Experiences in Coordination and Stakeholder Consultation

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APEC Capacity Building Workshop on RTA/FTA Negotiation Skills on Transparency

Session 3: Experiences in Coordination and Stakeholder Consultation

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Presentation Outline

I. Mandate for Stakeholders
   Consultations and Coordination

II. DTI-BITR’s Stakeholders

III. DTI’s consultative mechanism (OCOV)

IV. Use of Social Media Platforms

V. DTI-BITR’s Participation in other Advocacy Sessions

VI. Key Outputs of Consultations
Executive Order No. 133 s. 1987 (Reorganizing the DTI, its Attached Agencies and for Other Purposes)

“BITR shall coordinate with other Departments and agencies of the Philippine government with the view of assuring consistency in the government’s positions in trade negotiations and on other activities pertaining to foreign trade relations; consult with industry groups and provide technical advice and information on the above matters and activities”
Administrative Order No. 20, s. 2011 (Reorganizing and Renaming the Philippine Council on ASEAN and APEC Cooperation into the Philippine Council for Regional Cooperation)

“Each Technical Board shall, whenever necessary, consult with stakeholders such as the academe, civil society organizations and business sectors on important and strategic issues relevant to their respective regional or inter-regional organization”
Stakeholder Consultations in 2021 by the Number

INTER-AGENCY MEETINGS
1. Committee on ASEAN Economic Community
2. Inter-agency Committee on Trade in Goods
4. Philippine Working Group on Services
5. Inter-agency Committee on E-Commerce

BUSINESS AND STAKEHOLDER BRIEFINGS
1. RCEP Briefing to Senate, House of Representatives, & Stakeholders

68
Inter-agency meetings convened

18
Business and Stakeholder Briefings
Who are our stakeholders?

1. Government agencies (Public Sector)
2. Business Sector
3. Civil Society Organizations
4. Academe
Some considerations in identifying the proper stakeholders:
1. Required/Mandated stakeholders in laws, rules, and regulations
2. Relevance of the topic / issue to the stakeholder
3. Level of representation needed in the consultation

Some considerations in mounting the consultation:
1. Level of consultations: High level, Senior official level, technical level
2. Type or Mode of consultations: Request for Inputs, Meeting, Forum, Focus Group Discussion, etc.
3. Frequency of consultations
DTI’s consultative mechanism (OCOV)

DTI’s consultative mechanism launched in 2011 to allow stakeholder participation in trade policy formulation.

✓ Facilitates transparency and accountability
✓ Builds mutual trust
✓ Arrive at rational, sound, and balanced trade policies in pursuit of domestic development.
Recent events under OCOV:
• **International Trade Forum:** Benefits of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to the Philippines, 22 September 2021

• **Forum on International Trade:** Seizing Opportunities Amidst the challenges of International Trade, 04 December 2019
Committee for the ASEAN Economic Community

Responsible for facilitating inter-agency coordinating in the formulation and implementation of policies related to Philippine engagements under the AEC and its sectoral ministerial bodies.

High-level consultation body represented by undersecretaries of 16 different government agencies.

Also composed of sub-committees attended by technical-level experts such as:

✓ Trade in Goods (Inter-Agency Consultation on Trade in Goods)
✓ Trade in Services (Philippine Working Group on Services)
✓ E-Commerce (Inter-Agency Consultation on E-Commerce)
Other Advocacy Sessions and Business Briefings

1. **Doing Business in Free Trade Areas.** A massive information session on the economy's current FTA engagements that cover discussions on market opportunities, tariff reductions, rules of origin and customs procedures. The program is designed to encourage the international business community that doing business in the Philippines is a lucrative option.

2. **Briefings with Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.** PCCI is the voice of Philippine business recognized by government and international institutions. As a proactive catalyst of development, PCCI promotes and supports the drive for globally competitive Philippine enterprises in partnership with government, local chambers, and other business organizations.
3. Briefings with Philippine Exporters Confederation. The Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (PHILEXPORT) is the umbrella organization of Philippine exporters accredited under the Export Development Act (EDA) of 1994. It is a non-stock, non-profit private organization born out of the unification of the Philippine Exporters Foundation and the Confederation of Philippine Exporters last August 1992. It is mandated to strengthen the economy’s export industry through its export promotion and development programs.

4. Briefings with various Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). Our organization also conducts standalone briefings and consultations with interest groups represented by various civil society organizations (CSOs). This includes interests groups from agriculture, labour, competition, trade, and rural development among others.
Use of Social Media Platforms

Given the advancement on technology and demand on social media platforms, DTI-BITR also took the opportunity to use various platforms (e.g. DTI Website, Facebook, Twitter) to reach stakeholders.
Key Outputs of Stakeholders Consultations

➢ Position Papers
➢ Recommendations on economy positions
➢ Updates on industry situation, status of sectors
➢ Priorities of stakeholders
➢ Informed stakeholders
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