

CACAO IS GOLD

CONGRESS SECRETARIAT
Department of Trade and Industry
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Contact: Rachel Ann Tero/Marius Joy Corona



October 10, 2022

HONORABLE LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV

Regional Executive Director – Region IV B
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
DENR by the Bay 1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Manila

Dear Regional Director Claudio:

The Philippine Cacao Industry Association, Inc. (PCIA, Inc.) in partnership with the Philippine Cacao Industry Council (PCIC), the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Department of Interior and Local Governments (DILG) is organizing the National Cacao Congress on November 24- 25, 2022 at the SMX Convention Center, Davao City.

We are happy to share that DILG, as one of our partners issued Memorandum Circular 2022-129 authorizing the LGUs to attend the National Cacao Congress on November 24-25, 2022 and authorizing them to charge their expenses to their respective local government funds. (Please see enclosed a copy of DILG Memorandum Circular 2022-129). Enclosed is a copy of the National Cacao Congress tentative program and registration form.

The PCIC /PCIA would like to invite your office to attend the congress. We are aware if the fact that the Enhanced National Greening Program has been promoting the planting of cacao in your areas.

Relevant to this, may we request your office to invite the Provincial and Municipal Agriculturist Officers of the LGUs with whom you work closely in your area to attend the congress. Please organize them as delegations of PAOs and MAOs to join the Congress so that they too can encourage their constituents to engage in cacao production and processing using the DILG Mandanas-Garcia funds, the coco levy cacao intercrop funds or Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) funds, Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) etc.

By attending the congress, your officers and staff. Together with their cacao producers will understand how big the market is and what soils are suitable for planting cacao in their respective locales and learn the cacao production technologies. International cacao experts will share the latest cacao global and Asian markets and technologies. The PCIA and the PCIC will share the harmonized technologies and best practices on cacao production. Cacao production and chocolate making are good livelihood programs you can share with your constituents.

Registration fee is P5,000 per person, early bird registration P4,500 (Payment before October 31, 2022) excluding airfares and hotel. CONTACT: Rachel Ann F. Tero/Marius Joy Corona to register & cacao booth for the Exhibition 0945-541-1501 (Globe)/0969-054-0544 (Smart)/ 0976-247-1874 (Globe-GOMO) email: cacaocongress2022@gmail.com.

Thank you. Looking forward to hearing from you soon and looking forward to seeing you and your delegations during the National Cacao Congress & Cacao/ Chocolate Exhibition that will be held on November 24-25, 2022, at the SMEX Convention Center, Davao City.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Armi Lopez-Garcia', written over the printed name.

Consul Armi Lopez-Garcia
Chairperson, PCIC
President, PCIA, Inc.

Enclosures:

1. *Tentative Program: National Cacao Congress, November 24-25, 2022*
2. *DILG 2022-129 Memo Circular authorizing LGUs to attend the National Cacao Congress*
3. *National Cacao Congress Registration Form*