

Speech for Chief Representative SAKAMOTO Takema  
Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)  
between Advantec Philippines Incorporated and PEZA  
October 12, 2023, 3:30 pm, Double Dragon Tower Center West Building, Manila

- Director General of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), Tereso O. Panga
- President, Advantec Philippines Incorporated., SANADA Noriaki

Distinguished guests from the Philippines government agencies, such as DENR and DOE, and private sector, such as The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Philippines Inc. (JCCIFI), The Philippines–Japan Economic Cooperation Committee, Inc. (PHILJEC) and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC)..

Colleagues and Friends;

Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat!

It is my great pleasure to witness in person today' s MOU signing between Advantec Philippines Incorporated and the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA).

At the outset, I highly appreciate the strong and constructive leadership of PEZA Director General Panga and Advantec Philippines President Sanada, to launch this meaningful cooperation in Pampanga in the renewable energy sector.

In the recent SONA in July, President Marcos Jr. has clearly articulated the targets of the Philippines to achieve 35% renewable energy share in the power mix by 2030 and 50% by 2040.

Mr. President also added that the Philippines opened renewable energy projects to foreign investments to accelerate the realization of this green energy goal.

JICA echoes with his efforts, and I strongly believe this MOU is a perfect direction for the Philippines, considering its potential of renewable energy development.

I also believe that the renewable energy path is a needed strategy, since it means lesser carbon footprint.

It is a smarter and more environment-friendly solution to the power woes that affect economic hubs in the Philippines.

As you know, PEZA is the home to many private companies, including nearly 900 Japanese companies doing business in the Philippines.

In the past years, JICA has been actively undertaking its Public-Private Partnership promotion program that encourages more business deployment of Japanese companies in our partner countries, like the Philippines.

These Japanese companies introduce unique and advanced technologies and business models that are geared towards sustainable development.

In this sense, rest assured that JICA keeps on supporting Filipino friends in line with the co-benefit approach.

This co-benefit approach is important and realistic for a win-win situation, aiming to both development and climate benefits.

Through this co-benefit approach, we can pursue something good together - good for the people, good for our economy, and good for the planet.

For sure, Advantec is absolutely excited and ready to introduce its unique technology and business model for this win-win future.

I would like to applaud this first step into our new partnership with PEZA in the renewable energy sector, with, of course, Advantec's utmost efforts to pilot solar power technology in eco-zones in Pampanga.

One of the comparative advantages of Advantec is their rich experience of developing "Micro Grid Smart City" in Japan, featuring a solar power system with battery storage, energy saving management systems, and emergency backup power systems.

With this new cooperation between PEZA and Advantec, the advanced solar power technology of Advantec will be introduced in the Pampanga Economic Zone to realize both renewable energy supply and CO2 reduction.

Specifically saying, it is estimated that the total output capacity will be 2,500 kilowatts, with an annual energy yield of 3.6 million kilowatts.

Simultaneously, with this technology, approximately 1,200 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> could be reduced annually.

Be reminded that we are “friends closer than brothers” !

Today’ s signing ceremony for our new cooperation is indeed a big step-up in boosting the Philippines’ investment climate, and sustainable development goals.

Again, I count on all of you, Panga-san and Sanada-san, as one of the strongest partners of JICA, and, in turn, I promise “Kasama niyo kami” .

I wish everyone success in this meaningful endeavor.

Maraming salamat po.

Mabuhay !

END

(Reference: Philippines government)

- Director, Foreign – Assisted and Special Projects Services of Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Mr. Al Orolfo
  
- Senior Science Research Specialist, Renewable Energy Management Bureau of Department of Energy  
Mr. Jeffrey Cotoner

(Reference: Philippines private sector)

- Senior Vice President for Corporate Planning & Industrial Engineer, Science Park of the Philippines Inc.  
Mr. Bienvenido Alora

(Reference: Japanese private sector)

- Executive Director/Vice President, Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Philippines Inc.  
Mr. Nobuo Fujii
  
- Vice President, Japanese & Korean Corporate Banking, Asia Pacific, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Manila Branch  
Mr. Soma Izumoto
  
- Head of Marketing, Japanese & Korean Corporate Banking, Asia Pacific, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Manila Branch  
Mr. Toru Okumura