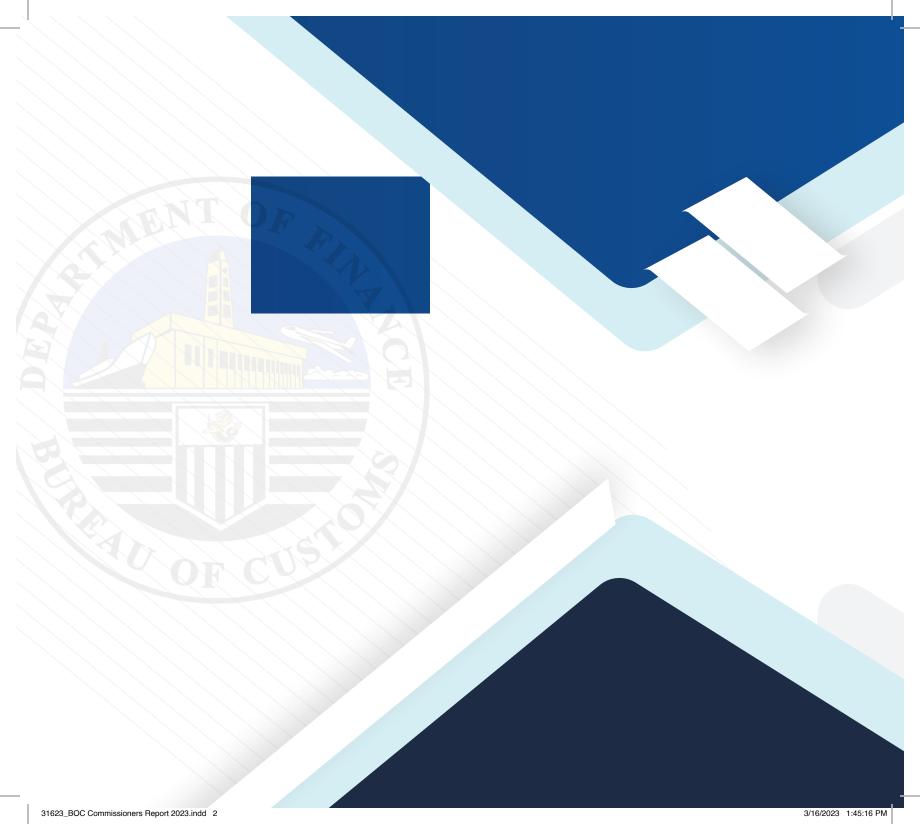


COMMISSIONER'S REPORT



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INTRODUCTION

With new vitality, we are vigorously forward-looking, positively results-oriented.

Aligned with the overarching directives of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr., Commissioner Bienvenido Y. Rubio instituted the five (5) priority programs of the Bureau of Customs (BOC): to digitalize customs processes, surpass the revenue target, simplify the facilitation of trade, curb smuggling, and uplift the morale of the men and women of the BOC.

With clear directives, we are unwaveringly focused on our mandates.

The entire Customs organization commits to protecting the country's borders from all forms of smuggling, especially those involving agricultural products and dangerous drugs.

Commissioner Rubio is also determined to continue the Bureau's efforts to foster a healthier trade environment that will contribute to the country's expansion and economic recovery. The BOC will craft programs to enable better and modernized mechanisms for trade facilitation, as well as new methods that will contribute to an improved collection efficiency through sustainable reforms

With public service as our benchmark, we remain faithful to our values.

The Commissioner will also adopt policies that promote excellent quality of public service centered on competency and integrity development of the BOC's human resources.

Finally, Commissioner Rubio recognizes that inclusivity is a catalyst for obtaining meaningful solutions. Hence, he endeavors to gain the stakeholders' trust, thereby paving the way for a renewed BOC-stakeholders partnership, geared towards improved customs administration comparable to neighboring nations.



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STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND PURPOSEFUL ACTIONS TO IMPROVE REVENUE COLLECTION EFFICIENCY

In the face of the collective aspiration to enable better revenue collection, the Bureau of Customs is taking on the challenge of meeting its target of PhP901.337 billion in revenue for 2023. As one of the frontliners in the government's revenue collection structure, the Commissioner is optimizing strategy in plans and programs and emphasizing target fulfillment in all the Bureau's actions.

