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CES Spirit shines amid rains through back-to-back Transformation fora

The CES spirit continued to shine amid rains through back-to-back CES Creative Innovations and Reforms for Committed Leadership and Effectiveness (CiRCLE) fora conducted by the Career Executive Service Board (CESB) last 16 and 28 July 2015 at the Bayleaf Intramuros, Manila and Ating Tahanan, Girl Scouts of the Philippines National Program and Training Center, Baguio City, respectively.

LEVELING UP PHILIPPINE COMPETITIVENESS

Anchored on the yearlong theme: “Transform Tomorrow Today”, the 4th regular forum in Manila focused on

Leveling Up Philippine Competitiveness in the Context of Regional Integration – Smart Regulations for a Healthier Business Environment. CESB Executive Director Maria Anthonette C. Velasco-Allones welcomed the learners with an inspiring message to take the “Wasto at Tuwid na Daan” which has been the battle cry of the current administration.

Undersecretary Nora K. Terrado of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) spoke about global competitiveness and showed current data on the ease of doing business in the Philippines. She noted that while the Philippines has improved in various components of global competitiveness (GC), the country needs to level up in the GC’s other components such as the global innovation index, logistics performance index and the global gender gap report. During the question and answer portion of the forum, she emphasized that there are three things that the government should focus on: (1) reducing over-regulation which hinders ease of doing business, (2) investing in education, and (3) improving the country’s branding.



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The second plenary learning session provided a refresher on environmental regulations relating to businesses. Ms. Eva S. Ocfemia, Assistant Director of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) presented the salient points of environmental laws on businesses. She also provided an update on the accomplishments of the DENR in fast-tracking the processing of the environmental requirements in relation to businesses.

The third and last session with Quezon City Administrator Aldrin Cuña was eagerly received by the learners as the speaker shared a lot of inspiring stories from his experiences in converting key City Government operations from manual to online to mobile modes, such as the processing of business registration applications, in order to effectively address the needs of local businesses.

The learners were highly satisfied with the forum, strongly agreeing that the program objectives were fully achieved. OIC City Director Amada T. Dumagat from DILG Olongapo said that the forum was a good way of acquiring a better perspective on the global competitiveness of the Philippines. According to DepEd Schools Division Superintendent Aniano M.

Ogayan, the topics were well presented and that the forum had a lively discussion.

ANSWERING THE CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION

At the request of the Cordillera Regional Development Council (CRDC) and the Cordillera Association of Regional Executives (CARE), and in keeping with the CES ideals of responsiveness and

In the first plenary session, Mr. Cecilia shared that a valuable leader is one who has the ability to anticipate, embrace, orchestrate, and use change as his or her competitive advantage. In the succeeding session, Mr. Arevalo said that the use of ICT in transforming organizations requires more than just thinking-outside-the-box. He instead encouraged the learners to “think outside the *tabo*,” the Filipino way of rethinking and reframing how things are done within organizations.

A leader’s strong core vision transforms a company according to Ronquillo. He further said that HEDCOR, Inc.’s vision of people and planet over profit is what helped them earn the trust of the community they worked with and gained the loyalty of their employees.



All eyes are on Ernesto O. Cecilia as he talks about how a leader as the Maestro of change can achieve self-mastery in the workplace

collaboration, a special CES CiRCLE Forum was organized in Baguio City.

It featured organizational transformation lessons from Human Resource Management expert Ernesto O. Cecilia, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) consultant Alexander M. Arevalo, and HEDCOR, Inc.’s visionary President and Chief Operating Officer Rene B. Ronquillo.

On the more personal side of transformation are the stories of challenges and change that leaders go through in their professional journey. DOTC Undersecretary (USec.) Anneli R. Lontoc and DOH Director Enrique A. Tayag imparted their experiences and lessons to fellow CESOs and to the CES eligibles. USec. Lontoc openly talked about the lessons of believing in the kindness of man and turning to God in tumultuous times, and Dr. Tayag attributed his

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resilience to having a great mentor and a wonderfully supportive mom.

