

Entrepreneur Asia-Pacific



Message from the YEGAP Chairperson



Dear YEGAP members and friends,

It is our great pleasure to publish the Fourth Volume of Entrepreneur Asia-Pacific, the newsletter of the CACCI Young Entrepreneur Group-Asia-Pacific (YEG-AP).

As we usher in 2010 – the Year of the Tiger in the Chinese calendar – we deem it an opportune time to take a glimpse of the hopes and aspirations of our members and friends for their respective businesses and for themselves in the year ahead. For this issue, we have therefore requested our fellow entrepreneurs to share their wishes and expectations for the coming year. Their messages of hope certainly inspire us to pursue our great task of creating a community of business leaders who are committed to the objective of achieving an economically strong Asia-Pacific region.

This issue also features brief reports on the activities of YEGAP over the past year, such as the Special Session organized by YEGAP on May 31, 2009 in Yokohama, as well as those planned for 2010, such as the presentation of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award during the upcoming 24th CACCI Conference in July in Sri Lanka.

It is our ardent hope that this publication will serve as an effective platform for an effective exchange of ideas and information not only among YEGAP members but among budding entrepreneurs in the CACCI region as a whole.

Taking this opportunity, I would also like to invite all members to contribute articles (with accompanying photos if possible) for the next issues of our Newsletter. Kindly send your materials to the CACCI Secretariat through our Fax No. (886 2) 2725 5665, or our e-mail address at cacci@cacci.org.tw. May we look forward to hearing from you?

Thank you for your continued support of YEGAP, and may you have enough successes to adequately face the challenges in the year ahead.

ANNA MARIE PERIQUET
Chairperson, YEGAP

Of Wishes and Resolutions for the New Year

The start of a year is without a doubt one of the season's best with the New Year to look forward to. We asked our friends and colleagues in the world of entrepreneurship their wishes and resolutions for 2010.

There's some mighty fine advice in their words, even if you're not into wishes and New Year's resolutions as entrepreneurs. May their words of encouragement for others keep us

uplifted no matter what part of the globe we live in.

HARVEY CHANG
President & CEO, Taiwan Mobile Co., Ltd. (Taiwan, R.O.C.)

Christmas is the harvest season and the time to commence seeding for the coming year. Let us give thanks for what we have received from God as well as from people around us during

this period of time and to treasure what we have possessed while making new plans for the New Year.

WEBSTER KIANG, PhD.
Director-General, Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI)

We expect to see economic recovery in the US, Europe and most of

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Wishes and Resolutions

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the world. With vigor and innovation, I believe young entrepreneurs, all over Asia Pacific, shall have the opportunity to advance and prosper. I wish you all a very prosperous year in 2010.

JEMAL INAISHVILI

President, Georgia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)
Vice President, CACCI

The year 2009 was not an easy one for most of the small and medium businesses in Tbilisi, Georgia as well as in the whole world. The Year 2009 was very difficult for the Philippines as well due to natural disasters that took place. I hope and wish that year 2010 will be a year of peace and stability and a year of economic growth and prosperity. Let me wish all YEGAP readers a happy, healthy and successful year 2010.

DR. SHAHZAD ARSHAD

President, Rauf Apparels
Pvt. Ltd. (Pakistan)

Based upon the current economic scenario and the drastic situation, when the cost of doing business is getting higher, my resolutions are to cut down overheads of my company, as far as possible, to enhance productivity, and to look for new non-traditional markets for export.

FABIAN CHOW

Chairman, PNG Fresh Produce Development Agency
National Secretary, Papua New Guinea Chamber of Commerce & Industry

My Christmas wish and New Year hope is for young entrepreneurs to realize the enormous profitability of the agricultural sector if looked after carefully and nurtured with a good marketing network. Agriculture opens enormous opportunities to those who have the right marketing mix so as to provide a service in addition to a product. Recent years have seen some spikes in food prices as demand is rising with population increase and

this opens more and more business needs to address by entrepreneurs. For young people with limited access to capital, use of family land combined with creation of a marketing line to buyers, agriculture can be a secure and rewarding sector to advance and prosper.

