

WELCOME REMARKS

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Director General

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- *Excellencies, Members of the CPSC Governing Board and diplomatic corps;*
- *Dr. Mona Valisno;*
- *Mr. Rajat Nag;*
- *Dr. Rupert Maclean;*
- *Dr. Harry Stolte,*
- *Other distinguished Guests and Symposium Delegates;*
- *Ladies and Gentlemen;*

MABUHAY! Good Morning.

It is my immense pleasure to welcome you all to this International Symposium on Public-Private Partnership in TVET: Challenges, Opportunities and Best Practices.

Let me start by thanking all of you for coming here today to inaugurate our 2-day activity and share in achieving our key objective to examine existing partnerships between public and the private sector in education, with focus on TVET.

I also would like to thank our co-organizers for this symposium, the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre in TVET represented by Dr. Rupert Maclean, Director; and InWEnt, represented by Dr. Harry Stolte which have both given their generous support and cooperation to make this international gathering possible.

We have delegates from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, China and representatives from government and non-government institutions, academe and international organizations from the host country, the Philippines.

We have distinguished speakers and session chairs from UNEVOC, UNESCO-APNIEVE China, European Training Foundation, Asian Development Bank, Asian Development Bank Institute, Colombo Plan Secretariat, Department of Education of the Philippines, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Korea, Valencia University of Technology of Spain, SEAMEO-INNOTECH, PETRONAS of Malaysia, University of Technology of Japan and University of Moratuwa of Sri Lanka, Gokongwei Brothers Foundation, University of the Philippines and representatives from CPSC member countries.

We are honored to have the presence of distinguished Ambassadors and Representatives of CPSC member and non member countries from Bangladesh, India, Iran, Rep. of Korea, (MALAYSIA), Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Laos.

As we discuss experiences and best practices, we are lucky to hear experiences in PPP from Latin America, Europe and Asia and the Pacific regions in the next two days.

This international symposium is an offshoot of the initiative started as early as January of this year. The 2008 Manila Declaration on Skill Development for Poverty Alleviation puts forward a 12-point strategy for action which focuses on capacity building.

One of these strategies is Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Here, one of the recommendations was to:

“Advocate strategic public-private-community partnership (PPCP) models at national and local levels to address specific programs.”

Taking the cue from this, CPSC, in cooperation with UNEVOC and INWENT seek to draw the focus on reviewing the challenges, opportunities and best practices that can be shared among all stakeholders to build on new strategies and learn lessons from.

There are two questions which we hope to be enlightened with in the coming two days:

- 1. How can public education be managed privately? and***
- 2. How can private education be accessed publicly?***

The concept of PPP is a pro-active development of the relationship between the private sector and public institutions.

It is important to note that all relationships require a little of give and take. A culture of trust and sound risk taking is essential; ultimately, it should give mutually beneficial return for both sectors or entities, with a very wonderful opportunity to exercise SYNERGY.

Public-private partnership stimulates Ownership and enhances Resources and allows the sharing of Risks. These are important reasons why this framework is very much factored in the many segments of human resources development, especially in TVET.

We want to share experiences in PPP, study different models, learn from each success and failure and draw emerging best practices.

We are lucky to have in the next two days heads and representatives of both the public and private institutions and organizations to stimulate discussions and crystallize ideas arising from the discussion.

By the end of the Symposium, we hope to gain learned lessons to build on future strength and partnership prospects.

We are also intending to have a follow up declaration that is specific to PPP in TVET, to set the general future directions we will take.

We are grateful to UNEVOC and InWEnt to co-sponsor this event.

Once again, let me welcome all of you, Guests, Speakers, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome to Manila, Philippines! Welcome to a very interesting 2 days ahead!

Let us join hands in Planning Prosperity Together!

MABUHAY!