



# Women's BULLETIN

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## MALE DILG ASSISTANT SECRETARIES

For this issue of the DILG GAD Bulletin, we are putting the spotlight on our male Assistant Secretaries to get their thoughts on how they understand their role in women empowerment by answering this question: "As Assistant Secretary of the DILG, how can you empower Filipino Women as active contributors to Philippine development?"

## on Women Empowerment

### Assistant Secretary for Communication and Public Affairs Jonathan E. Malaya

Asec Malaya believes that the Department has the best means of empowering women "by promoting and advocating self-awareness, and women's rights to all local governments." He says this can further be enacted by educating our leaders and young men to support, respect and lend an open hand to help women in achieving their potentials.



Being the official Spokesperson of the DILG, he believes that as an official of the government, he should first serve as role model not just in supporting women empowerment, but as an agent in making them achieve self-awareness, and reaching their full potential.

"It is World Women's History Month this coming March. We in the DILG should support and promote women to not just make his-tory, but create their own her-story. Women have the ability to rewrite their destinies," he says.

pivotal role in breaking the walls built by societal limitations in order to help women, stating that, "as a Department, we must link our programs and projects to the Filipino women, so they can serve not only their families but also their country."

As Asec for Barangay Affairs and Partnership, he advocates for an increased participation and representation of women in their communities whether through barangay-level bodies, faith-based organizations, or civil society organizations. He believes that the inputs given by women are just as valuable as their male counterparts which are necessary in establishing a holistic and inclusive environment.

### Assistant Secretary for Public Safety Nestor F. Quinsay

As a man who greatly respects women, ASec. Quinsay has always considered women as "the perfect and the corresponding other side of the coin" who balances and creates harmony in every situation.



Working closely with male-dominated agencies like BFP & BJMP, he considers the empowerment of women to be active contributors in our country as a perpetual activity because "they are the ones who have been contributing for the greater development in our society."

"I know the significance of women in public service. They have the instinct of a mother, who will always prioritize the safety of their children and love ones. To empower them is to have them informed, trained and immersed," he points out.

### Assistant Secretary for Peace and Order Alexander L. Macario

Asec Macario strongly encourages the active participation of women in the programs that he handles by giving them lead roles and allowing them to make critical decisions in the implementation of these programs.

Some of the programs under ASec. Macario are the Comprehensive Social Benefits if KIA/ WIA and KIPO/WIPO program (CSBP), Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM), and Preventing Counter Violent Extremism and Anti-Communism Insurgency.



### Assistant Secretary for Muslim Affairs and Special Concerns Hamid K. Ladjakahal

Giving honor and respect due to Filipino women is one of the things that ASec. Ladjakahal values the most. For him, women are "the unsung heroes of the Philippine society." They must be empowered equally with men in the context of national development.

"All women must be protected and provided with safe and healthful work environment, free from sexual abuses and harassment in all its dimensions. Long live the Filipino women," he says.

-- Paul Dominique Tejada



### Assistant Secretary for Plans and Programs Epimaco V. Densing

"I wish to empower women by ensuring that everyone is included in the genuine reform happening under the present administration," says Asec Densing.

He says public participation for both men and women means that "no one is excluded from becoming a partner for change." He believes that "an inclusive and participative government

ensures that Filipino woman is an active contributor to Philippine Development."

### Assistant Secretary for External and Legislative Affairs Ricojudge Janvier M. Echiverri

For Asec Echiverri, Filipino women are empowered not by honoring them but by treating them equally and giving them the same job opportunities as men. "It is by listening to their minds, allowing their voices to be heard, and considering them, that we give them an active role in our societal development," he adds.



In his point of view, policy-making bodies and lead government institutions must always include women in their core leaders so that proper representation maybe had and the perspective and feelings of the governed will always be considered. "In this way we can create policies that are more inclusive and keeping in touch to the realities faced by our countrymen," he stresses.



### Assistant Secretary for Barangay Affairs and Partnership Roosque B. Calacat

According to Asec Calacat, the DILG plays a

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A strongly determined and highly trusted Department committed to capacitate and nurture local government units, public order, and safety institutions to sustain peaceful, progressive and resilient communities where people live happily.