IMELDA NICOLAS

President, Green Sustainable Resources Philippines, Inc.
Vice President, The Lewis College, Sorsogon

Christmas has always been a season of hope, of birth and new beginnings, of joy and giving. So as an entrepreneur, I continuously hope that business will get better regardless of the obstacles thrown our way and the difficult business environment that may confront us. If some projects failed along the way during the past year, Christmas heralds birth and new beginnings. And since we have all been blessed in many ways, Christmas is a time for us to give joy to our loved ones and to share our blessings especially with those who have not been as fortunate and those who have less in life!

Surprisingly, I usually don't make any New Year's resolution whether on a personal or on a business basis.

JOSE LUIS YULO, JR.

President, Centrex Corp.
Former President, Philippine Stock Exchange

My wish is that the world adopts a single currency and the government becomes more efficient, fair, clean, and with a clear vision for the country's economy and business niches. My resolution is to create more opportunities for employment and to have my company become a leader in its industry, not only in the country, but in the region and internationally as well.

JAY ALDEGUER

President & CEO, Islands Souvenirs

My wish this Christmas is that our

election next year will provide us with leaders who will ensure that we have a healthy environment for business and that we as a nation, become more globally competitive. My resolution is to try and travel some more. My best ideas come when I'm visiting a new place.

CYNTHIA MAMON

President and Managing Director, SUNPHIL
Vice President, Enchanted Kingdom

I pray that the business continues to prosper for the sake of all the staff who work with us and all their families who depend on them. I also pray to God to spare our country from any natural disaster like typhoon and earthquakes and for our countrymen to be spared from political disasters such as corrupt leadership and moral disasters which affect values of the younger generation.

I wish that the overall economy continues to recover so that all businesses will prosper and there will be a happier Christmas for all those involved in businesses. This wish comes with another wish that all those involved in businesses will have a generous heart to share God's blessings especially to the poor and underprivileged for this is the real mission of all entrepreneurs like us.

For 2010, I resolve to continue customer intimacy and customer advocacy as this is the key success factor for any business. With the anticipated ORACLE-SUN Integration, I will try my best to leverage on this for better customer service and delivery of solutions for the SUNPHIL clients.

For the guests of Enchanted Kingdom, we will make sure that we will continue to provide a variety of new magical experiences to everyone who visits the park. We will increase the Edutainment and Valuetainment of the park so that in addition to providing happiness, we will also influence the values of the guests especially the young, the school children and the

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teenagers. May EK continue to be God's Eternal Kingdom here on earth.

LOIDA NICOLAS LEWIS
Chair and CEO, TLC Beatrice, LLC (a family investment firm)
President, The Lewis College, Chair, Bisyon 2020

May the Word becoming Flesh be an inspiration to us, Filipinos, to actualize and work that our dreams and aspirations become Flesh. And thus be a Light to our World, just as the infant Jesus was in that humble manger.

My New Year's Resolution is to help elect Noyon Aquino and Mar Roxas become the new Generation of Filipino Leaders - imbued with integrity, wisdom and love of country.

BING SIBAL LIMJOCO
Chairman, Francorp

I wish that the country and business community rise above all the 2009 debacles and challenges: Ondoy, Peping and economic recession included. I also wish that in the Year of the Tiger 2010, business bounces back like a roaring confident tiger, ready to pounce on every opportunity provided by God. Because franchising is a resilient business method, may the franchise community continue to shine, be strong, and contribute to economic recovery so that it will continue to be our nation's light of hope

My New Year's resolution is to be stronger and brighter as ever – by assisting more SMEs to large entrepreneurs, but more so SMEs, in launching or offering stable and profitable franchises so that our countrymen will have higher hopes and dreams. We can achieve this through more support for PFA and PIFCE. I also resolve to continue spreading the benefits of franchising nationwide – thru our continuing education and seminar/expo programs in the regions, media promotions and strategic alliances

JOEY A. BERMUDEZ
Chairman, The Maybridge Financial Group

My wish is for a new set of leaders who will promote, not stifle, entrepreneurship through enlightened public policy. In the coming year, I resolve to face the uncertain year with a lot of courage and creativity.

ALEXANDRA G. GARCIA
Chief Operating Officer, Chemphil Group of Companies and Perfumeria Espanola Corp.

My Christmas wish is that the world economy finally recovers from the financial turmoil it has faced in the last few years. I sincerely hope that the Philippine manufacturing sector is given a much-needed boost so that we are able to become more globally competitive. After all it is the manufacturing sector that truly provides jobs. We must strike a balance and not be overly dependent on our OFW's or the service industry.

