



R.G. Manabat & Co.

# Our People

Alumni Edition

April-June 2016

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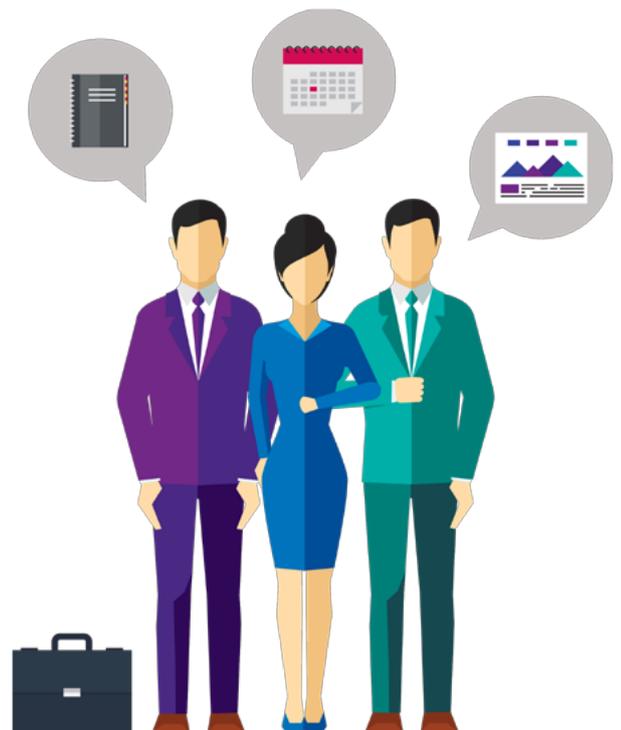
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# KPMG RGM&Co. holds dinner in honor of new BAP President Nestor V. Tan



KPMG RGM&Co. recently hosted a dinner for the new president of the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP), Banco de Oro President and CEO Nestor V. Tan. The event was held at the Makati Shangri-La Manila on 30 March 2016.

In attendance during the luncheon were members of BAP and KPMG RGM&Co. executives. These include Banco de Oro President and CEO and Bankers Association of the Philippines President Nestor V. Tan, Philippine Stock Exchange President and CEO Hans B. Sicat, CTBC Bank Philippines Corp. Vice Chairman William B. Go, Philippine Veterans Bank Chairman Roberto de Ocampo, Banco de Oro Chairperson Teresita Sy-Coson, HSBC President and CEO Jose Arnulfo A. Veloso, Finance Secretary Cesar V. Purisima, Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corp. President and CEO Cesar B. Crisol, Philippine Stock Exchange Senior Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer Roel A. Refran, RCBC Chairperson Helen Y. Dee, ING Bank Country Manager Zondy D. Garcia, Deutsche Bank AG Chief Country Officer Enrico S. Cruz, Mega International Commercial Bank Vice President and Country Manager Roger Rong-Hwa Lin and Cathay United Banking Corp. Compliance Officer Joseph Monzon.

KPMG RGM&Co. executives present were Chairman and CEO Roberto G. Manabat, Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer Emmanuel P. Bonoan, Vice Chairman and Head of Advisory Henry D. Antonio, Chief Finance Officer Pacifico M. Castañeda, Head of Tax Carmela M. Peralta, Advisory Partners Michael H. Guarin and Imelda H. Corros and Audit Partners Emy C. Bagnes, Nini M. Balde and Aline A. Novilla.

"We look forward to deepen our strong relationship with the Bankers Association of the Philippines and continuously support BAP President Nestor V. Tan to carry on the objectives of the organization and remain the unifying voice of the Philippine banking industry," said Roberto Manabat, Chairman and CEO of KPMG RGM&Co.

# Moving Up to a New Horizon: An 8-Day Seminar for CPAs in Commerce and Industry



Starting 11 May 2016, KPMG RGM&Co. conducted an 8-day seminar for Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

The seminar tackled refreshers on the Code of Ethics, Governance and Principles, Professional Rules and Regulations, etc. The comprehensive seminar aims to promote both the professional and personal development of the CPAs in compliance with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements.

