

ORIENTATION

LINDY C. MORRELL

It is with profound pleasure that we greet the guest speakers and participants in this inter-regional dialogue between three regions that are facing crisis situations.

We are very happy that the executive officers of the two Lupong Tagapagpaganap for Regions IX and XII, Ulbert Ulama Tugung and Simeon Datumanong, have spared us some of their precious time and attention to share with us their enriching experiences and insights in administering their respective autonomous regions.

We are also very happy that the officers and members of the Philippine Political Science Association have honored us with their participation in this timely dialogue.

We also wish to thank the UP College of Public Administration for their support through Alex Brilliantes Jr. We note with pleasure that the local members of the Philippine Association for Government Budget Administration (PAGBA) are also active participators in the regional development scenario.

Finally, we acknowledge with greatest joy the presence of members of the Regional Development Council of Region VIII, Eastern Visayas, especially the members of the Educational Council for Region Eight (EDCORE), the technical arm of the RDC in the education subsector.

We also wish to acknowledge the support and participation of local government officials and the private sector, with special mention to Jimmy Yao Ka Sin and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industries in this significant forum.

This forum seeks to give information to the people in Eastern Visayas – the rationale, essence and intricacies of the autonomous regions. These regional administrative/legislative units are blazing a new trail in political science and governmental management.

This forum also seeks to give information to our friends and brothers in the Mindanao and Sulu regions. We wish to share our

experiences in crisis management and the helpful mechanisms we evolved in bringing about a closer relationship between the RDC, the IBP, the local governments and the private sector.

With our concerted efforts and this magnificent gathering of resource managers and regional decision-makers we feel that this forum is a momentous occasion by itself and can produce a significant output for public policy formulation.

With God's help we shall deliver the expected output.

We thank one and all who have contributed to make this forum a success.