Attendees found the sessions and the speakers to be helpful and inspiring. TESDA-Benguet Director Angela E. Gabriel said it was a very good learning experience and HLURB-NLR Regional Director Teresita V. Galacgac congratulated the CESB for the conduct of the forum and asked for more similar programs.

This year's series of CES CIRCLE fora is an opportune occasion to discuss urgent and critical issues in order to arrive at a collective output that would propel positive changes for the future of the country. 🌐



A leader embraces change and collaboration. The special session of the CES CIRCLE Forum was convened by Executive Director Maria Anthonette Velasco-Allones (seated 6th from left) with the support of Cordillera Regional Development Council Ex-officio Vice Chairperson Milagros A. Rimando (seated 4th from left). Executive Director Allones is flanked by resource speakers DOTC Undersecretary Anneli R. Lontoc, DOH Director Enrique A. Tayag, and ICT Consultant Alexander M. Arevalo (3rd from right) with the CESOs and CES eligibles of the Cordilleras.

Art in the Workplace

“Art, besides being a form of self-expression of an artist, can be seen as a means of communication, a tool to raise public awareness, or a trigger to bring changes in society.” -Eleanor-Jayne Brown

The Career Executive Service Board (CESB), in partnership with the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), successfully gathered thirty-nine (39) CESOs and Third Level Eligibles in “Art in the Workplace,” the third conduct of the CES Club last July 29, 2015 at the Silangan Hall, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

According to Ms. Carmencita J. Bernardo, CCP Department Manager for Cultural Exchange, “Art in the Workplace” was conceived in 2012 to showcase the artistic excellence of the Filipino artists such as the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and Philippine Madrigal Singers. It is aimed at encouraging public servants in local and national levels to support and promote Philippine art and culture. It also aspires to advocate the vital role that art plays in national and community development. Since its creation, “Art in the Workplace” has already mounted ten (10) presentations for various government agencies such

as the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC).

Atty. Giselle G. Durana, OIC-Director III of CESB, formally opened the program by quoting Linda Naiman, founder of Creativity at Work: “Creativity is a function of leadership. It requires navigating uncharted territories and having the courage to face adversity to bring your vision into fruition.”

Tanghalang Pilipino’s artistic director and a renowned actor, Mr. Fernando Josef, briefly enlightened the audience with a background of the play entitled “*Walang Kukurap*”. According to him, it is a story depicting the effect of political dynasties on the smallest unit of the society: the family. He explained that the play is a product of an intensive community research and portrays reality. It was followed by the presentation of some of the play’s excerpts.

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POURING THEIR HE(ARTS) OUT. “Tanghalang Pilipino” (L) after a deep and fascinating performance of “Walang Kukurap”, and Mr. Ben-Ali B. Decampong of DENR-Lanao del Norte sharing his insights on social change with Ms. Mae Paner a.k.a. Juana Change (R).

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Assistant Secretary Vilma B. Cabrera of the Department of Social Work and Development (DSWD) found the play very realistic and timely. She suggested that the play may be performed in areas with existing political dynasties, and that she is looking forward to inviting *Tanghalang Pilipino* to DSWD. “The performance reminded us that there still are civil servants who aim to correct malpractices in the system and we should strive to do the same,” added Regional Director Julius Caesar V. Sicat of the Department of Science and Technology - CAR.

The second session with Ms. Mae Paner, also known as “Juana Change”, was fondly received by the participants as she shared stories from her experiences as an advertising director and as a political critic. She explained how she used the power of art as a medium in sending powerful messages. Ms. Paner stressed that in order to influence



change, one must have the courage to speak out criticisms with affirmation and creativity. She added that in order to successfully do so, one must be in touch with his/her best self.

