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BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Basic Education	HB 5269 & SB 1279	Rep. Del Mar and Senator Honasan	National School Feeding Program Act	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-presided by Rep. Ramon "Red" Durano VI (5th District, Cebu), Chair of the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture, and Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, approved the harmonized version of HB 5269 and SB 1279 subject to amendment based on the inputs of the Commission on Audit (COA) on the procurement, storage and handling of food supplies under the program pursuant to RA 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act.</p> <p>Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Reps. Raul del Mar (1st District, Cebu City), Wes Gatchalian (1st District, Valenzuela City), Evelina Escudero (1st District, Sorsogon), Marlyn Primicias-Agabas (6th District, Pangasinan), and Julieta Cortuna (Party-List, A TEACHER); on the part of the Senate, Senate President Pro-Tempore Ralph Recto, and Senators Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV and Grace Poe.</p>

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Suffrage and Electoral Reforms	Substitute Bill to HBs 7072, 7128, 7167 & 7217	Reps. Pimentel, Panganiban, Umali, and Sarmiento (E.)	Postponing the May 2018 barangay and sangguniang kabataan (SK) elections, amending for the purpose RA 9164, as amended, or the law providing for synchronized barangay and SK elections	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Sherwin Tugna (Party-List, CIBAC), approved the Substitute Bill to the four bills and the corresponding Committee Report.</p> <p>The Members agreed to postpone the May 14, 2018 barangay and SK elections to the second Monday of October 2018.</p> <p>Liga ng mga Barangay sa Pilipinas (LnB) National President Edmund Abesamis expressed his support for the proposed law.</p> <p>On the other hand, Commissioner James Ceasar Ventura of the National Youth Commission (NYC) expressed his opposition to the bills and pointed out that RA 10742 or the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015 should instead be fully implemented.</p>

Continuation... Suffrage and Electoral Reforms				<p>Likewise, Ramon Casiple, chair of the Consortium on Electoral Reforms, maintained his position against the postponement of any election, adding that there is no valid reason to postpone the May 2018 barangay and SK elections.</p> <p>Rep. Edgar Erice (2nd District, Caloocan City) asserted that the postponement of the barangay and SK elections is against the principles of democracy.</p> <p>However, Rep. Robert "Ace" Barbers (2nd District, Surigao del Norte) countered that particular elections are being postponed because of "more serious problems" that must be addressed first.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Director Teopisto Elnas Jr. of the Commission on Elections' (COMELEC) Election and Barangay Affairs Department (EBAD) affirmed that the COMELEC is prepared to hold the May 2018 barangay and SK elections.</p>
Welfare of Children	Substitute Bill to HBs 894, 2332 & 7110	Reps. Tan (A.), Cojuangco, and Herrera-Dy	Declaring the time between ten in the evening and five in the morning as unsafe hours, prohibiting the loitering, roaming around, sleeping or meandering of children in public places during these hours, prescribing penalties for violations committed by their parents or guardians, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Divina Grace Yu (1st District, Zamboanga del Sur), approved the revised Committee Report on the Substitute Bill to HBs 894, 2332 and 7110.
	HB 5004	Rep. Roa-Puno	Increasing the age for determining statutory rape and other acts of sexual abuse and exploitation to provide stronger protection for children, amending for this purpose Act No. 3815, as amended, also known as the Revised Penal Code and RA 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discriminatory Act	<p>The Committee agreed to refer back HB 5004 to the Committee on Rules for change of referral to the Committee on Revision of Laws after determining that the proposed law falls under the latter's jurisdiction.</p> <p>Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy (Party-List, BAGONG HENERASYON), however, earlier recommended that the bill be jointly discussed by the Committees on the Welfare of Children and on Revision of Laws since the bill is about ensuring the protection and welfare of children from all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation.</p> <p>Regardless of which Committee the bill will be referred to, the National Youth Commission (NYC), Child Protection Unit of the University of the Philippines – Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development Foundation (PLCPD), and Department of Justice (DOJ) expressed support for the passage of the bill.</p> <p>Also in support of the proposed law were representatives from the Council for the Welfare of Children, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and children's rights advocates – Cameleon Association, Inc. and Plan International.</p>
	HB 6257	Rep. Olivarez	Protecting children from child sexual exploitation and abuse, child trafficking, child pornography, and violent crime on	The Committee agreed to deliberate further on HB 6257 in its next meeting.