My New Years resolution as an entrepreneur is to strike more balance in life - perhaps less work and more exercise. It is also to be more optimistic of the future in spite of the challenges that we face daily, to learn how to smile through adversity and give more of my time to charitable causes.

SULAIMAN RUBELL
President, Youth Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh
Awardee, 2007 The Young Entrepreneur of Asia Pacific Award

An entrepreneur becomes successful in business by his innovation and creativity, which could also be used for the development of the community they are benefiting from. I wish entrepreneurs would follow a "one-third theory" that will support the community to develop and flourish: from the total yearly profit, one-third to keep, one-third to save, and one-third for donation. The "one-third theory" could be a New Year's Resolution for entrepreneurs as well.

MORTEN CARSTENSEN
President, DOCs Candles, Inc.

My Christmas wish is for lower exhibit fees for entrepreneurs.

ERIC JURADO
CEO, Jurado & Co.; G3 Art and Antiquities Gallery
Senior Director, Seagate Global Capital, a US-based investment firm

I wish that our government will unleash the entrepreneurial economy by lowering taxes and opening up markets. Government efforts to micromanage, stimulate, fine-tune, and protect the economy have neither produced nor sustained long term growth.

I resolve to continue to meet the needs and want of other people, to build or invest in the innovative, job-creating businesses whose goods and services make life better.

ATTY. FELIPE GOZON
President, GMA Network

My Christmas wish is for harmony, hope and love to prevail in our country. My New Year's Resolution, of course, is to bring GMA Network to an even stronger position that will allow us to continuously render Serbisyong Totoo through excellent programs and relevant public service.

UNDERSECRETARY ELMER HERNANDEZ
Department of Trade and Industry

Successful entrepreneurs start small. But because of tenacity and hard work they become productive and eventually globally competitive. They are the backbone of our economy. But in all of these they should be imbued with corporate social responsibility. Merry Christmas to all entrepreneurs and a better bottom line in 2010.

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CHIT JUAN

**Owner, ECHOstore
sustainable lifestyle**

I wish that more businesses think about the social and environmental impact of their businesses. Even small entrepreneurs can be social entrepreneurs. The business must have a social and environmental dimension, where financial profits are combined with social benefits - hiring the less-privileged, reaching out to small communities - and environmental impact --not depleting Nature's gifts, making sure we lessen our carbon footprints.

My New Year's resolution is to eat healthy, promote a sustainable lifestyle through the businesses I put up, and make sure my business gives back by protecting the environment or making sure my business does not harm the planet even in small ways.

JO MAGSAYSAY

**CEO, Potato Corner; Bamboo
Asia Grill
Vice-Chairman, FPD Global**

My wish is for everyone to be able to spend time with their family and loved ones for a nice warm and sumptuous dinner and for everyone to give to someone, be it a gift, a hug, a kiss, kindness, and help to those who need. I also wish that Filipino will be proud of their roots, fellow countrymen and country. I wish we had more people to inspire us and be persons of integrity who will stand by who and what he/she believes in; to set high bench marks for simplicity, love of countrymen, and honesty; the boy in the streets who sells sampaguita or newspapers that makes you proud that there are still Filipinos who would rather work for money than beg or steal. I wish we all will take care of our parents, make them live with us, make them help us raise our children they are old.

I wish that in 2010 the government will further recognize our OFW heroes by giving support to their families

whom are left behind while they work and earn abroad for the country. Our OFW families need support in terms of value, father figure, mother caring, spouse counseling and other ways of support so that those who work abroad will be happy and have peace of mind that the love ones they left behind are well and taken cared of by their government. And I wish Philippine sports will finally get its act together to make more Filipino athletes heroes.

BERNIDO H. LIU

**President, Philippine
Retailers Association
President, Golden ABC,
Inc. (owner of Penshoppe,
Oxygen, Memo, Regatta and
For Me)**

My Christmas wish as an entrepreneur would be to see our economy prosper so that opportunities will abound not only for our entrepreneurs but for many professionals and particularly for the young graduates who are joining the work force.

My New Year's resolution as an entrepreneur would be to devote a little bit more resource to uplift and work towards the betterment of our Filipino values especially among our youth who are the future of our nation.

JEFFREY NG

President, Cathay Land, Inc.