“Since advocating changes must be gradual and cannot be done abruptly, I suggest we should start in our grassroots. We should have these kinds of



CESB OIC-Director III, Atty. Giselle G. Durana, congratulates “Tanghalang Pilipino” and their artistic Director Mr. Fernando Josef for an eloquent performance (upper photo) while Ms. Mae Paner a.k.a. Juana Change poses with the CES Club participants and CESB Secretariat after giving a lecture about the importance and influence of art as a tool for social transformation.

Lidasan appointed as NCMF Executive Director




Datu Tahir Sinsuat Lidasan Jr., *CESO III*, was appointed as Executive Director of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) on July 2, 2015. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Director of the Bureau of Legal Affairs and the Bureau of External Relations of the same agency. It was during his tenure at the Bureau of External Relations where he managed and developed the Philippine Halal Industry and represented the country in various Halal global conferences, trainings and fora.

Executive Director Lidasan was active in social advocacies such as promoting and upholding rights and interests of the youth and women sector. He was the Chairperson of the UNICEF Committee on Children in Armed Conflict and, during his senior year in law school, worked as a legal intern at the Child Justice League, Incorporated, a law office based at the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). As a legal intern at the DSWD, he partnered with prominent human rights lawyers in handling cases involving women and children.

He was a member of the team that drafted the law creating the National Youth Commission (NYC), being a legal staff of then-Representative Ranjit Ramos Shahani. He also worked as a human rights volunteer in a non-governmental organization and joined fact-finding teams that brought him to far-flung areas in Zamboanga del Norte and Maguindanao.

He also served as Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Executive Director/Undersecretary of the then-Office on Muslim Affairs (OMA), the agency subsumed by the NCMF. During his stint as NCMF Executive Director, he assisted NCMF Secretary Yasmin Busran-Lao in working for the approval of the agency's Implementing Rules and Regulations, automating the payroll system, providing for the national census of Muslim Filipinos in the country, and in the conduct of the transition of the defunct OMA to a Commission and the absorption of all OMA officials and employees into the NCMF. He chairs the Placement Committee and Personnel Selection Board of the Commission.

He went to the University of the Philippines, College of Law and joined the Office of the President of the Republic of the Philippines during his senior year at the premier law school. He also earned some units in Business Administration at the Ateneo de Manila Graduate School of Business.

He is an active member of the Career Executive Service (CES) community. He was conferred CES Eligibility in January 2009 through CESB Resolution No. 781 and was appointed to CESO Rank III a year later. 

Cuna promoted as DENR Assistant Secretary



On June 25, 2015, Hon. Juan Miguel T. Cuna was appointed as Assistant Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Assistant Secretary Cuna has served the public as a government official for over seventeen years. He was the Director of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the same agency prior to his current assignment. His dedication to the conservation and development of the country's environment and natural resources is manifested through his numerous distinctions and recognitions during his stint in DENR.

He has received several commendations for his outstanding service within the DENR. He has been recognized for being part of successful movements which would help further achieve the mission of the Department, such as the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET). In 2006, he was commended by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry for his efforts in fostering partnership, transparency, and cooperation between DENR and Industries & Development.

2 gov't execs in N. Mindanao promoted to CESO Rank



ARACELI F. SOLAMILLO



ROSA H. LACANGLACANG

On July 2, 2015, Director Araceli F. Solamillo of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)-Region X and Director Rosa H. Lacanglacang of the Parole and Probation Administration (PPA)-Region X were promoted by the Office of the President to Career Executive Service Officer (CESO) Ranks II and IV, respectively.

Director Solamillo started working at the DSWD on July 1, 1973 as a Social Worker under temporary status. She held various positions before she was appointed as Director III on July 7, 2003 and later on promoted to Director IV on March 9, 2004.

She obtained a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the Western Mindanao State University (WMSU) in 1973 where she also finished her Bachelor of Laws in 1991. She passed the Bar examinations that same year. In 1994, she completed the academic requirements for a Master's degree in Social Work at the WMSU.