The speakers of the seminar were Vice Chairman and Head of Advisory Henry D. Antonio, Technical Advisory Group Head Enrico E. Baluyut, Risk Management Partner Atty. Ma Gracia C. Diaz, Audit Partners Darwin P. Virocel, Aline A. Novilla and Vernilo G. Yu, Tax Director Andrew James Gerard D. Ruiz, Technical Advisory Group Director Marie Catalina E. Galon-Jumpay, Advisory Director Ma. Cynthia C. Hernandez, Audit Director Warren R. Angeles, Technical Advisory Group Senior Manager Araceli F. Caseler, Advisory Senior Managers Paul Patrick R. Afable and Fernando M. Hernandez, Markets Senior Manager Mariel D. Javier, Technical Advisory Group Assistant Manager Arvin Lemuel A. Yanga and BSP Director – Examination Department I Lyn I. Javier.

## Firm participates in the Israeli 14th General Membership Meeting



KPMG RGM&Co. Vice Chairman and COO Emmanuel P. Bonoan discussed the Philippine economic outlook after the 2016 presidential elections at the Israel Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines its 14th General Membership Meeting and the election of its new Board of Directors at the Tower Club, Philamlife Tower, Makati City on 5 May 2016. With the theme *We're Better Together*, H.E. Ambassador of Israel to the Philippines Ephraim Ben Matityau graced the event and spoke about Israel as the land of great opportunities.

The Israel Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines is a nonprofit organization that aims to increase the bilateral trade between Israel and the Philippines.

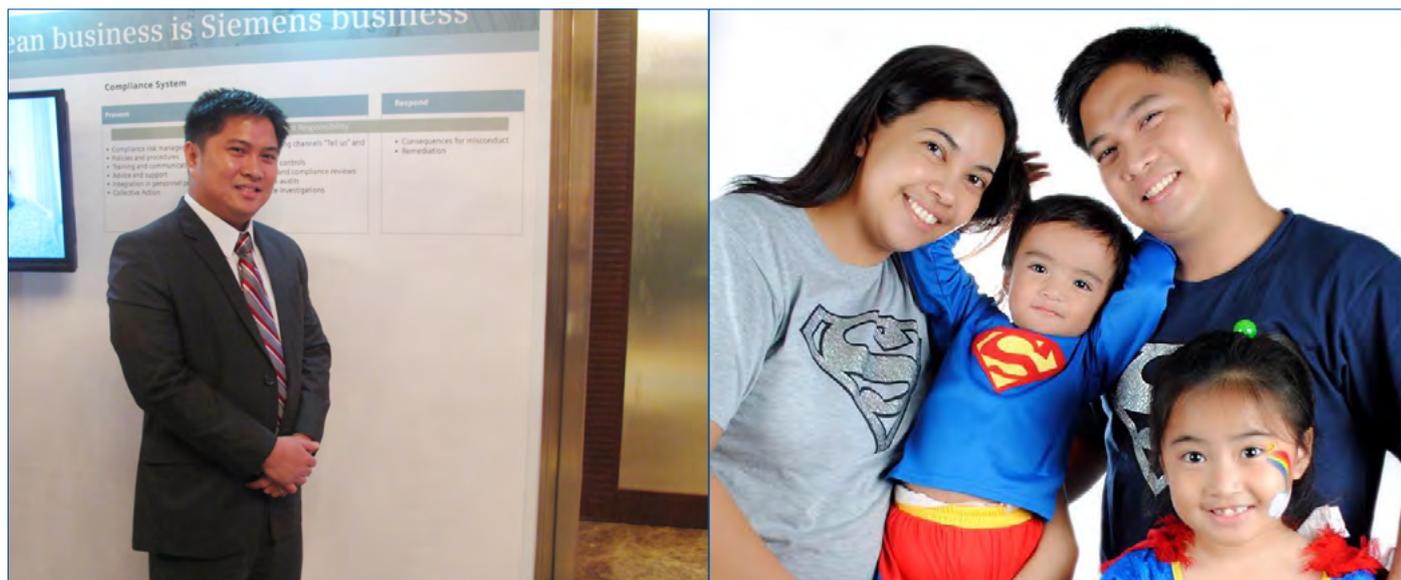
## KPMG RGM&Co. holds Executive Briefing



On 10 June 2016, KPMG RGM&Co. held an executive briefing on key regulatory updates and issues at the Tower Club, Philamlife Tower, Makati City. The timely event provided insights on the areas of recovery planning, credit risk-new standardized approach and revisions to IRB, new basel approach to operational risk, basel liquidity measures, IFRS9 including implications for provisioning and anti-money laundering.

The guest speaker for the event was Simon Topping, who heads the KPMG ASPAC Financial Services Regulatory Centre of Excellence in Hong Kong. He brought valuable insights particularly on the subject of evolving regulation from an ASPAC perspective. The roundtable was also co-chaired by Audit and Advisory Partner Nini Balde and Director Aleh Kourloukov. The event was attended by chief financial officers, chief risk officers, chief auditors and chief compliance officers.

# KPMG Alumnus Wilfredo Rellora, Jr.



### Current employment

Siemens, Inc.

Years in the company – 4 years

Current Position – Risk and Internal Control Officer for Siemens Philippines

### On your work experience at the Firm:

#### What was your most memorable client experience in the Firm?

**Wilfredo:** During my time with the Firm, we jumped around quite a bit. We were dynamic and fluid – moving across lines of businesses into different clients and industries wherever we were needed. Every single client experience I had was memorable – from fraud investigation for a Japanese company, internal audit work on local BPO companies for a large US-based healthcare provider, sell side due diligence for an M&A deal to enterprise risk management with a major bank and everything in between. If I had to choose the most memorable client experience, it would have to be my first ERM engagement for an agricultural company in Davao City. Doing my first ERM work while leading an engagement for the first time, under direct supervision of Mr. Henry Antonio, was a thrilling, terrifying, confusing and fulfilling experience rolled into one.

#### What were your vision, goals and dreams before entering the Firm?

**Wilfredo:** Joining the Firm was a mandatory career investment for me. I firmly believed that if I were to start my career right and to keep it in the right direction, it had to start at one of the Big 4. The KPMG Center right along Ayala Ave. and the accessible recruitment team made me choose KPMG. My goal was to gain the knowledge, skills and experience I need to thrive in the corporate world. I saw that my firm experience will open the doors for many opportunities both inside and outside of the Firm.

#### What were the challenges when you started working for the Firm? How did you overcome those challenges? What did you learn from it?

**Wilfredo:** There was never a moment while I was working for the Firm that I wasn't challenged. Working in different engagements across lines of businesses (at times two or three engagements all at once) was very challenging. I think what helped me overcome those challenges was through God's grace. Religious or not, I learned that strengthening my spiritual wellbeing gave me the tenacity to face the challenges at work. This gave me confidence to take on new and unknown opportunities. This also gave me the humility to accept that I need to be mentored and molded to be successful. Like my colleagues, I spent countless hours researching and studying from resources both inside and outside of the Firm. The Intranet is rich with expert resources for self-study and with excellent materials and tools for various engagements. It is already filled with more talented and more brilliant people than me, hence, more opportunities for me to learn and to improve.

#### How would you describe your working style?

**Wilfredo:** My working style can be described as demanding, pragmatic and contemplative. I always expect excellence from myself and from others. I am quite simple-minded so I always try to simplify complicated problems to come up with simple solutions. In every task or issue to be tackled, I try to ask myself how to fulfill the task with the least amount of effort and resources. In every communication, I try to limit the amount of words I use to convey my message. Doing quiet and contemplative work recharges me. Hence, I try to discipline myself.