May the coming May elections be credible and clean. We look forward to a new, honest and competent administration that will propel the country to new heights of equitable progress and prosperity. Hope that all businessmen and entrepreneurs do their patriotic duty in supporting the government and in making their own enterprises more efficient and productive.

CAROLINE BURNS

**Executive Director, Institute
for Social Entrepreneurship
Education**

My Christmas wish is that everyone develops a more socially

entrepreneurial mindset and we join together to become a new generation of agents of change. That during this highly consumerist time each one will have a greater awareness of alternative gifts, of the present of presence!

My New Year's resolution is to look forward with a new hope for all peoples and nations. I wish to continue and expand programs such as the Teenpreneur Challenge which harnesses the innovation and energy of the youth with the wisdom and guidance of successful business men and women, who together help develop sustainable livelihood products for small product owners in Malabon and Mandaluyong.

ROD CORNEJO

**Assistant to the President,
GMA Network**

All I want for Christmas is to see my family, my community, my country, and our world more secure than they were in 2009. My New Year's Resolution is to do more than my share to help make this possible.

MARK CHEN

**President, Chinatrust
(Philippines) Commercial
Bank**

My wish for this season is for greater generosity and happiness in the hearts of people. Just a little over a year in the Philippines, I have witnessed the suffering caused by calamities and poverty. But the spirit of giving remains and this never fails to put a smile on people's faces and hope for a better future.

NOEMI L. SALUDO

**President, Philippine Integrated
(Mfrs) Exporters, Inc.
Past President, Philippine
Chamber of Commerce &
Industry**

Many have been affected by these calamities that came to us. I pray that the Lord will find the ways for them to recover and start anew on the coming

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year. Philippines and its people have great potentials. I wish that these potentials will be put into action for us to bring back more opportunities to us.

I hope to continue to share my modest knowledge in entrepreneurship to the young ones and would want to start their businesses, to go into farming in small scale. I am retiring from my present business and would start anew in this field of agriculture. This is something new to me but, with a small piece of land that the family has in Batangas, I am confident that I would be successful with this new venture.

DONNIE TANTOCO **President, Shopwise, Inc.**

As an entrepreneur, I will devote myself to executing new, long lasting, and even more meaningful ways to serve our customers, motivate and develop our employees, and help our company grow. For our country, I wish for a much more honest and robust partnership between business and government to empower SMEs, reduce corruption and crime, stimulate local and foreign investment, improve education, alleviate poverty, and professionalize both our government and business systems. Business and government should work together and do whatever it takes to help our country build a large, growing and educated middle class.

GRACE TIONGCO **President, First Credit** **Consultants Corporation**

My new year's resolution is to encourage more entrepreneurs to join business organizations for managerial expertise enhancement in financial development so they can practice good governance when everything is in place. For my business, I would encourage institutional funders to give equal importance to the prospects on the projects of the

borrower aside from the financial statements especially if the borrowers have contracts to sign with buyers of their products. In this manner, it will help our economy grow if the funders will look beyond the financial statements.

ROBERTO FRANCISCO **President and CEO, Boyd** **Coffee Co. (Phils), Inc.**

As every year ends a recommitment of a promise is internally sworn as a driving force or motivator to make each year worthwhile. I have lived by one every year. Whether it be a promising year or forecasted year of gloom - "Seize the Moment" - On or off work, live life to the fullest as if every day was your last. Upgrade the life of those within reach, do no harm to others, be environmentally concerned, be involved to inform and protect. Lastly, and most importantly, share every valuable moment with the people that mean the most, your love ones, the family.

RJ JACINTO **Chairman, RJ Broadcasting** **Company**

My resolutions for 2010 are to concentrate on growing my core businesses, pay more attention to the welfare of my employees, set aside enough time to take better care of my health, and keep playing more Rock n Roll.

JOHN TIONG **Director, SmsGlobal Inc. (a** **Maritime Telecommunications** **Company)** **Chairman, Philippine National** **Red Cross – Makati**

As a pioneering Maritime Telecommunications company, we are very proud to say that we are helping the international seafarers stay connected to their families world wide especially in this Christmas season. And as a volunteer for the Philippine National Red Cross, it gives me great pleasure to be able to help people in

their times of need especially in the recent series of disasters which hit Luzon and Metro Manila.

