

**DENR HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP
ON PROMOTING CARBON MARKETS AND INCENTIVES
ON CARBON EMISSION REDUCTION**



A gesture of gratitude and agreement as the UNFCCC Secretariat, Andrew Howard (left) and DENR Undersecretary for Environment and International Environmental Affairs, Atty. Jonas R. Leones (right) acknowledge each other on the first day of the workshop.

In support of the continually increasing concern on climate change issues, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), co – organized the Asia and the Pacific Regional Workshop which was hosted by the Philippines through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Held at the Multi – Function Hall, ADB Headquarters, 6 ADB Ave, Mandaluyong City on September 29 – 30, 2015, the two- day workshop entitled “Promoting the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the Market Mechanisms for Pre and Post- 2020” is the sixth of the initiative that started five years ago which aimed for enhancement the regional distribution of CDM projects.

Focused on the possible opportunities for Asia and the Pacific countries to develop along a low – carbon, resilient pathway, and the tools that are already available to be put into use in the long term (2020), while consequently contributing for short term (pre 2020), the workshop brought together participants from CDM designated national authorities (DNAs), national focal points (NFPs), government representatives, experts, and other stakeholders.

DENR Undersecretary for Environment and International Environmental Affairs, Atty. Jonas R. Leones welcomed the participants and extended his eagerness and delight to host the said event. He also mentioned the aptness of the workshop in light of the ongoing negotiations for the Paris Climate Convention.



DENR Undersecretary Jonas R. Leones as he promises to showcase Filipino hospitality for the duration of the workshop, on his welcome message at the ADB.

“In comparison to the previous proceedings held in 2012 and 2013, this event is “special” as it comes at a time when negotiations under the climate convention are at a critical point where parties resolve to concur on a new global climate change agreement this coming December in Paris.”, Leones said in his welcome remarks.

Participants were briefed on the updates on improving actions to increase mitigation ambitions as well as updates on the on-going negotiations for the upcoming Paris Climate Convention. Discussions on Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) also played an integral part on the workshop as participants explore the possible role of markets of Asia and the Pacific on the context on INDCs. Progress, experiences and challenges on the preparation and submission of INDCs of the different Asia and the Pacific countries were also discussed in order to expound on the regional ambitions. The first day of the workshop made the participants discuss probable contributions of market mechanisms and CDM in increasing the INDC ambitions, and their role for the post-2020 mitigation actions. Moreover, utilization of the CDM as an MRV tool, practices, pros and consequences of tax incentives, and the benefits, trends, and examples of results -based finance were also tackled on the same day.

It was also an opportune moment for the Philippines to be able to discuss methodologies on “incentivizing” post - 2020 ambitions through the INDCs, and share incentive schemes and co – benefits in the country through the presentation of Mr. Albert A. Magalang, chief of the



Mr Albert A. Magalang (leftmost) as he takes lead on an invigorating and productive discussion on “incentivizing” post – 2020 ambitions through INDCs along with other speakers from Asia, EU, Eastern EU, and the Pacific Islands.

Environmental Management Bureau – Climate Change Division and the DNA secretariat of the Philippines. Moreover, Mr. Magalang also mentioned the post – 2020 challenges faced by markets and the need to develop new markets/approach in the new climate regime.

“It is of great significance that Paris agreement should allow incentives and international transfers to help countries implement their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and establish a common accounting and other measures.”, Magalang implied in line with moving markets forward.

The second day was spent mainly to determine the possible use of policy instruments such as emission trading schemes and other regulatory approaches to further effective mitigation in the region. In addition, to add support on the potential mitigation of Asia and the Pacific countries, funding and finance opportunities like the Green Climate Fund were discussed along with Carbon Emission Reduction purchasing programs. The highlight, however, was the breakout group session into four groups which is intended to further the climate regime (with particular focus to Asia and the Pacific) through the use of CDM and market mechanisms. In unison, participants from different groups agreed that CDM with its associated tools are to be utilized as influence for private sector to support and further ambitions of Asia and the Pacific countries. It was also concluded that aligning the tools, capacities and support for the needs of the region is crucial in a robust and effective mitigation action. It was hoped that that the outcome of the workshop be echoed to the upcoming negotiations for the Paris Climate Convention in December 2015.



Participants and Speakers from Asia, EU, the Pacific Islands and Eastern Europe