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REGION IX- ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

PRESS RELEASE

News Conference on the 2022 Economic Performance in Zamboanga Peninsula

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From left: Ms. Susan C. Valerio from NEDA IX, PSA IX Regional Director Mewchun WS. Pamaran, Ms. Maria Bernadette L. Dizon from PSA Central Office

The Philippine Statistics Authority – Regional Statistical Services Office IX (PSA RSSO IX) conducted the News Conference on the 2022 Economic Performance of Region IX-Zamboanga Peninsula on 27 April 2023 at the Hotel Guillermo, Pagadian City and via hybrid set-up. The news conference consisted the release of the 2022 Regional Accounts of Zamboanga Peninsula and is released through the simultaneous press conference in 17 regions at 10:00 AM.

The news conference commenced at 9:30 in the morning that started with the Prayer followed by the singing of the Philippine National Anthem and the Zamboanga del Sur Hymn. Ms. Michelle Grace C. Natividad, Information Officer I served as the Master of the Ceremony. The event was well attended by the different regional line agencies, local government units, government-owned and controlled corporations, the academe, and media personnel. The Welcome Remarks was delivered by Ms. Maria Bernadette L. Dizon, Senior Statistical Specialist, Macroeconomic Accounts Service of the PSA Central Office. Ms. Dizon conveyed the message of National Statistician and Civil Registrar General Dennis S. Mapa emphasizing the importance and the goal of the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) and

Gross Regional Domestic Expenditure (GRDE) that is to provide policymakers and stakeholders with the comprehensive picture of the regional economies which will serve as an important tool for planning and policy formulation at the regional level recognizing the importance of the regions in the national economic development, the GRDP and GRDE are major economic indicators that will bring the change in the lives of our countrymen. The GRDP is integral in the generation of a more granular statistics through the Provincial Product Accounts spearheaded by the PSA. Ms. Dizon concluded the message thanking everyone for the continuous support given to PSA for the provision of data requirement as the compilation of the regional accounts would not be possible without the collaboration of data providers from the government institutions, private sector, and the academe. Likewise, she informed everyone that the complete tables and highlights on the 2022 Regional Accounts of the Philippines can already be viewed and downloaded at the PSA website.



Ms. Maria Bernadette L. Dizon from PSA Central Office delivering the Welcome Remarks.

PSA IX Regional Director Mewchun WS. Pamaran presenting the Highlights of the 2022 Economic Performance of Region IX.

The highlights on the 2022 Report on the Economic Performance of Zamboanga Peninsula was presented by Ms. Mewchun WS. Pamaran, Regional Director at exactly 10:00 in the morning. The economy of the region for 2022 as presented by RD Pamaran grew faster from a growth of 5.7 percent in 2021 to 7.5 percent in 2022 and that Zamboanga Peninsula is considered pre-dominantly a services-based economy. Of the 7.6 percent economic growth of the country in 2022, Zamboanga Peninsula contributed 0.2 percentage point while accounting for 2.1 percent share of the national GDP. Meanwhile, Zamboanga Peninsula's Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE) accelerated in 2022 with a 9.6 percent growth in 2022 from 5.9 percent in 2021. RD Pamaran in conclusion acknowledged the valued data sources that contributed in the estimation of the 2022 GRDP and GRDE through their provision of PSA's data requirements. She thanked the valued data partners and hoped that they will continue to share to PSA the valuable information so that PSA can come up with quality estimation of the GRDP and GRDE.



Ms. Susan C. Valerio, Chief Economic Development Specialist, NEDA IX gave the Statement.

Ms. Ma. Flerida E. Tan, OIC SOCD, PSA IX concluded the program with the Closing Remarks.

A statement from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) IX followed after the presentation. NEDA IX Regional Director Ms. Phlorita A. Ridao was represented by Ms. Susan C. Valerio, Chief Economic Development Specialist. Ms. Valerio shared NEDA's statement that despite the challenges faced last year as the country is still reeling from the effects of the pandemic, Zamboanga Peninsula had a wonderful recovery as the economy rebounded in 2022 although it fell short from the Regional Development Plan 2017–2022 target set at 8.0 percent by the end of 2022. She said that the positive growth rate is a manifestation of the concerted efforts from both the government and private sectors. She also informed that the Regional Development Plan 2022–2028 has already been approved by the Regional Development Council (RDC) IX last December 2022. The plan consisted of 18 chapters with the goal of economic transformation. She ended her statement enjoining everyone to look forward, work together for a better Zamboanga Peninsula that generates better opportunities, breeds inclusive growth, creates resilient communities and citizenry and all these efforts will someday be realized in the common aspiration of the Ambisyon 2040 of "Matatag, Maginhawa at Panatag na Buhay". The Open Forum followed with a few questions from the media and a representative from the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) IX. Regional Director Mewchun WS. Pamaran and Ms. Susan C. Valerio served as the resource persons during the open forum.

The closing remarks was given by Ms. Ma. Flerida E. Tan, Officer-In-Charge of PSA IX Statistical Operations and Coordination Division (SOCD) expressing gratitude to government agencies, business establishments, industry institutions and other sectors of the society for their laudable support extended to PSA in terms of data provision which is considered as the key inputs to the estimation of the regional accounts. Ms. Tan emphasized that truly without our partners, estimation of the GRDP would not be possible. GRDP estimates provides information that our policy makers utilize in crafting economic policies and eventually these policies translate to the lives of the people in the conduct of their businesses as well as it will serve as the mirror to reflect and to monitor the patterns of the various consumption and measures the welfare and over all standards of living. PSA is mandated and committed to deliver timely, relevant, reliable and accessible regional accounts statistics to our valued data users and this is our battle cry to our dear stakeholders and our partners for we cannot do this alone without their support and participation. A group picture together with all the participants was taken before the adjournment of the program.



Mewchun W.S. Pamaran
MEWCHUN WS. PAMARAN
Regional Director

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