If there is one word which will describe my business resolution for the New Year, it is the word - Balance. Sometimes we focus too much on business; we forget the importance of family, friends and that of helping others. While steadily gaining success in the Maritime Telecom arena a couple of years ago, I was fortunate to be invited to be a volunteer of the Red Cross. I take great pride in helping organize the Red Cross office in Makati together with fellow volunteers, directors, staff to be able to help people in need. A work-life balance, they say, is a recipe for happiness.

As for my wish for the Philippines and the economy in 2010: No more major disasters; and for the economy, a steady growth led by business.

FRANCISCO FLORO **Vice President for SME,** **Philippine Chamber of** **Commerce & Industry**

Let us all strive for peace and be positive in our approach in all our endeavors but most of all to unite and cooperate with one another to achieve our objectives.

BOBBY YATCO **President, Port Users** **Confederation**

As an Entrepreneur, my resolution is to expand our merchandise and go into environment based products and services. We will go into technologies on waste management, renewal energy, clean air and clean water new technologies. 2010 will be significant for the Philippines as we will hold our Presidential Elections in May. Hopefully the new President will inspire and lead the country to greater economic gains. My 2010 wish for our country? National discipline and national teamwork... it says it all. ■

CACCI Seeks Nominations for 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Awards

CACCI has recently announced the launching of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award, and requested all CACCI Primary Members to submit nominations for this prestigious Award. The winner of the Award will be announced during the 24th CACCI Conference to be held on July 5-7, 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award, which is an initiative of the Young Entrepreneurs Group Asia Pacific (YEGAP) of CACCI, aims to recognize excellent young entrepreneurs in the Asia-Pacific region who not only are successful in their business but also advocate corporate social responsibility for the good of their country.

Nomination Criteria

Conferred every two years by CACCI, the Award is open to male or female entrepreneurs below 45 years of age nominated by any CACCI Primary Member.

The nominee must: (a) be engaged in their country-based or international-based profit organization; (b) be actively involved in a business-related non-profit organization or in a CACCI Primary Member country's activities; (c) exercise excellence in entrepreneurial and business leadership; (d) be regarded in his or her country

with integrity and known for practicing good business ethics

The winner of the Award shall also be determined by outstanding achievements in the following areas:

1. **Business Acumen** - Consideration is given to the ability of the candidate to take advantage of business opportunities, solve problems, set corporate directions and effectively implement plans (which include major strategies and tactical moves) to achieve corporate targets and objectives. This also considers the overall impact on the performance of the company in terms of profitability.

2. **Involvement in Non-profit Business Organizations or Associations and/or Involvement in CACCI activities** - Consideration is given to concrete achievements in corporate social responsibility as a result of the candidate's involvement in business and civic organizations. Consideration is given to the candidate's expertise shared, programs initiated and implemented, and direct involvement in activities that benefit specific sectors and the country in general.

3. **Leadership Qualities** - Consideration is given to the ability of the candidate to steer his/her company and/or civic organization to a position of strength and stability. Quantitative

and qualitative standards such as company performance for the last three years, corporate image/reputations, and awards and recognition earned by the company/organization under the candidate's leadership shall apply.

4. **Integrity** - Consideration is given to the candidate's background and character and how he/she is perceived by his/her peers and the community in his/her country.

The Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award is open to all Primary Members' affiliated local chambers of commerce and industry (town and city chambers).

Previous winners

The previous winners included: 2006 - Mr. Mohammed Sulayman Rubel, Managing Director, Rare Group (Bangladesh) and 2008 - Mr. Wilson Jacob, Chairman and Managing Director, Kottayam Port and Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd. (India).

All CACCI Primary Members are encouraged to participate in this Awards Program and help in promoting it to their respective constituencies. Requests for additional information may be coursed through the CACCI Secretariat at Telephone Number (886 2) 2725 5663; Fax Number (886 2) 2725 5665, or email address at cacci@cacci.org.tw ■



CACCI officers present Award in Taipei to the 2006 Winner Mr. Mohammed Sulayman Rubel from Bangladesh (left photo) and in Manila to the 2008 winner Mr. Wilson Jacob from India (right photo).

YEGAP Meets in Yokohama

The Young Entrepreneurs Group Asia Pacific (YEGAP) held a special session on May 31, 2009 in Yokohama in conjunction with the 23rd CACCI Conference.

