



PRESS RELEASE

Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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Date Released: 10 March 2017

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DND forms Advisory Council for Defense Transformation

Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City - To guide and help assess the implementation of various programs under the Philippine Defense Transformation Roadmap (PDTR) 2028, the Department of National Defense (DND) formed the DND Multi-Sector Advisory Council (MSAC).

Nine MSAC members took their oath on 9 March 2017 before senior defense officials, after which they held their organizational meeting. Albay 2nd District Representative **Joey Salceda** was elected Chairperson of the council. The other prominent members of the council are former AFP Chief of Staff Gen. **Alexander B. Yano**, Atty. **Alexander L. Lacson** of the Institute for Solidarity in Asia, Mr. **Antonino T. Aquino**, Mr. **Sergio R. Ortiz-Luis, Jr.** and Ms. **Marife B. Zamora** from the business sector, Atty. **Antonio G.M. La Viña** of the Manila Observatory, UP President Atty. **Danilo L. Concepcion**, and Bai **Rohaniza Sumndad-Usman** representing the youth.

Cognizant that transformation will not be possible without stakeholders' involvement and participation, Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana said, "**We need partners from various sectors of society to ensure that our strategies are responsive to the needs of our constituents – the Filipino people. While the MSAC is an independent body, we are confident that the esteemed members of the council will advance our transformation agenda in their respective spheres of influence.**"

The MSAC members expressed their gratefulness for being part of the Department's transformation journey. They manifested that the Council will guide and ensure the implementation of the DND's strategic objectives for Milestone 2022.

The PDTR 2028 is the DND's strategic and organizational development plan to attain a credible defense posture for national security and stability, peace, and economic development by the year 2028. Its core approaches seek to build total defense force capability, improve civil defense preparedness, develop self-reliant defense posture, and optimize international defense partnerships.

"We are very optimistic that with the full support of our DND-MSAC partners, our One Defense Team will be able to achieve its vision of becoming a more credible defense organization that ensures Philippine security, sovereignty and territorial integrity, a reliable partner in national development, and a strategic player in the Asia Pacific Region," Secretary Lorenzana said. ###