Continuation... Welfare of Children			children by prohibiting the ingress of foreign sex offenders and aliens in conflict with child protection laws, providing penalties for non-compliance therewith and appropriating funds therefor	<p>Rep. Ma. Lourdes Aggabao (4th District, Isabela) sponsored the bill on behalf of the author, Rep. Eric Olivarez (1st District, Parañaque City).</p> <p>Rep. Glona Labadlabad (2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte) underscored the intent of the bill in providing protection to children by prohibiting the ingress into the country of alien nationals with pending investigations and cases related to sex offenses.</p> <p>Atty. Victor Andrew Siriban from the Deportation and Implementation Unit of the Bureau of Immigration (BI) said that the proposed law will strengthen the powers of the BI in preventing the entry of foreign sex offenders into the country.</p> <p>Representatives from the NYC, Child Protection Unit, UP-PGH, DSWD, PLCPD, DOJ, Council for the Welfare of Children, UNICEF, Cameleon Association, Inc., and Plan International expressed their support for the bill. They agreed to submit their position papers on the proposed law.</p>
Youth and Sports Development	Substitute Bill to HB 5024	Rep. Gomez	Institutionalizing a comprehensive national grassroots sports development program centered on the Philippine national games	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Conrado Estrella III (Party-List, ABONO), approved the Substitute Bill to HB 5024 with amendments.
	Substitute Bill to HB 3244	Rep. Sambar	Creating the national, provincial, city, municipal sports development councils	The Committee approved the Substitute Bill to HB 3244.
	HB 7145	Rep. Elago	Recognizing the observance of August 12 of every year as the National Youth Day	The Committee approved HB 7145 with amendments.
	HR 1746	Rep. Roa-Puno	Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives of its continued support to the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) under its new leadership	The Committee adopted HR 1746 subject to style.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Dangerous Drugs (Technical Working Group)	HBs 289, 587, 1868, 3406, 3616, 3627, 3733 & 4151	Reps. Romero, Bataoil, Deputy Speaker Hernandez, Reps. Barbers, Acop, Pineda, Bagatsing, and Alejano	Authorizing wiretapping in cases involving violations of RA 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, amending RA 4200 or the law prohibiting and penalizing wiretapping and other related violations of the privacy of communication	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Romeo Acop (2nd District, Antipolo City), will deliberate further on the eight bills in its next meeting.</p> <p>In view of the absence of the resource persons from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) and the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Rep. Acop declared that the Committee will compel the attendance of these agencies in the next TWG meeting.</p> <p>The NTC and DICT were supposed to give their comments on Section 4 of HB 3627 which proposes to insert a new section (Section 3A) in RA 4200, declaring it unlawful for public telecommunication entities and similar</p>

Continuation... Dangerous Drugs (Technical Working Group)				enterprises to retain records of voice and data passing through their system, unless otherwise ordered by the courts.
Energy (Technical Working Group)	HB 4269	Rep. Escudero	Ordaining the development of the downstream natural gas industry, consolidating for the purpose all laws relating to the transmission, distribution and supply of natural gas	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II (1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay), will deliberate further on HB 4269 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Representatives from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Oil Industry Management Bureau of the Department of Energy (OIMB-DOE), Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR), Philippine National Oil Company – Exploration Corporation (PNOC-EC), and Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. (SPEX) expressed their support for the proposed law.</p> <p>Some of the recommendations made during the meeting were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To align the provisions of the bill with the DOE's implementing rules and regulations (IRR) on downstream natural gas; • To seek clearance from concerned Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) if the construction and operation of pipelines and related facilities for the transmission, distribution and supply of natural gas will be undertaken in areas considered as key biodiversity areas and critical ecosystem to ensure that the natural resources will not be adversely affected. (Under RA 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992, a PAMB will be created for each of the established protected area); • To streamline the permitting process for acquiring the right-of-way (ROW) in the construction of pipelines; and • To determine which government agency will be tasked to monitor the anti-pilferage and anti-theft provisions of the bill. <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill.</p>
Government Enterprises and Privatization (Technical Working Group)	HBs 59, 136, 361, 471, 734, 1017, 1087, 1097, 1608, 1671, 1780, 1880, 2569, 3127, 3453, 4205, 4641, 4733, 4746 & 5426	Reps. Tinio, Batocabe, Zamora, Escudero, Bataoil, Lanete, Castelo, Cagas, Revilla, Catamco, Treñas, Rodriguez (M.), Primicias-Agabas, Villarin, Panotes, Salceda, and Alejano	Proposing amendments to RA 8291 or the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Act of 1997 (by lowering the retirement age of government employees, providing additional benefits to retirees, and strengthening the GSIS, among others)	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Antonio Tinio (Party-List, ACT TEACHERS), will deliberate further on the 20 bills in its next meeting.</p> <p>Senior Vice President Severina Resurreccion of GSIS' Actuarial and Risk Management Group presented the following scenarios for the optional and compulsory retirement age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario 1 – where the retirement age is from 56 to 65 years, the first five years of implementation will require a fund increase of about P52 billion (8.46%); • Scenario 2 – where the retirement age is from 55 to 65 years, fund increase is P66 billion (10.77%); • Scenario 3 – where the retirement age is from 55 to 60 years, fund increase is P217 billion