The session featured industry experts who shared their views and experiences on trends and developments, problems and issues, best practices, and prospects for growth of entrepreneurship the region.

The session participants also explored possible areas of cooperation among young entrepreneurs in the CACCI region, including undertaking activities such as information exchange through the regular publication of a newsletter, training programs to improve their entrepreneurial knowledge and skills, and membership expansion activities.

Over a hundred delegates from Japan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, and Georgia attended the YEGAP session.

Opening Remarks of the YEGAP Chairperson

In her Opening Remarks, YEGAP Chairperson **Ms. Anna Marie Periquet** from the Philippines gave a brief introduction of the history of YEGAP. She said that YEG-AP started from a simple goal, born of a clear vision: to serve as a springboard for projects and activities geared towards entrepreneurial development among young entrepreneurs in the Asia-Pacific rim.

“Through the years, CACCI has committed itself to transforming the Asia-Pacific economy to one that is vibrant, competitive and integrated to the world market. Crucial to this commitment is the promotion and development of the entrepreneurship movement, particularly youth entrepreneurship, in each member country of CACCI.

“However, in view of the ever-changing global trends, the CACCI is



YEGAP members pose for a group photo at the end of their special session in Yokohama, Japan

fully aware of the critical challenges that the sector is facing at present such as the lack of management skills, inadequate marketing know-how, obsolete technology, underdeveloped labor force and insufficient marketing tools.

“In cognizance of these legitimate concerns, the CACCI created the Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia-Pacific to envision an agenda and plan of action for the purpose of encouraging more entrepreneurs from the region to take an active role in various sectors of the society, and also in equal importance, in government, business and socio-economic sectors.”

Ms. Periquet expressed confidence that YEG-AP would serve as an effective venue to implement suitable programs that are available to young entrepreneurs in Asia-Pacific, and called on members to take advantage of this opportunity to achieve global competitiveness.

Invited speakers

Several speakers were invited to share their entrepreneurial experiences in their respective countries:

a. **Mr. Tsuyoshi Yamauchi**, Chairman of Japan Young Entrepreneurs Group, shared the model and structure of the Japan YEG which boasts of a membership base of 26,000

members.

b. **Mr. Daisuke Yamazaki**, Vice President of Motherhouse Co., Ltd., shared his experience as a bag manufacturer in Bangladesh, Nepal and India with retail shops in Japan.

c. **Mr. Hirochi Ouchi**, Secretary General of the Japan CCI, discussed the entrepreneurship programs of Japan CCI. Most notable of these programs is the conduct of free courses to students on start-up businesses.

Future YEGAP Activities

The session also discussed future activities of YEG-AP. These activities include the following:

a. *YEG-AP Newsletter* - The 3rd edition of the Entrepreneur Asia Pacific Newsletter was disseminated to all CACCI member chambers, as well as to the delegates in Yokohama. The 4th edition will be published in the later part of 2009.

b. *3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award* - The 3rd Asia-Pacific Young Entrepreneur Award will be conferred during the 24th CACCI Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Nominations will be accepted by January 2010.

c. *Membership Expansion and Networking* - The YEG-AP welcomed the following new members during

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YEGAP Launches Column in Manila Times

The Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific (YEGAP), under the initiative of its Chairperson **Ms. Anna Marie Periquet** from the Philippines, has forged a partnership with **The Manila Times** in its new Entrepreneurship Campaign beginning in the first week of August 2009.

The Manila Times, the oldest national daily in the Philippines and one of the most respected, has offered the YEGAP a weekly space for a column where its members, affiliate young entrepreneurs groups, and CACCI members can discuss entrepreneurship and take turns in writing articles for the column.

Entitled **“Young Entrepreneurs in Asia Pacific: Getting Down to Business,”** the YEGAP Column

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the Yokohama Conference: Mr. Mohammad Lutfar Rahman, YEG - Bangladesh; Ms. Rojyar Pouyeh, Chairman, Young Entrepreneurs Council, Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines; Mr. Saurabh Jyoti, President, Nepal Young Entrepreneurs Federation of the FNCCI; Mr. Bhaskar Raj Rajkarnicar, Vice President, FNCCI; Mr. Sergey Vasiliev, Director, Int'l Cooperation Dept., Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation; and Mr. Ali Sabanci, President, Young Entrepreneurs Board, TOBB (Turkey). The following chambers also promised to designate their respective representatives to the YEG-AP: Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, The Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka; and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.



features articles, interviews and inspiring stories of entrepreneurs not only from the Philippines but from other Asia-Pacific countries as well. Readers get to read about success stories, best business practices, and thoughts on entrepreneurship from successful businessmen in the region.