With this framework of directions and actions, the Bureau was able to achieve and surpass its target collection in the first month of Commissioner Rubio's term. As the Commissioner aligned the objectives and efforts of the men and women of the Bureau toward increased collection efficiency, the BOC was able to generate PhP63.015 billion in revenue and even surpassed its target of PhP61.8 billion in February 2023 alone.

In total, the Bureau posted PhP166.973 billion in revenue from January 1 to March 13, 2023, achieving a surplus of PhP13.951 billion from its target of PhP153 billion. This manifests the determination and cooperation of the BOC personnel in performing its mandate of boosting revenue collection.





It is also worth highlighting that in the first month of Commissioner Rubio's term, the BOC had already collected PhP68.6 billion worth of revenue just from February 13 to March 13.

The positive revenue growth is partly attributable to the BOC's streamlined tax collection procedures under Commissioner Rubio's directive. Moreover, his firm directive in ensuring the use of correct valuation has effectively addressed revenue leakages caused by misclassification and undervaluation.

The Customs Chief has vowed to further improve the Bureau's revenue collection efficiency to contribute to the expansion and recovery of our national economy.

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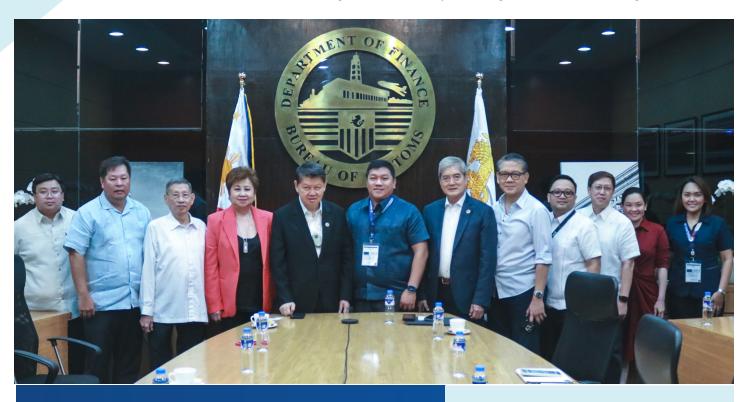




FEDERATION OF FILIPINO-CHINESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, INC.

On 22 February 2023, the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (FFCCCII), represented by its President Henry Lim Bon Liong and Executive Vice President Mary Go Ng, paid a courtesy visit to Commissioner Rubio to discuss the present concerns faced by their different member sectors.

FFCCCII, composed of leaders of the various Chinese chambers of commerce and trade associations throughout the country, was organized to assist the government and



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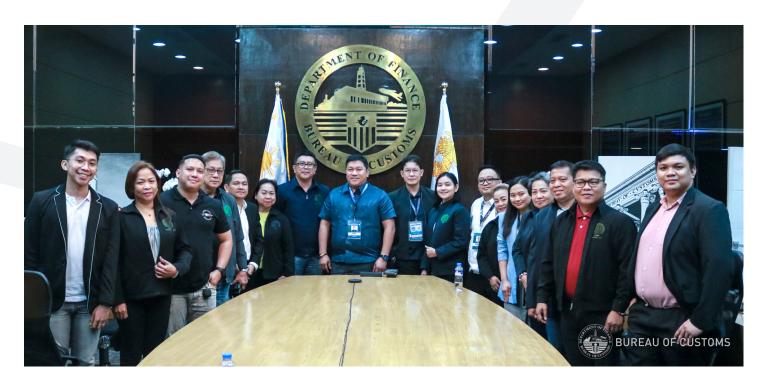
strengthen the friendship between the Filipinos and the Chinese in the Philippines.

FFCCCII expressed their full support of the mandates of Commissioner Rubio to curtail smuggling and other

customs fraud and committed to creating a team composed of representatives from different sectors to collaborate with the BOC for information sharing on value references imported by their members, among others.







CHAMBER OF CUSTOMS BROKERS, INC.

Representatives of the Chamber of Customs Brokers, Inc. (CCBI), led by its President Adones Carmona, paid a courtesy visit to Commissioner Rubio on 22 February 2023 to address concerns about the existing policies of the BOC.