<p>Continuation... Government Enterprises and Privatization (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>(35.37%); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scenario 4 – where optional retirement is from 50 to 60 years and compulsory retirement from 55 to 65 years. <p>Based on a 75-year actuarial life projection, the reserve fund needed for the payment of pension for scenarios 1, 2 and 3 is P517 billion by CY 2032; P178 billion by CY 2043; and P139 billion by CY 2044.</p> <p>Resurreccion informed the TWG that the GSIS should maintain a yearly investment income of 8% in order to sustain its funds for retirement pension and to address other challenges. She added that the average retirement age at present is 62 years old.</p> <p>GSIS Senior Vice President for NCR Group Nora Saldares said that once the change in the optional and compulsory retirement age materializes, the formula for the computation of the pension will have to be revised which can result to a lower amount of pension.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Domingo Alidon, president of the National Employees' Union of the Department of Education (DepEd) conveyed that employees should be able to decide when to retire. Alidon expressed support to the position to maintain the age of 65 as the compulsory retirement age.</p> <p>Rep. Tinio requested the GSIS to submit a copy of the actuarial study on the amount to be contributed by both the government and its employees for their insurance premiums as well as its position paper on the matter.</p>
<p>Higher and Technical Education (Technical Working Group)</p>	<p>HB 5908</p>	<p>Rep. Gonzales</p>	<p>Mandating the integration of the National Building Code of the Philippines as one of the subjects in Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, and Architecture</p>	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Rep. Salvador Belaro (Party-List, ANG EDUKASYON), agreed to come up with a Substitute Bill to HB 5908 incorporating therein the recommendations of the resource persons. The substitute bill will be presented to the mother Committee for its consideration and approval.</p> <p>Resource persons from the following associations and institutions expressed their support for the bills, with some of them presenting their respective recommendations: Commission on Higher Education - Technical Committee for Civil Engineering, Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines (CHED-CE/ASEP), Institute of Integrated Electrical Engineers of the Philippines, Inc. (IIEE), Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC), and the Philippine Society of Mechanical Engineers (PSME).</p> <p>Among the recommendations to the substitute bill that were presented by the resource persons were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of a provision in the bill on the formulation of the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the proposed law, designating the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to undertake this task, in coordination with the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and other government agencies and stakeholders; Inclusion of the National Building Code of the Philippines (NBCP) as a subject in PRC's licensure examination for Engineering and