The YEGAP Column, which appears in the Wednesday issue of **The Manila Times**, provides an opportunity for YEGAP to promote entrepreneurship and related advocacies. Furthermore, **The Manila Times** features the column in its

website for all CACCI members to read.

All CACCI members, particularly its constituencies from the young entrepreneur sector, are invited to submit articles for the column. Each article should be between 600 and 700 words only. If the subject matter requires more length, it will be broken up into a series. However, to keep readers interested, each series should not have more than two or three parts. A color photo of the author and a short (one or two sentences) biographical note are also needed at the end of each article. The articles, along with the corresponding photos, may be sent via email to cacci@cacci.org.tw

YEGAP Chairperson **Ms. Anna Marie Periquet** is calling on members to share your thoughts on entrepreneurship and topics that you would like to read about and she will do her best to feature these in the YEGAP Column. You can also e-mail to her (annaperiquet@gmail.com) any questions or concerns on entrepreneurship that you would like a particular entrepreneur to address and she will try to have these concerns addressed. ■

Publication on Youth Entrepreneurship in Nepal

Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation, released a handbook on youth enterprise entitled: ***Towards Enterprise Building in Nepal***. The purpose of the handbook is to rekindle an entrepreneurial spirit among Nepali youth and to equip them with the skills to create a business-friendly environment in Nepal.

The handbook draws upon the experiences of faculty and recent graduates of Arthalaya: Making Sense Of it All, a Samriddhi youth education initiative. Arthalaya is a 5-day workshop that brings students, age 18-28, together to educate them about entrepreneurship, democracy, and economic development. Guest lecturers, debates, documentaries, and field research expose the participants to the practical aspects of running a business, and the students themselves are expected to start-up and manage a mock business.

Towards Enterprise Building in Nepal includes articles, opinion stories, and tips for young entrepreneurs. The handbook highlights five Entrepreneurs' Clubs that were established on different college campuses by graduates of Arthalaya, as well as provides a Toolkit on Starting up a Business and a 2010 Doing Business Report. The publication also includes several stories and advice pieces from successful entrepreneurs in Nepal.

Russian Federation CCI Co-Sponsors Young Entrepreneurs Business Forum

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation (CCIRF) served as one of the official partners of the Young Entrepreneurs International Business Forum held on September 13-17, 2009. The main events were held in Moscow, Kazan, Yekaterinburg and Omsk.

Some 1,100 delegates from 22 countries and 52 Russian regions have participated in the Forum's work: young entrepreneurs, members of the national entrepreneur associations from Russia, CIS and SCO countries, from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Nepal, Romania and Serbia.

The Forum agenda

The Forum program included the following:

1. September 13-15, 2009 - The "Train of Friendship" traveled from Moscow to Omsk with stops and official events in the Russian major economic and cultural cities of Kazan and Yekaterinburg.

2. September 16, 2009 - Plenary session on "Non-economic aspects of entrepreneurship development" took

place. The keynote speakers were the 64th Secretary of State of the United States of America and Chair of the Albright Stonebridge Group Madeleine K. Albright and the Prime Minister of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (1997-2007) and Middle East Quartet Representative Tony Blair. The plenary session was moderated by Director General of the Omsk Manufacturing Association named after A.S. Popov Ivan Polyakov. During the plenary session, speeches were delivered by the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin; Head of the Administration of the President of Russia Sergey Naryshkin; Chairman of the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation Sergey Mironov; Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation Boris Gрызлов; President of USSR Mikhail Gorbachev; Chairman of the Board and Representative Director of Toyota Motor Corporation Mr. Fujio Cho; and the founder of Yokohama Science Frontier high school Dr. Akiyoshi Wada.



Meetings held

Several meetings were also held within the Forum framework. These included the following

- Round-table meetings led by Deputy Minister of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy Oleg Rozhnov; the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation member Irina Pleshcheva; Deputy Chairman of Synodal Department on Relations of Church and Society of the Moscow Patriarchate Priest Georgy Roshchin; and Chairman of the Presidium of the Association of Young Entrepreneurs of Russia Andrey Spiridonov.

