



Dasuguan ng Pilipinas Embassy of the Philippines Oslo

05 May 2008

Dear Chairman Schmidt,

I have the honor to invite you or a member of your Committee on Trade and Industry to participate in the upcoming Sixth (6th) International Tourism Forum for Parliamentarians and Local Authorities which will be held from **21 to 25 October 2008 in Cebu City, Philippines**. Said event is being organized by the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) together with the Philippine Department of Tourism (DOT), and the Philippine Congress.

The Forum will discuss major issues on tourism, including national systems of tourism statistics, measurement of employment in tourism, trends and challenges to tourism (i.e. climate change, poverty alleviation, role of women, communication and ethics), economic knowledge of tourism at local levels, and the role of parliamentarians and local authorities in the promotion and development of tourism.

As such, the International Tourism Forum will likewise have the following three (3) segments:

- 1) A Technical Workshop on Tourism Statistics and Tourism Satellite Account (21-22 October) geared towards technical and senior officials from national tourism organizations, national statistics offices, central banks and local tourism bodies;
- 2) A Parliamentarian and Local Authorities Conference (23-24 October), geared towards national and local legislators responsible for tourism policymaking, as well as governors and mayors who implement laws, rules and regulations on tourism; and
- 3) A technical visit of the island of Bohol (25 October).

Should you or your representative be interested, please contact **Vice Consul Lenna de Dios** at +47 22 40 09 00 or email us at ambassador@philembassy.no to confirm your attendance.

Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

EVELYN D. AUSTRIA-GARCIA
Charge d'Affaires, a.i.

HON. HANS CHRISTIAN SCHMIDT

Chairman

Committee on Trade and Industry

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