She was conferred CES eligibility through CESB Resolution No. 230 on July 7, 1999. On April 23, 2008, she was appointed to CESO Rank VI through CESB Resolution No. 453 s. 2002. On October 23, 2008, she was promoted to CESO Rank V and on June 15, 2009, her rank was accordingly adjusted to CESO Rank III - the rank commensurate to her Director IV position.


She has been with DSWD-Region X since 2007. She has introduced various projects and programs in order to effectively and efficiently deliver goods and services to the people. She spearheaded the formulation of a strategy to promote excellent compliance with the conditions of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) among its beneficiaries. With this innovation, DSWD-Region X received

various awards, topping all other regions in the country in the Compliance, Verification System, Grievance Redress System Resolution, Family Development Session Compliance, among others.

Meanwhile, Director Lacanglacang has almost four (4) decades of government service behind her, starting off as a Welfare Aide at the DSWD on April 1, 1977. She was promoted to Social Welfare II on January 2, 1979 until her transfer to the PPA on October 1, 1986 as a Probation Inspector. She held various positions in the agency prior to her appointment as Director I on September 10, 2003. She was promoted to Director II on October 25, 2006. She spent most of her government career at PPA-Region X.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work at the Misamis University (MU) in 1975. In 1983, she obtained her second degree (Bachelor of Science in Business Administration) from the St. Peter's College in Iligan City. In 1985, she took up Bachelor of Laws at MU and graduated in 1989. She returned to MU in 1994 and completed her Master's degree in Public Administration in 1996.

She was conferred CES eligibility on August 13, 2002 through CESB Resolution No. 440. She was appointed to CESO Rank VI on November 22, 2004 based on her previous position (Director I). Following her promotion to Director II position, her rank was adjusted to CESO Rank V on March 17, 2009.

DOJ Secretary Leila M. De Lima has cited her long and remarkable service in the PPA that speaks volume of her dedication and commitment to the service. Secretary De Lima has affirmed that she has undoubtedly upheld the high standards of professionalism in the Civil Service. True to being a CESO, she has shown dedication to her work as a public servant. Secretary De Lima added that the faith that the DOJ places upon her reflects her competence and qualifications for promotion to a CESO rank. 

CES community mourns the demise of DA Director Sta. Catalina

It is a time of mourning for the Career Executive Service as Director Marilyn V. Sta. Catalina, CESO IV, of the Department of Agriculture (DA), joined our Creator last July 17, 2015. She was 56.

Director Sta. Catalina was born in Daet, Camarines Norte. She started her career in DA in 1981 as a Cooperative Examiner and worked her way up until she was appointed as Regional Technical Director in DA Regional Field Unit V in 2008. In 2012, she was appointed as Regional Director of the DA Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

Director Sta. Catalina obtained a Master's degree in Agricultural Business Management from the University of the Philippines in 1988 and completed her Bachelor of Laws from the University of Nueva Caceres in 2011. She was conferred CES Eligibility on June 14, 2011 through CES Board Resolution No. 945 and was appointed to CESO Rank IV in 2012 by President Benigno Aquino III.

The CESB extends its sincerest sympathies to the family and friends of Director Sta. Catalina and prays for the eternal repose of her soul, as well as strength for her family in this time of great loss. 🌐

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Starting his career in the government service in 1995 as a Local Legislative Staff Officer at the City of Manila, Assistant Secretary Cuna briefly served as Legal Officer and Director IV at the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office in Malacañang before being elected as a city councilor in the 5th District of Manila. In 2008, he started his stint in DENR as Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer and was designated as OIC-Assistant Secretary for Legal Services. In September 2010, he was appointed as Director III, and after only three years, he was promoted to Director IV.

A graduate of Development Studies at the University of the Philippines-Manila in 1990, he finished his Bachelor of Laws from the Arellano Law Foundation in 1996 and was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1997. In 2015, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Policy in National University of Singapore accredited his graduate study to a Master's degree in Public Management.