Continuation... Higher and Technical Education (Technical Working Group)				<p>Architecture; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making NBCP a major subject in the curriculum for Bachelor's Degree in Engineering and Architecture. <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill for consideration by the TWG.</p>
Transportation (Technical Working Group)	HR 267	Rep. Biron	Inquiry into the prohibitive, unconscionable, deceptive, unfair and opportunistic pricing of domestic air carriers specifically on the purchase of tickets that would fly on the same day	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Rep. Edgar Sarmiento (1st District, Samar), will deliberate further on the issues raised in HRs 267 and 723 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Sarmiento said that the meeting intends to look into the unreasonable prices and practices by various air carriers operating in the country. He added that the findings of the TWG will be used as reference in crafting a bill on the Air Passengers Bill of Rights.</p>
	HR 723	Rep. Veloso	Inquiry into the excessive airfares being collected by Philippine Airlines and Cebu Pacific Air for their Manila-Tacloban/Tacloban-Manila routes during peak season	<p>Alexander Lao, president and chief executive officer of Cebgo, Inc. (a subsidiary of Cebu Pacific, Inc.), informed the TWG that airfares have gone down considerably since 2005 because of the liberalization of the airline industry in the country. This, he said, has made air travel accessible and affordable to a larger part of society.</p> <p>Responding to accusations that airline companies are unfair and oppressive in their pricing, Lao explained that the system being used by Cebgo provides wider range of ticket prices to allow low-income Filipinos to avail of its services. His statements were supported by AirAsia Inc. Executive Director Inez Jose who added that although price of tickets for same day travels are indeed higher, only 1% of passengers avail of these tickets while majority enjoy the promo or discounted prices.</p> <p>Philippine Airlines (PAL) representative Michael Navarro submitted PAL's position paper.</p> <p>Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) Executive Director Carmelo Arcilla informed the TWG that CAB is conducting an inquiry into the dynamics of the fare structure being implemented by various airlines. He admitted that the fare structures are very complicated and that arriving at a fixed rate will be difficult.</p> <p>Arcilla disclosed that the CAB intends to acquire a software that will allow CAB to monitor and evaluate the cost structure being used by various airline companies. Nevertheless, he assured the TWG that current air fares being charged by local airlines are cheaper or at par with those being charged in other countries.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn Garcia (3rd District, Cebu), Rep. Vicente "Ching" Veloso (3rd District, Leyte), author of HR 723, and Rep. Ferjanel Biron, M.D. (4th District, Iloilo), author of HR 267, pointed out that the current fare system being used by the airline companies lacks transparency.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Garcia urged Arcilla to study the experience of other countries and use these as basis in determining the reasonableness of the fares being charged by the airlines.</p>

Continuation... Transportation (Technical Working Group)				<p>Based on RA 776, as amended by Presidential Decree 1462, CAB is mandated to regulate, promote, and develop the economic aspect of air transportation in the Philippines and ensure that existing CAB policies are adapted to the present and future air commerce in the country. It is vested with supervision, jurisdiction and control over all carriers engaged in air commerce in the Philippines as well as their property, equipment, franchise and facilities. (Source: CAB website)</p> <p>The CAB was instructed to submit copies of its correspondence with different local airline companies pertinent to the issues raised in the two measures as well as a list of the proposed airfare prices and promos which it disapproved.</p> <p>The Secretariat was instructed to invite representatives of the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) to attend the TWG's next meeting.</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Mindanao Affairs (Technical Working Group)	Discussion on the annual budgetary appropriations for Mindanao	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by the Mindanao Affairs Committee Chair, Rep. Maximo Rodriguez Jr. (2nd District, Cagayan de Oro City), discussed the budget allocated for Mindanao from the respective budgets of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Tourism (DOT), and Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA).</p> <p>Rep. Rodriguez presented to the body the annual budget allocations of the DOT and DENR under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for years 2014 to 2018 on a per region basis to show how much Mindanao received as compared to the other regions. For this year alone, Rep. Rodriguez lamented that Mindanao only got 3% of DOT's budget while NCR received 90.32%. Likewise, Mindanao received only 20.31% of DENR's budget for the year while NCR received 41.23%.</p> <p>Development Management Officer Joan Barrera of the Mindanao Development Authority's (MinDA) Project Development Division shared that MinDA currently has a budget of P453.65 million for tourism infrastructure projects and a budget of P2.36 billion for climate change adaptation projects, both for Mindanao.</p> <p>Rep. Rodriguez asked MinDA to coordinate with the DENR and DOT so that their projects and budget proposals for Mindanao are synchronized.</p> <p>Meanwhile, TIEZA's Project Planning and Development Chief Chet Lacson apprised the TWG of the implementation of the Go Mindanao Tour Bus Project, a project that moves tourists all over Mindanao through buses going to tourist destinations. The project aims to boost local tourism and create business and livelihood opportunities to the communities. It also involves the establishment of Tourism Assistance Centers (TACs), with 20 priority areas already identified as TAC sites, Lacson said.</p> <p>Rep. Rogelio Neil Pepito Roque (4th District, Bukidnon) advised TIEZA to coordinate with local government units (LGUs) in identifying and developing potential tourism sites, while Iligan City Rep. Frederick Siao recommended that an endorsement letter coming from</p>