Several regulations were reviewed to ensure that current BOC guidelines meet the increasing needs and demands of its stakeholders. The BOC also assured the continuous improvement and implementation of the "No Contact Policy" by developing a more responsive and effective feedback system through online platforms.

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PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY

The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), headed by Tereso O. Panga, also met with Commissioner Rubio on 01 March 2023 to clarify concerns on customs processes and payment for duties and taxes.



The BOC clarified the guidelines for availing lawful duty and tax incentives to ensure complete legal compliance and unhampered business operations.

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"Aligned with our goal to enhance trade facilitation and ease of doing business, we will make sure to understand and cater to the needs of stakeholders so we may provide appropriate solutions and guidance according to Customs laws," said Commissioner Rubio.

Both agencies also discussed measures to improve coordination to resolve critical concerns efficiently.







ARISE PLUS PHILIPPINES PROJECT

The Commissioner met with the representatives of the ARISE Plus Philippines Project on 07 March 2023 to discuss their proposed activities to support the BOC in its compliance with existing international commitments and new or evolving requirements, as well as to sensitize economic operators and external stakeholders on new business processes and rules.

"We aim to foster an inclusive economy and competitive trade environment through enhanced international trade partnerships and economic integration," said Commissioner Rubio.

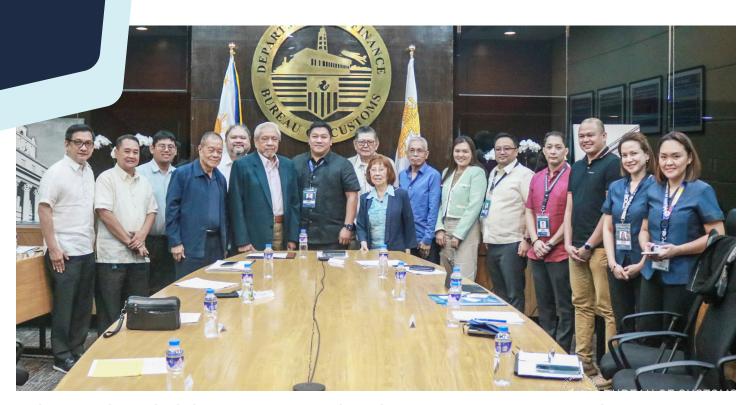
"Through this project, we can contribute to the improvement of our economic performance and even increase job opportunities for Filipinos," he added.

The BOC and ARISE Plus Project will hold a series of trade facilitation workshops on Advanced Principles of Supply Chain Management from March 28 to 30.









PORT USERS CONFEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Representatives of the Port Users Confederation of the Philippines (PUCP), led by Chairperson of the Board Atty. Oscar Sevilla, paid a courtesy visit to Commissioner Rubio on 09 March 2023 to discuss the improvement of existing customs processes.

The Commissioner assured PUCP that the BOC will work hand-in-hand with the port operators to ensure the continuous flow of goods and increase voluntary compliance of stakeholders with the BOC's valuation and classification rules.

"We are continuously coordinating with port operators to monitor and implement measures to ensure the expeditious release of goods and maintain ease in trade facilitation. To achieve this, we also encourage stakeholders to comply with all requirements to avoid delays or disruptions in operations," said Commissioner Rubio.









PHILIPPINE EXPORTERS CONFEDERATION, INC.

Customs Commissioner attended the 1st Quarter General Membership Meeting of the Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. on 14 March 2023. The event was attended by their members, most of whom are owners, Presidents, and General Managers of various export companies.

During the event, the BOC presented the updates on the implementation of the ATA Carnet, Authorized Economic

Operator Program, and the agency's various automation projects, which include the ASEAN Customs Declaration, TradeNet, Automated Inventory Management System, and Electronic Tracking of Containerized Cargo.

These programs and systems affirm BOC's mandate and commitment to improve efficiency, upgrade systems and processes, and promote integrity and professionalism in Customs administration.



It is my hope that there will be more opportunities to work together to craft even more timely and appropriate solutions to improve your ways of doing business and trade facilitation as a whole. We at the BOC are dedicated to deliver timely and professional services that work best for you and for our country.

