MAKING LAND WORK

CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ III
SECRETARY OF FINANCE, REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

MESSAGE BEFORE THE CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE LAND GOVERNANCE

FEBRUARY 8, 2017

Our policies regarding land governance are in urgent need of updating

The National Land Use Plan
has been sitting in the legislative
mill with little indication that
it will be passed into law any time soon

Coherence to the conflicting provisions between remedial pieces of legislation

We need a clear policy regarding habitation in danger zones

We need to rethink agrarian reform in the light of the continuing backwardness of our agriculture

DOF moved to reduce estate taxes

The Philippines has less arable land per unit of population than:

Vietnam

Indonesia

Myanmar

Laos

Thailand

Cambodia

The phenomenon of landlessness became more severe

Settlements are pushed to the most perilous places

We need to plan for our settlements, addressing a housing backlog estimated at well over 3 million units

Commercial developers

Agricultural estates

Industrial and export-processing zones

Extractive industries

Metro Manila presents us with the most severe case of poor land governance

Unless we are able to rapidly upgrade our land governance

The fate that befell this choked metropolitan area will befall other areas of our archipelago

We are truly facing a land governance crisis and we must respond decisively to this

Be assured our government is fully aware of the problems and we are ready to build up planning capacity to address it

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