher consciousness among men and women of different sectors of society. We should all stand as one force to push this issue to government as a state obligation and as a priority economic agenda in governance requiring political will of the national leadership.

The call that the Alumni and our school wish to impart to all of you gathered in this hall is for the entire governance stakeholders to join government in taking concrete and progressive steps or step by step measure to realize the reintegration of the migrant workers. We dream with our migrant workers that their right to work and enjoyment of just and favorable conditions of work will be realized here in our own country where all their economic, social, political and cultural rights are hinged.

I would like to mention the CHR which is a partner of this ODC, I would like to mention that a graduate of MPM from CHR has done a study on migrant workers. There are a number of graduates of MPM also from OWWA and POEA who have undertaken studies for migrant workers. About six years ago, one of us graduates of the DAP Masteral Program on Public Management in the person of Ms. Ellen Julian of the CHR responded to a very serious calling to look into the plight of overseas workers. She chose for her thesis, an Action Plan and Project, the subject of Human Rights Conditions of Migrant Workers. With meager budget, she went to Singapore and Hong Kong to conduct interviews with migrant workers. The results of her study contributed much to the Chars current human rights policy and programs for migrant workers. Should it interest you, only Ms. Julian could best narrate to you the many facets of the human conditions of migrant workers, which are good inputs for designing programs and projects for their economic reintegration. As government clearly defines in the medium term the various steps it should take for the gradual and progressive reintegration of migrant workers, let us not hesitate to offer government our share of programs and projects.

For greater involvement with the programs of the school and the Alumni, I invite you, on behalf of the Alumni, not only to continually attend our ODC Lectures but also to participate