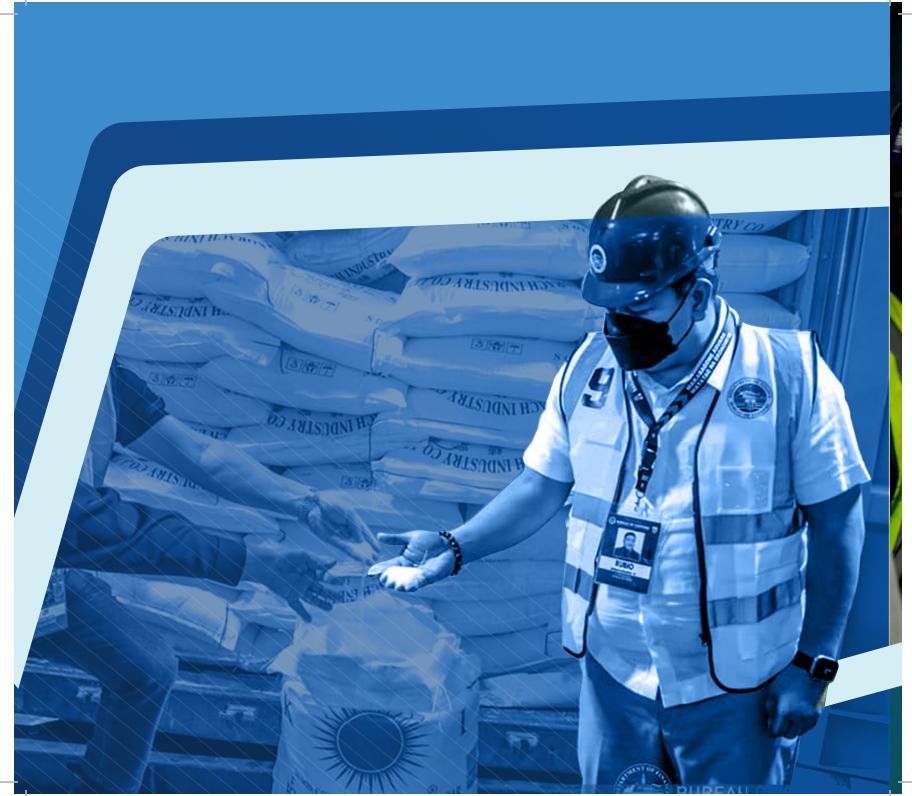








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Since he assumed office on 13 February 2023, the Bureau has seized over PhP1.3 billion worth of illegally imported goods, including the PhP1.1 billion worth of intercepted agricultural products. Among the top seized commodities include illegal drugs amounting to over PhP141 million, and cigarettes and tobacco products worth more than PhP45 million. Other seized goods include counterfeit goods, used clothing, general merchandise, and jewelry, among others.

The Commissioner said the BOC continues to be relentless in the fight against smuggling and that the Bureau will continue to maximize its intelligence resources and intensify enforcement measures to thwart all smuggling attempts, especially those involving agricultural products that negatively impact local farmers and businesses.

Apart from intensified seizure and inspection activities, the BOC has also bolstered its investigation and filing of criminal cases against errant importers and customs brokers involved in illegal importation and violation of Customs laws, rules, and regulations. Since he assumed office on February 13, 2023, the BOC has filed ten (10) criminal



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complaints before the Department of Justice (DOJ) against various unscrupulous importers, their representatives, and customs brokers.

To promote better measures in the prosecution of cases, the Customs Commissioner met with Justice Secretary Jesus Crispin "Boying" Remulla to discuss the DOJ-BOC Task Force.

The DOJ and BOC revisited several policies and circulars to resolve bottlenecks and to streamline communications and procedures for the prosecution of cases. The BOC also proposed to conduct a DOJ-BOC Legal Summit to renew commitments and boost the understanding and capabilities of the Bureau in areas of prosecution and the

DOJ in customs processes, which prove to be indispensable to the successful prosecution of cases.

Secretary Remulla committed full cooperation and support to the BOC in upholding transparency and accountability and assured efficient administration of the criminal justice system.

"We will continue to intensify our border protection efforts to safeguard the interests and welfare of Filipinos against smuggled and unsafe goods that pose hazards to our society," the Commissioner said.

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