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APEC Philippines 2015

For the information of future generations of Paulinians, we reproduce this write-up on the historic APC Summit in Manila.



APEC
PHILIPPINES
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The year-long hosting of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in the Philippines will culminate with the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting from 18–19 November 2015 in Manila. It marks the second time the Philippines is playing host to the APEC, having hosted the event previously in 1996.

The 2015 APEC Economic Leaders' Week hosted by the Philippines and chaired by President Benigno S. Aquino III will commence in Manila this week.

Under the theme, *Building Inclusive Economies, Building a Better World*, Leaders, Ministers and Senior Officials from **APEC's 21 member economies**, the world's largest regional economic group, will take new joint actions to boost trade and growth in the Pacific Rim while ensuring that the benefits are widely felt.

Priority areas of focus include enhancing regional economic integration; fostering micro, small and medium enterprise participation in regional and global markets; investing in human capital development; and building sustainable and resilient communities.

"APEC is not just a trade and investment facilitation forum; it also discusses development issues," explained Ambassador Laura Q. Del Rosario, Philippine Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs and Chair of the 2015 APEC Senior Officials. "The trade and investment aspects of our economy underpin our economic development but we all recognize that we promote a development agenda as well." (*Editor's note: Ambassador Del Rosario is a Paulinian, High School 1965*)



"The economy is made up of many moving parts and therefore we cannot just talk about one aspect and say that the other sectors or issues can wait," Ambassador Del Rosario added. "We have to make sure that all the systems are good and that we are really taking care of all the moving parts."

The week will culminate with the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting on 18-19 November to be

guided by President Aquino and provide strategic vision and directives for future collaboration between APEC member economies.

It will be preceded by the APEC Ministerial Meeting co-chaired by Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert F. Del Rosario and Trade and Industry Secretary Gregory L. Domingo on 16-17 November and the APEC Concluding **Senior Officials'** Meeting on 13-14 November to finalize new measures for lifting trade and growth, and deciding the contours of joint policy development and implementation.

APEC member economies together account for about three billion people, half of global trade, 60 per cent of total GDP and much of the world's growth. The region's outlook will be assessed in the **APEC Policy Support Unit's** latest Economic Trends Analysis and Trade Monitoring reports to be unveiled on 16 November, setting the tone for the week's policy discussions.

The business community also has a seat at the table—the region's Leaders will meet with representatives of the **APEC Business Advisory Council**, led by 2015 Chair Doris Magsaysay-Ho, on 18 November to discuss their policy recommendations. The 2015 APEC CEO Summit, an open dialogue held in conjunction with the APEC Economic Leaders' Week and organized by the private sector featuring the region's Leaders and business heads, will meanwhile take place on 16-18 November. The APEC Small and Medium Enterprise Summit will also be held on 17 November to address opportunities and challenges unique to the sector.

"We will know that we are successful in our work when our own people feel the incremental improvement in their lives," noted Ambassador Del Rosario. "We also hope that in the coming years our work for this year and the past years will have answered and will continue to address many questions and concerns, taking into account the movement we have started in pushing for both a trade and investment and a development agenda in APEC."

"APEC members know that the diffusion of new norms and economic policy will promote inclusiveness as well as initiate programs which will have tangible results that will address the everyday concerns of our peoples," she concluded.

PAULINIAN MUSIC ICON INTERVIEWED ON CNN PHILIPPINES



Celeste Legaspi (High School 1966) was interviewed on CNN Philippines by Mitzi Borrromeo in the latter's program, Profiles.

During the interview, Celeste traced her music and drama career to her early days in St. Paul Manila, first with Dr. Felicidad Mendoza, who trained her in the comedia, and later with Fr. James B. Reuter SJ, who directed her in a number of Broadway musicals, notably *Showboat*, which was presented twice by the school.

She also spoke about her father, National Artist Cesar Legaspi, and her early interest in drawing before she got into singing and acting.

Following are some additional data on Celeste from *Wikipedia*:

Celeste Legaspi (born March 18, 1950) is a Filipino singer and actress. Her singles and albums reached gold or platinum status during the 1970s and 1980s. She is the daughter of National Artist for Visual Arts Cesar Legaspi. She spearheaded the Organisasyon ng Pilipinong Mang-aawit (OPM), a group which aimed to promote and propagate Original Pilipino music. She is married to Nonoy Gallardo, one of the premier OPM composers. Celeste started singing during her kindergarten years. Fast forward to 1969, she started singing professionally with The Ambivalent Crowd, earning P25 per performance.

While in college, she appeared in *Showboat* as Magnolia followed by her performance as Nancy in the Philippine presentation of *Oliver!*. But she later confessed that her performance in *Showboat* scared her. "There I was, cracking every night, unable to be heard from the musical accompaniment, with Mama holding on to my sister Diana's hand. As a result I was disillusioned with my singing and with my course then--nursing," Legaspi told in an interview.

Legaspi's career started to reach stratospheric heights upon joining the ASEAN Tour in 1975 followed by a solo concert at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' (CCP) Little Theater where Rolando Tinio, one of the Philippines' literary geniuses, featured her in Filipino translations of popular songs at that time, most of the songs appeared in her Celeste...Popular Songs Vol. 1 album. The album featured Celeste's heartwarming Filipino renditions of Mini Ripperton's *Loving You*, Diana Ross' *Theme from Mahogany*, and *The Lady Is a Tramp*.

The impressive feat was followed by successful dinner-theater presentations in 1977 of *Manila, Manila* which won her an Aliw Award for Best Dinner Theater performance for that year. She also starred in *Doon Po Sa Amin* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 1978, each garnering Best Dinner Theater awards.

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Celeste is the second Paulinian to have been interviewed on CNN Philippines. Some weeks ago, another alumna, Angelina Tan, BS Psychology 1982 graduate turned author in Sydney, Australia, was interviewed on the same network by Claudine Trillo.

ALUMNI GATHERINGS



**High School 1965
Despedida for Elvie Reyes-Sison
Kimpura Restaurant
L-R: Rose Sapugay,
Ella Valencerina, Tessie Ng,
Millie Braganza,
Geepers Pascual,
Elvie Sison, Lahla Laforteza.**

**High School 1982
Birthday of Bunny Hontiveros
HYATT City of Dreams Manila
With Princess Marlene Dauden,
Judith Azarcon, Carol Salceda,
Karla Aranda Barro, Ida Hontiveros,
Blanche Bolo, Angela Luz,
Vicki Limchayseng- Pastoriza,
and Brenda Perez Morales.**



**High School 1969
Café Milano
Georgetown, Washington DC
L-R: Marilyn Abalos, Winnie Abaya,
Patsy Schultz, Maripaz Calero,
and Marylou Atienza**

CONDOLENCES

The Paulinian Family condoles with

- the family of Dario Buenaventura, Security OIC of SPU Manila for many years, who died in his sleep last week.

The faculty and alumnae of the University had a fund-raising for the family of OIC Dario.

- Rowena Cucio-Guevara on the death of her son, Gio.
- the family of Thelma Mauricio, AB '76.
- Carol Salceda (HS' 82) on the demise of her mother.