Continuation... Mindanao Affairs (Technical Working Group)		<p>the respective District Representatives be made a prerequisite in the approval of TIEZA's projects.</p> <p>The DENR, DOT and TIEZA were requested to submit to the TWG their 2019 list of proposed projects for Mindanao, per region and per district, including the corresponding budgetary requirements.</p>
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PUBLIC HEARING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Local Government jt. w/ Muslim Affairs and on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (Special Committee)	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 92, 6121, 6263 & 6475	Deputy Speaker Sema, Reps. Macapagal-Arroyo & Dimaporo (M.K), and Speaker Alvarez	Providing for the Basic Law for the Bangsamoro and abolishing the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), repealing for the purpose RA 9054, or the law strengthening and expanding the Organic Act for the ARMM, and RA 6734 or the law providing for an Organic Act for the ARMM	<p>The Joint Committee, chaired by Reps. Pedro Acharon Jr. (1st District, South Cotabato and General Santos City), Mauyag "Jun" Papandayan Jr. (2nd District, Lanao del Sur), and Ruby Sahali (Tawi-Tawi), for the Committees on Local Government, Muslim Affairs, and the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, respectively, held a series of public hearings in Mindanao to hear the sentiments of the people on the ground regarding the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL).</p> <p>The 4th leg of the public hearings was held on March 8 and 9, 2018 at the Buluan Municipal Gymnasium in Buluan, Province of Maguindanao and at The Farm at Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City, South Cotabato, respectively.</p> <p>Aside from the Chairpersons of the three Committees, the following House Members attended the public hearings (either in both or in just one of the hearings): Deputy Speaker Ferdinand Hernandez (2nd District, South Cotabato), Reps. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (2nd District, Pampanga), Leopoldo Bataoil (2nd District, Pangasinan), Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr. (Ifugao), Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II (1st District, Zamboanga Sibugay), Zajid Mangudadatu (2nd District, Maguindanao), and Jesus Nonato Saccalan (1st District, North Cotabato).</p> <p>Other attendees to the public hearings were officials of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC); local government executives; members of civil society groups; and other stakeholders.</p>

FAMILIARIZATION AND INSPECTION TRIP		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Transportation	Discussion on the itinerary of the House of Representatives' Northern and Central Luzon Familiarization and Inspection Trip	<p>The Committee, chaired by Catanduanes Rep. Cesar Sarmiento, finalized the itinerary of the House of Representatives' Northern and Central Luzon familiarization and inspection trip scheduled on March 15-18 of this year.</p> <p>Majority Leader Rodolfo Fariñas (1st District, Ilocos Norte) presided over the meeting.</p>

Continuation... Transportation		Rep. Sarmiento confirmed the attendance of media personnel who will be covering the event. He also informed the Committee that some Members will only be joining part of the trip to attend to other equally important concerns.
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OTHER MATTERS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Youth and Sports Development	Briefing by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) on its preparations for the 2019 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Conrado Estrella III (Party-List, ABONO), listened to the briefing conducted by the POC on its preparations for the 2019 SEA Games.</p> <p>The POC is a private, non-governmental organization which serves as the mother organization of all National Sports Associations (NSAs). It accredits the members of the Philippine delegation to the Olympic Games, Asian Games, and SEA Games.</p> <p>POC Chair Abraham Tolentino expressed optimism that the Philippines will again top the 2019 SEA Games with the country hosting the event from November 30 to December 9, 2019.</p> <p>According to Tolentino, the venue for next year's SEA Games will be in Subic, Clark and Metro Manila. However, the opening and closing ceremonies will be held at the Philippine Arena located at Ciudad de Victoria, Bocaue, Bulacan which has a seating capacity of about 50,000. He added that the POC intends to have a minimum of 40 sports included in the SEA Games.</p> <p>POC President Victorico Vargas enumerated four goals for the SEA Games shared by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the POC, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use the SEA Games as a prelude to grassroots sports development in schools and local government units (LGUs); • To successfully host the event and win medals; • To establish world class sports facilities; and • To support international training in order to win gold medals. <p>However, he noted that the realization of these goals will require not only funds but also the cooperation among the PSC, POC and Congress.</p> <p>Vargas stressed that in order to do well in the SEA Games, the following must be accomplished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create sports facilities within and outside Metro Manila to support the training of athletes especially in areas where there are prospects of finding skilled athletes; • Improve the training and development of coaches by establishing an institute of sports; • Harmonize the duties and responsibilities of the POC and PSC; and • For the POC to manage and resolve disputes in NSAs.