

Headline: NEDA XI presents Davao Region's Development Thrusts and Directions during the Singapore Business Mission

(Davao City, 2 August 2017). Maria Lourdes D. Lim, Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) XI and concurrent Vice-Chairperson of the Regional Development Council (RDC) XI, presented Davao Region's Development Thrusts and Directions during the Singapore Business Federation (SBF) Mission in Davao City.

The SBF is the organization that represents Singapore's business community in bilateral, regional multilateral settings for the purpose of trade expansion, investments and networking. A team composed of 20 Singaporean business leaders, is on a four-day business mission to the *Philippines: Manila and Davao City from August 1 - 4,*



2017. The mission aims to equip participants with a better understanding of the business climate and investment opportunities in the Philippines, particularly in Davao City.

Mr. Thian Tai Chew, Assistant Executive Director of SBF hands over the certificate of appreciation to NEDA XI Director Lim. Also in the photo are Capt. Ronald Go (left), DCCCII President and Mr. Antonio dela Cruz, DCCCII Chairman of the Board.

The Davao City leg of the mission was organized by the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (DCCCII) on August 2, 2017 in Davao City.

Director Lim, in her presentation, highlighted Davao Region's vision to lay the foundation for inclusive growth, a high-trust society and a globally competitive knowledge economy as stipulated in the Davao Regional Development Plan (DRDP), 2017-2022.

"Davao Region adopted a spatial strategy of national dispersion through regional agglomeration as espoused in the National Spatial Strategy (NSS). The key is to strengthen regional development by directing growth to key centers throughout the country that serve as drivers of economic growth," Director Lim said. She said that the idea is to decongest Metro Manila and develop regional and sub-regional centers; improve linkages among settlements and key production areas by connecting rural areas to growth centers; and reducing risks of communities to the threats of disasters.

Director Lim also highlighted the Region's objectives of creating a more vibrant economy and a business-friendly environment through agro-industrial development, massive investments in logistics and infrastructure, improving the business support environment and reducing the cost of business, capacitating the Region's human resource pool to support the industries, and promoting technology adoption among the priority industries.

Other resource persons during the event were Director Belenda Q. Ambi of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) XI, Mr. Gil Dureza of the Board of Investments (BOI)-Mindanao, Mr. Lemuel G. Ortonio of the Davao City Investment and Promotions Center (DCIPC), and Ms. Heidi Villanueva of the Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA).