## PHILGUARANTEE, ORIX Metro secure partnership to strengthen financial support to MSMEs



State-owned Philippine Guarantee Corporation (PHILGUARANTEE) has signed a guarantee agreement with leasing and finance company ORIX Metro on November 27 in ceremonies held in Makati City, providing for a stronger and more sustainable credit environment for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The signing ceremony was led by PHILGUARANTEE President and CEO Alberto Pascual and ORIX Metro President Angelo Padua. ORIX Metro FVP Michael Oliva and FVP Michael Bautista, together with PHILGUARANTEE SVP Celso Gutierrez and Acting Department Head Adrian Damasco, likewise took part during the signing event.

"Our core mission is to bridge this gap and ensure that MSMEs can access the financial resources they need to succeed. With PHILGUARANTEE's sovereign rating and the zero-risk weight feature of our guarantees, partner lending institutions like ORIX will be able to channel credit to MSMEs with more favorable terms," PCEO Pascual said in his remarks.

ORIX President Padua echoed: "We, at ORIX Metro are excited to nurture and strengthen this new found alliance going forward, and we look forward to a collaborative and a mutually beneficial, responsive partnership with PHILGUARANTEE," he said.

Both organizations share a strong and important vision of becoming trusted partners in driving growth across key sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, and the MSME sector. Through this partnership, ORIX Metro now has the freedom to create more innovative products

and explore diverse financing opportunities for enterprises of all sizes, paving the way for sustainable growth and a brighter future for businesses across the Philippines.

As of October 31, 2024, the cumulative guarantee issuances of PHILGUARANTEE for priority sectors reached a total of P8.14 Billion in terms of gross loans assisting 45,846 MSMEs. 7.48% of which (3,429 MSME beneficiaries) belong to the manufacturing industry.

Reaping the positive impact of PHILGUARANTEE's continued support to the economic sectors, it posted a record-setting Php2.23-Bn in total comprehensive income, and further bolstered its role as a top performing GOCC, with a 97.37% performance scorecard rating from the Governance Commission for GOCCs (GCG) following its validation report of the agency's performance to Finance Secretary and Board Chairperson Ralph G. Recto, and PCEO Pascual on November 20.

From: Strategy Management and Communications Department