- Master-classes on "The Story of Success" led by Chairman of board of directors of "Dymov" company Vadim Dymov; General Producer of "Marmelad Media" Company; laureate of the State Prize of the Russian Federation Ilya Popov; and Director General of the Internet-holding "Pravda.ru" Inna Novikova.

- On September 17, 2009, the working meeting of the young representatives of Shanghai Cooperation Organization establishing the Alley of Association was held.

- The International Charter of Youth Entrepreneurship was discussed in the framework of the Forum,

- The establishment of Eurasian Association of Young Entrepreneurs was initiated.



Budding entrepreneurs from various countries attend the Young Entrepreneurs Business Forum in Omsk, Russia

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Youth Business Sri Lanka Program Receives Funding from CACCI Foundation

The Youth Business Sri Lanka (YBSL) Program has received a grant of US\$5,000 from the CACCI Foundation, making YBSL the first beneficiary of the Foundation's funds. The YBSL Programme aims to help, through credit assistance and mentoring schemes, disadvantaged young people of Sri Lanka to establish viable businesses and achieve economic independence.

YBSL Programme

The Youth Business Sri Lanka (YBSL) is the Sri Lanka programme of the Prince's Youth Business International (YBI) in UK, under which the corporate community, through loans and mentoring schemes, helps disadvantaged young people

realize their ambitions to become entrepreneurs. Implemented in 36 countries, the programme assists the young entrepreneurs to establish viable businesses with credit assistance and business mentoring assistance from the respective Youth Business Programme.

Development Objective

The objective of the Programme is the engagement of youth into the national development and reduction of youth unemployment through their contribution to regional economies by establishing enterprises, through helping disadvantaged young people set up their own businesses by providing security-free loans and access to business mentors.

Mission

The YBSL mission is to help the young people, who otherwise would not have the means and opportunity to develop their self confidence, achieve economic independence, fulfill their ambitions and contribute to the community whilst uplifting their social and living standards, through the medium of self employment. The Programme targets youth with viable business ideas and do not have means to finance such a business due their "disadvantaged" social status, from underdeveloped areas, between the ages 18-33 years, and citizens of Sri Lanka.

YBSL Secretariat

The YBSL Secretariat is at

the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC), a Primary Member of CACCI. The CCC has played a key role in private sector business development for nearly 170 years by offering a range of business support services for start up businesses. CCC identifies that assistance to youth is a must for sustainable economic development resulting in productive gains and improved livelihoods. Because of its national status, CCC's role is that of custodian of the YBSL programme and it will provide strategic direction to the national trustees on overall policy. CCC will be instrumental in getting the support of major companies and donors. (More information at www.ybsl.lk)

CACCI Foundation

The CACCI Foundation for Entrepreneurship and SME Development aims to assist chambers in developing Asian countries to become sustained contributors to the economic development of the private sector. It was created in October 2006 to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of CACCI.

The Foundation funds are to be used initially to support capacity-building activities to help promote entrepreneurship and SME development in the region. Members who wish to contribute to the Foundation may contact the CACCI Secretariat at cacci@cacci.org.tw ■

Join Us . . .

Be a member of YEGAP now!

The Young Entrepreneurs Group Asia-Pacific (YEGAP) invites you to be a part of the most dynamic group of young entrepreneurs from Asia and the Pacific.

Membership in YEG-AP will provide international exposure and networking opportunities with colleagues and potential business partners from other countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Membership application and nomination forms are available at the CACCI Secretariat Office with headquarters in Taipei, Taiwan through telephone numbers (886 2) 2725-5663 or (886 2) 2725-5664. You may also email us at cacci@cacci.org.tw

We look forward to hearing from you!

Russian Federation

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Forum Organizers

The Chairman of the Forum Organizing committee was Russian Federation Minister of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy Vitaly Mutko; Deputy Chairmen of the Forum Organizing committee were Deputy Minister of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy Oleg Rozhnov and Director

General of the Omsk Manufacturing Association named after A.S. Popov Ivan Polyakov.

Aside from the CCI-RF, the official partners of the Forum were the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation, the All-Russia Public Organization "Business Russia", the Association of Young Entrepreneurs of Russia, and the All-Russia Public Organization "Russian Union of Youth". ■