

**Message to the NSCR Project Unveiling Ceremony of First Trainset  
/NSCR-EX Contract Signing Ceremony of Commuter Trainsets  
March 18, 2022**

1. Honorable Transportation Secretary アーサー P トゥガデ Arthur P Tugade
  2. Honorable Valenzuela City Mayor, レクスロン ガチャリアン Rexlon T. Gatchalian
  3. Undersecretary for Finance, Giovanni Z. Lopez
  4. Undersecretary for Railways, バタン Timothy John R Batan
  5. PNR General Manager, Jun Magno
  6. His Excellency Ambassador, Koshikawa Kazuhiko
  7. President of Japan Transport Engineering Company, Nishiyama Takao
  8. President of Sumitomo Corporation of the Philippines, Takano Seiji
- Distinguished guests, friends, ladies and gentlemen,

マガンダン ウマガボ サラハット  
Magandang umaga po sa lahat. (Good *morning, everyone*)

アコポシ Ako po si バーゴン SAKAMOTO Takema, bagong (new) JICA Chief Representative.

Actually, I have arrived in Manila just last night, and this is my very first official activity in this beautiful country. You can deem that I have come to the Philippines for commemorating this historic event. Yes, it is my great honor and privilege to be able to join this unveiling ceremony of the first trainset for North South Commuter Railway Project and the contract signing ceremony of 304-coaches commuter rolling stocks for North South Commuter Railway Extension Project, together with my predecessor Azukizawa Eigo.

This is another important milestone, a product of your concerted efforts, serious commitment and dedication under the strong leadership of no other than the Honorable Transportation Secretary Arthur P. Tugade.

On behalf of JICA, I extend our sincerest congratulations and appreciation to DOTr and PNR for the delivery of the first trainset for the NSCR. With your strong devotion and contribution, we are now beginning to see what we have been envisioning for a long time.

And, of course, none of these would be possible without the hard work by the prestigious and highly reliable Japanese manufacturer in the railway industry, Japan Transport Engineering Company (J-TREC) and Sumitomo Corporation. We, JICA, are grateful for the efficient delivery of the first trainset.

We are pleased and proud to inform you that this trainset is the same brand as Tokyo's Yamanote Line. These are rolling stocks that are quite famous and constantly used by millions of commuters in Japan. The safety and reliability feature of rolling stocks is one of main reasons why NSCR is called "Quality Infrastructure project".

In addition, we are pleased to witness signing of another 304-coaches Rolling Stock Contract which is largest ever in the Philippines. We are confident that these rolling stocks, manufactured by J-TREC and Sumitomo Corporation, shall contribute to ease the current serious traffic situation in and around NCR (National Capital Region) with the safe, comfortable and punctual mass transportation, equipped with Japanese technology.

We are also amazed by the massive construction works here in Malanday Depot being carried out by Taisei Corporation and DMCI. We are happy to know that thousands of people have been employed to work for the project. It can be said that we are contributing to job creation as well. Moreover, we are proud that we are improving the transportation service through the combination of Government solid initiative under the "Build Build Build" program and the Japanese "Quality Infrastructure" policy.

Rest assured that JICA is, and will be, always with you to support the development of a seamless transportation infrastructure, for the better and comfortable life of friends in the Philippines. I, hereby, have committed that JICA continues to further strengthen our partnership with this lovely country.

It is indeed rewarding to have been working with everyone of you from DOTr and PNR. But we are just witnessing the beginning of many successes to come to this significant project. Let us continue to work harder for a fast and sure completion of NSCR system.

マブーハイアン  
Mabuhay ang DOTr at PNR! *(Long Live DOTr and PNR!)*