



MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR

As 2009 comes to a close, it is always good to look back and see how the year has been for us. All in all, it has been a challenging year – one that tested our mettle – and we emerged from it, stronger than ever.

The global economic downturn, the tragedies brought by nature and people with malicious intent – none of these could break our spirit as a people. Through it all, not only did we keep doing our jobs; we also went the extra mile to help our clients deal with the difficulties wrought by these turns of events.

The calamitous typhoons that devastated various parts of our country also gave us precious and timely lessons about caring for the environment, about preparedness, about the virtue of sharing. They have made life difficult for some of our countrymen this year, but it was heartwarming to see our people rising to the occasion and making things better. I am proud to see our DTI family help typhoon victims through contributions in cash and kind.

With your help, and through your commitment to continue to create and sustain an environment that will allow businesses to compete and grow, the Philippines is on its way to becoming a premier investment destination.

Join me, then, in thanking God for all the blessings He showered on us this year. They may not have been the blessings we expected, and perhaps some of them may not even have seemed like blessings. But our trust in God is absolute, and we have faith that blessings come in various disguises, and hope that we shall soon see these blessings as they are: true gifts of grace.

Let me also thank you for your invaluable support during all the five years I have been part of DTI. Through your wonderful esprit de corps, you have kept the spirit of the season alive, not only during the holidays, but at all times, in the best and the worst of times. Thank you for this gift of self that has given us much cause for celebration, and ample reason to be optimistic about the coming year.

A bright, vibrant New Year ahead of us! Mabuhay!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter B. Favila'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peter B. Favila
Secretary

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