

Meetings Held at the Philippines Congress to prepare for IAPP Inauguration

Julius Malicdem
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In preparation for the upcoming inauguration of the IAPP (International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace) in the Philippines, a very significant preparatory meeting was held at the Philippine House of Representatives or Congress in the afternoon of February 15, 2017. The meeting took place inside the Office of the Speaker of the House, Hon. Pantaleon Alvarez and with the IAPP Delegation headed by IAPP International Co-Chairman and 5-time Speaker of the House, Hon. Jose De Venecia, Jr. and together with Dr. Chung Sik Yong, Special Emissary and Regional President of UPF in Asia Region. Together in the meeting were, Dr. Julius Malicdem, UPF Philippines Chairman, Deputy Speaker Hon. Gwendolyn Garcia, Congressman Leopoldo Bataoil and 7 other Congressmen who were present in the meeting as the lead conveners of IAPP in the Philippines and who already have attended ILC in Korea, Nepal and Asian Leadership Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. Present also in the meeting was Mrs. Gina De Venecia, Former Congresswoman and who was very timely celebrating her birthday also on that day.



As soon as the Speaker of the House, Hon. Pantaleon Alvarez entered the meeting room, Speaker Jose De Venecia started to introduce one by one the delegation. Speaker De Venecia led the meeting and made official announcement in the presence of the current Speaker, the officers of IAPP in the Philippines. Honorable Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn Garcia was appointed as Chairperson of IAPP Philippines, while Congressman Leopoldo Bataoil as President and Congressman Christopher De Venecia as the Executive Vice President of IAPP Philippines. Speaker De Venecia then requested the current Speaker of the House to be the Adviser of IAPP Philippines. Speaker Alvarez spoke as he welcome warmly the delegation and gladly acknowledged his appointment and announced his full support for IAPP. After, Speaker De Venecia explained more about the vision and purpose of IAPP, he then introduced Dr. Chung Sik Yong officially to the Speaker. Dr. Yong explained to the Speaker about the organization of IAPP which took place first in Seoul, South Korea then was inaugurated in various continents around the world and which culminated in Washington DC in USA and then had the Global Assembly once again in Korea. Speaker

De Venecia called on the newly appointed IAPP Chairperson, Deputy Speaker Garcia to also speak and she thanked UPF and IAPP for the appointment and vowed to give her full support to advance the cause of IAPP. Also, Congressman Bataoil, newly appointed President of IAPP and just recently attended in World Summit in Korea, expressed his desire to help IAPP in whatever way he can. Congressman Christopher De Venecia also expressed his gratitude for being appointed as Executive Vice President. Dr. Julius Malicdem later explained about the upcoming schedule of the inauguration of IAPP officially in the Philippines which will take place in Manila Hotel on March 6-7, 2017.

The meeting ended cordially as UPF, represented by Dr. Yong presented a gift to Speaker Alvarez. A special Ilhwa Ginseng Tea from True Mother. Before the UPF and IAPP delegation left the Congress, they were invited inside the Plenary Hall of the Congress and were officially acknowledged during the on-going session. Speaker Jose De Venecia played a major role in arranging the meeting and indeed was a great representative of UPF and IAPP. Later that night, a news report on a national TV news channel was broadcasted featuring the IAPP Preparatory meeting held in the Congress.



Second Round of Preparatory Meeting for IAPP Philippines Inauguration Held in Congress

February 21, 2017 (Philippine Congress)

Another meeting was called last February 21, 2017 by the Deputy Speaker of Philippine House of Representatives, Hon. Gwendolyn Garcia (Incoming Chairperson of IAPP in the Philippine) held at the Congress in preparation for the upcoming inauguration of IAPP in the Philippines on March 7, 2017. Present in the meeting is the incoming President of IAPP Philippines, Hon. Leopoldo Bataoil and Hon. Christopher De Venecia (Executive Vice President). Also present in the meeting were, Hon. Romeo Acop, Chairman of the Committee on Public Order and Safety in the Congress and nominated as Founding Member of IAPP, Rev. Julius Malicdem, Ms. Irma Balulot, Mr. Isidro Carumba and Ms. Grace Carumba from UPF Philippines.