

CLOSING REMARKS BY DENNIS DE PEIZA 8th BIENNIAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE -CTUSAB

Colleagues, thank you for the resounding vote of confidence in having reelected me to serve as the General Secretary of this apex body.

I am left to conclude that you are not only satisfied with my performance in the role in which you have entrusted me to serve, but you are comfortable with the level of expertise, experience, leadership and managerial skills that you expect of me as one of the principals of this national trade union body.

I am honoured to have served CTUSAB in this executive role since the year 2000, and take this opportunity to assure you of my intention to continue to play the role that you expect of me.

Today we are all conscious that a new chapter in the life of this organization is about to begin. A new executive has been elected, and the baton of leadership has been passed. I wish to congratulate those who were elected to office, and to thank those who have demitted office for their years of service to the organization.

As the senior in this new executive, if only by length of service to the Congress, I believe that I have the responsibility to offer some advice that should help to guide us as individuals, as we undertake to serve.

I refer you to the old cliché which states, 'to whom much is given, much is expected.' I suggest that you may surmise that the confidence expressed in each of us is deserving, and we are therefore required to demonstrate through our individual commitment and efforts, that we will work to carry forward the agenda of the CTUSAB.

I would wish to caution you not to become over confident or take much for granted. Drawing on my own experience, I have learnt over the years that despite one's best efforts and what you would have achieved, much is yet expected of you. Needless to say there are those who would 'big you up' today, and without reason slap you down tomorrow.

Should you be subjected to such an experience, I urge you not to be intimidated. One would not be human if you were not to feel humiliated and demotivated, but you need to see it as a challenge that inspires you to do an even better job.

I therefore implore you to come to office with an open mind. Be prepared to take the bitter with the sweet. Remember that there are times that some with whom you come into contact may attempt to threat you inhumanely and subject you to embarrassment; but through it all show humility, maturity, respect, and exercise good judgment.

Let's us at all times endeavor to practice what we preach, and if there is one thing we should observe is the dignity and respect of the individual.

Finally, may I remind you that every officer will be judged on his/her performances. I therefore urge to give of your best efforts. Remember that whatever subjective assessments are made of your individual contributions, what really matters is the record of your performance on which a valid judgment will be made.