

July 11, 2023



Lormelyn E. Claudio

Regional Director

Department of Environment and Natural Resources – MIMAROPA

DENR by the Bay, Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila

Dear Director Claudio:

The Philippine Nickel Industry Association (PNIA) is pleased to invite you to the Nickel Initiative (NI) 2023 Business Conference which will be held on August 29, 2023 (Tuesday), from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Makati Diamond Residences in Makati City.

Envisioning a nickel industry that is globally competitive and a responsible driver of inclusive growth, PNIA commits to partner with the government in finding ways to strengthen the role of the nickel industry in improving the lives of more Filipinos. We are convening the NI 2023 Business Conference as a convergence point after conducting a series of NI Roundtable Discussions from March to May this year. These efforts are in support of the government's call to accelerate the growth of the mining sector while ensuring sustainable environment practices and promoting shared responsibility among industry players.

Specifically, through this event, we hope to contribute towards 1) enticing increased investments in the nickel industry particularly in nickel mining and value-add processing, 2) strengthening environment protection and rehabilitation, and 3) maximizing local communities' benefits from mining in order that they may become more self-reliant even after mine life.

Guided by the NI's overall theme of "Shaping tomorrow, together", this year's business conference will focus on discussing recommendations in achieving public and private sectors' mutual goals in accelerating nickel industry growth. Proposed actions and next steps were forwarded during the three NI Stakeholder Roundtable sessions that we held. By the end of the conference, we hope to have further discussed how these recommendations could be realized and help achieve desired results.

Policymakers, industry and business associations, mining companies, foreign missions and development agencies, and members of the academia are invited to contribute to this dialogue. Attached is the indicative conference program.

Our team will reach out to you for your feedback to our invitation. Ms. Bang Oyzon of the NI 2023 Secretariat (+63998-4058149; ni2023secretariat@pnia.org.ph) can be contacted to address your queries, if any.

Thank you in advance for your support. We are confident that together, we can shape a bright and responsible future for the the Philippine nickel industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dante R. Bravo", is written over the typed name.

Atty. Dante R. Bravo
President



August 29, 2023, Tuesday | Makati Diamond Residences

INDICATIVE PROGRAM

8:00 am	Registration
8:30 am	Opening Ceremonies
8:50 am	<u>Welcome Remarks</u> Accelerating Philippine Nickel Industry Growth Atty. Dante R. Bravo <i>PNIA President</i>
9:10 am	<u>Keynote Message</u> Shared Responsibility: The Path towards Nickel Mining Competitiveness, Development, and Sustainability Secretary Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga, <i>Department of Environment and Natural Resources (invited)</i>
9:30 am	<u>Plenary Session</u> Enabling Competitiveness and Stability to Entice Investment in the Nickel Industry: A Whole of Government Approach
11:40 am	<u>MOA Signing Ceremony</u> Partnership on Industry Policy Reforms and Roadmap
11:50 am	Lunch
1:15 pm	<u>Panel Discussion 1</u> Nickel Processing: Moving Forward to Maximize Possibilities
2:20 pm	<u>Panel Discussion 2</u> Reforestation and Environment Rehabilitation: Learning from On-Ground Experiences and Addressing Gaps
3:25 pm	<u>Panel Discussion 3</u> Towards Resilient and Self-Reliant Mining Communities: Maximizing the SDMP to Achieve Development Goals
4:30 pm	<u>Closing Plenary Presentation and Reaction</u> Enticing Investments into the Philippine Nickel Industry: Critical Action Points and Next Steps
4:50 pm	Closing Remarks