



TAX MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.



FOR PRESS RELEASE:

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TMAP TO PUSH FOR TAX REFORMS AT THE DAVAO CONSULTATIVE BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The Tax Management Association of the Philippines (TMAP) will be attending the consultative business conference on June 20 to 21, 2016 in Davao. TMAP would like to thank Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and the economic team of President-Elect Rodrigo Duterte for inviting the association to the conference.

TMAP would take advantage of this very important opportunity to discuss and recommend various tax reform proposals, which are geared towards the following objectives:

1. Remedy over-taxation resulting from inflation;
2. Adjustment of tax rates for regional and global competitiveness;
3. Adoption of a fair and just tax system that protects and uphold taxpayers rights;
4. Simplification of the tax system to promote tax compliance and broaden the tax base;
5. Remove or at least lessen graft and corruption;
6. Plug tax leaks in the current system; and
7. Customer-friendly and service-oriented tax collection agencies.

While some of the tax reform proposals would require congress to enact laws, there are much needed administrative reforms that the incoming DOF and BIR chiefs can implement at their level. TMAP will be recommending the withdrawal, reversal or amendment of a number of administrative issuances (Revenue Regulations, Revenue Memorandum Orders, Revenue Memorandum Circulars, and rulings) which are no longer consistent with the tax code provisions, unreasonable or difficult to comply, or would tend to over-regulate taxpayers. We will take the opportunity to call the attention of the next administration to the barrage of last minute revenue circulars recently issued by the BIR, less than 30 days prior to the start of the new administration. The commissioner should have exercised restraint as a courtesy to the next administration.

We commend President-Elect Duterte's team for convening the consultative conference even before the start of the term of the new administration. The consultation meeting with the business sector and stakeholders is in stark contrast to the practice of the current BIR Commissioner of releasing revenue issuances without conducting consultation meetings or public hearings with the taxpayers and practitioners.

TMAP President Benedict Tugonon, together with some of the past presidents of the association will be attending the conference and will gladly share their observations on the current tax system and their views and comments on the various tax reform proposals floated by various proponents.