Assistant Secretary Cuna was conferred the CES Eligibility in 2009 through CESB Resolution No. 926. He was appointed to CESO Rank IV in 2012 by President Benigno Aquino III. 🌐



CESB Training Calendar



PROGRAM	DATE	VENUE
Project Hope "Paglaum"	August 3-5	Tuguegarao City, Cagayan
Fellowship Lunch and Learning Sessions with CES-HRMD	August 7	Manila
CES CIRCLE Forum	August 27	Koronadal, South Cotabato

2015 CES WRITTEN EXAM

DATE OF EXAM	TESTING CENTER	DEADLINE FOR FILING
SEPTEMBER 6 (Sunday)	Quezon City, Cebu, Davao	August 6
DECEMBER 6 (Sunday)	Quezon City, Cebu, Davao	November 5

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talks in the educational level as they may help contribute to the change we are aiming for our society," said Mr. Ben-Ali B. Decampong, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) - Lanao del Norte.

It would be easy for some people to dismiss art as unnecessary and a waste of money and resources. But art is a vital tool for social development. Art exposes and helps resolve issues of social justice. And for the participants of this CES Club session, art inspired them to action. 🌐



**CONFERRED THROUGH
RESOLUTION NO. 1230
JULY 8, 2015**

NEW CES ELIGIBLES

CAJULIS, NORMA B.

Economic Zone Administrator
Cavite Economic Zone
Rosario, Cavite

DIA, CAYAMOMBAO D.

Engineer V
Planning and Design Division
Department of Public Works and
Highways

EGSAEN, SAMUEL JR. T.

Elementary School Principal III
Elpidio Quirino Elementary School
Department of Education
Division of Baguio City

ESTALILLA, DORIS D. J.

Education Program Supervisor/ OIC,
Assistant Schools Division
Superintendent
Department of Education
Division of Antipolo City

GUMABOL, FREDERICK C.

Local Government Operations
Officer V
Department of the Interior and Local
Government
Province of Oriental Mindoro

LITA, RYAN S.

Attorney V
Legal Service
Department of Budget and
Management

MACARAEG, EMMANUEL C.

Board Secretary V/ Concurrent
Director of Operations Planning and
Development
Bataan Peninsula State University

MORALES, MILAGROS C.

Chief Aquatic Resources Development
Specialist/ OIC – Assistant Regional
Director
BFAR Regional Fisheries Training
Center
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic
Resources

MUSA, MABEL F.

School Principal II/ Division
Coordinator in Filipino
Department of Education
Division of Oriental Mindoro

OBIEN, WILFREDO J.

Staff Director/Acting Director III,
Office of the Undersecretary for
Administrative and Information
Systems
Department of Environment and
Natural Resources

PETEZA, JOSE MARIA E.

Department Manager III with a rank
of Assistant Vice President
Development Bank of the Philippines
Lipa City Branch

QUIÑONES, DENNIS S.

Local Government Operations
Officer VI/ OIC, Provincial Director
Department of the Interior and Local
Government

QUINTO, CZAR K.

Municipal Health Officer I
Municipality of Balete Rural
Health Unit
Balete, Batangas

SISON, VIRGILIO P.

Local Government Operations
Officer VI
Department of the Interior and Local
Government
San Carlos City, Pangasinan

TOBIAS, JOSE B.

Engineer V
Department of Public Works and
Highways
Tuguegarao City

VELOSO, JEAN G.

Acting Assistant Schools Division
Superintendent
Department of Education
Division of Misamis Oriental

**PROMOTION IN RANK
DATED JULY 2, 2015**

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROSA H. LACANGLACANG, CESO IV
Regional Director (Director II)
Parole and Probation Administration
PPA – DOJ Region X

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
AND DEVELOPMENT**

ARACELI F. SOLAMILLO, CESO II
Regional Director (Director IV)
Region X