



October 9, 2017

Program Committee Weekly Advisory



Hon. Jose C. "Joe" de Venecia, Jr.

Elected 5-Times, Speaker, House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines;
Founding Chairman and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP);
President of the Centrist Asia Pacific Democrats International (CAPDI)
Member, Rotary Club of Manila

Guest Speaker

October 12, 2017, Thursday, 12N, New World Makati Hotel

We shall have our very own Rotarian, the [Hon. Jose C. "Joe" de Venecia, Jr.](#), was elected 5-Times, Speaker, House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines; Founding Chairman and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP); President of the Centrist Asia Pacific Democrats International (CAPDI), as guest speaker on, **October 12, 2017, Thursday, 12N, New World Makati Hotel.** Rtn. "Joe" de Venecia will present his advocacies, and share his comments, opinions on current issues hugging the limelight. A public forum will immediately follow right after his speech.

Honorable **Jose De Venecia, Jr.**, who was elected five-times as Speaker of the House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines (1992-1995, 1995-1998, 2001-2004, 2004-2007 and 2007-2008), unprecedented in postwar Philippine Congress, is Founding Chairman and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), now composed of more than 340 ruling, opposition and independent political parties in 52 countries in Asia.

Last December 2016, he was also chosen Chairman, with former 30-year U.S. Congressman Dan Burton as Co-Chairman, of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), representing members of parliament from the various continents.

He is also President of the Centrist Asia Pacific Democrats International (CAPDI), the first organization in Asia Pacific, bringing together political parties and key institutions of civil society, think tanks, business leaders, media, women and youth groups.

INITIATIVES IN ASIA

- Co-founded the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), composed of more than 40 parliaments in Asia, with Sen. Mushahid Hussain Sayed of Pakistan, to create what he envisioned to be the beginnings of an Asian Parliament. He also transferred the APA headquarters from Manila to Tehran to bring APA into an Asia-wide organization, instead of limited to East Asia, and to help bring Iran into the mainstream. De Venecia also served as President of the Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP), forerunner of APA, and twice President of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO).
- Initiated and co-founded the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council (APRC), with former Thai Deputy Prime Minister and former Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai, composed of former heads of governments, leaders of parliament, foreign ministers and policy-makers. APRC aims to assist governments and organizations in peace-building and conflict resolution in Asia and other areas.
- In the belief that Asia's future depends on its economic and political integration, JDV has proposed an ASIAN Parliament, (an expansion of the proposed smaller ASEAN Parliament), an Asian Monetary Fund (which he acknowledges was initiated by the Japanese), an Asian Anti-Poverty Fund or Asian Micro-Finance Fund, or Global Anti-Poverty Fund, and other modalities of cooperation that he hopes will eventually contribute to an Asian Community.
- Another JDV initiative is the Debt-for-Equity Program that the Philippines has proposed to the U.N., the IMF, and the Paris Club (which organizations de Venecia personally addressed) and the G-7 and G-20 nations. The formula empowers the poorest and heavily indebted debtor-countries (102 countries) to divert a percentage of their debt-service payments into anti-poverty programs that offer the prospect of profit, and recently for anti-climate change projects. This is still awaiting consideration.

- JDV also initiated the Philippine proposal—which the United Nations has approved and began to carry out—Interfaith Dialogue to help heal politico-religious and cultural schisms in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa, principally those between Islam and the West, the Sunni-Shi'ite conflicts, etc. to prevent the dreaded “clash of civilizations” and “clash of religions,” following his speeches at the U.N. General Assembly and the U.N. Security Council.
- JDV serves as Co-Chairman of the International Ecological Safety Collaborative Organization (IESCO), devoted to fighting climate change and environmental degradation, with offices in Beijing and New York and granted Special Consultative Status at the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- Just recently, JDV was appointed Co-Chairman of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) during its launching in Washington D.C., December 2016, with former U.S. Congressional leader Dan Burton, also as Co-Chairman.

POLITICAL LEADER

- He was first elected congressman in 1969, at the age of 32, but after two years, Congress was abolished by then late President Marcos under Martial Law. Upon democracy's return, he ran again in a new congressional seat in Pangasinan (4th District) in 1987 and subsequently became Acting Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee.
- In the disastrous earthquake of 1990 which destroyed his hometown Dagupan City and parts of Baguio, La Union and Cabanatuan City, JDV authored with Rep. Rolando Andaya the P10-billion Earthquake Fund Law and went to various countries to seek official assistance and completely rebuilt Dagupan City in two years.
- Elected five-times as Speaker of the House of Representatives (1992-1995, 1995-1998, 2001-2004, 2004-2007 and 2007-2008), which is unprecedented in postwar Philippine Congress.
- Co-founded, with then President Fidel Ramos and Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats (Lakas-CMD), which became the ruling party for some 15 years. He was alternately its Secretary General, President, Chairman and Co-Chairman.
- Architect of the “Rainbow Coalition” in the House of Representatives, which united the country during the turbulent post-Martial Law years, and which paved the way for the smooth passage of the economic, political and social reform legislation, principally more than 200 reform laws, during the Ramos administration, helping create the modest Philippine economic miracle in the Ramos years.
- Ran for president in the 1998 elections. He emerged second in the field of 10 candidates, with four rivals in his own party, and with President Joseph Estrada as winner. When Estrada went to prison and later pardoned, De Venecia's running mate, Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, succeeded to the presidency. Mr. Estrada later became Mayor of Manila.
- JDV received from French President Jacques Chirac in Paris the French Legion of Honor, decoration from King Juan Carlos of Spain, high decorations from the Royal Government of Cambodia, and the Government of Equatorial Guinea in Africa, the Knights of Rizal, the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), and honorary doctorates from universities at home and abroad.
- JDV has addressed the U.N. General Assembly, the U.N. Security Council, the Council of Europe, and spoke in meetings at the British Parliament, the French National Assembly, the Japanese Diet, China's Great Hall of the People, Italy's National Assembly, the Belgian Parliament, and the California and Guam Legislatures.
- JDV is also a Lawmaker, Peacemaker, International Business Leader, Diplomat, Journalist.

Preview of Next Thursday's Speaker

Oct. 19, 2017, 12N, New World Makati Hotel



Hon. Arthur P. Tugade

Secretary, Department of Transportation (DOTr)

Rotarian Facilitator: [DE "Jackie" Rodriguez, Chairman, Program Committee](#)

Among other club activities:

Bring a guest or a prospective new member to attain our goal of building our Club and its membership.

HOUSE COMMITTEE Reminder: Please send back the RSVP form to allow us to make the correct reservation for you and your guests to avoid delay in food service. See you!

Attention: HOUSE Committee [] Attending Alone [] Attending with guest/s

Name (First Name / Surname): Company: Position:

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)

By: _____
Printed Name of Rotarian & Signature

Date: _____