## Alumni Feature

### **What was your most notable moment in the Firm or the accomplishment you are most proud of?**

**Wilfredo:** My promotion as Assistant Manager less than a year after I joined Firm is one of my most notable moments in the Firm.

### **What was your favorite part or the highlight of your role as an employee of the Firm?**

**Wilfredo:** I think it was still that time when HDA assigned me to lead an ERM (Enterprise Risk Management) engagement for a global supplier of agricultural products based in Davao City. It was my first ERM work and my first time to lead an engagement. It was a crazy time but it turned out fine – the work was finished and the payment was well-received within the timeline. The deluge of learning and “stretching” that came from working with and being mentored directly by HDA made it the highlight of my role as an employee of the Firm.

### **What do you miss most about being at the Firm?**

**Wilfredo:** Perhaps it was being surrounded and working alongside a team of young, ambitious, talented and brilliant professionals.

### **How did your work experience at the Firm help you in your career and your succeeding endeavors?**

**Wilfredo:** The knowledge and skills I gained from working at the Firm are definitely the foundations with which I built the foundation of my career. But more than that, it was in the constant struggle in dealing with the challenges that I developed the resiliency I needed in my professional and even personal life. No matter how many costly mistakes I made (even million peso mistakes) or what career hiccups that I suffer, I can always come back better and stronger.

### **Which part of your work experience do you think will be most useful for the Firm’s professionals today?**

**Wilfredo:** To provide value to your clients, to find answers to their questions and to solve their problems, you have to know what KPMG RGM&Co. knows. The KPMG network is filled with resources and materials available for your own development and for the needs of your clients and potential clients. KPMG RGM&Co. is filled with brilliant experts and specialists who are willing to answer questions and even mentor. I think this higher level of knowledge sharing, collaboration and mentoring can be useful for the Firm’s professionals today.

### **What advice or message can you share with the current and future employees of KPMG RGM&Co.?**

**Wilfredo:** There is no substitute to hard work. If you want to have a successful career, you have to start from the bottom and work your way up. Continuously learning and developing along the way. There are no shortcuts. You may be the most talented, the most intelligent and gifted but if you do not have the discipline and hard work, then it will be very hard to have a successful career anywhere.

In the end, looking at accomplishments only in terms of wealth, position or professional pursuits can make my life less fulfilling. I think the greatest accomplishment one can attain in life is to have true and lasting friendships, a strong and enduring marriage, a family united by love, a fulfilling career, a fair share of trials to be overcome, a personal relationship with God and being actively engaged in a cause and in serving others.

### **What’s the most important thing you’ve learned from KPMG Philippines that you can bring with you throughout your career?**

**Wilfredo:** I think more than the knowledge and skills I gained from my KPMG experience that served as the foundation of my current career, it is the confidence, resilience and humility that I developed that I will bring with me throughout my career.

### **On your other activities:**

#### **What are the other things that you’ve been busy with lately?**

**Wilfredo:** Family? Soon after I left KPMG on April 2012, I have been serving in my church as a Bishop of Molino 2nd Ward (Parish) of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Our church does not have a paid clergy and being a Bishop is a full-time volunteer work with administrative and spiritual duties and responsibilities to the local congregation.

I am happily married with two kids.

### **On KPMG RGM&Co.’s Alumni Program:**

#### **What are your thoughts about the launch of KPMG RGM&Co. Alumni program?**

**Wilfredo:** I think it is worth the investment. Building and maintaining a strong alumni network is valuable to the Firm and also its alumni.

#### **Are you looking forward to participating in the activities and attending the events of the Firm for its alumni?**

**Wilfredo:** Yes.

#### **What do you want to see in the Alumni Program of KPMG Philippines?**

**Wilfredo:** Social, civic and professional alumni events sound interesting (e.g. founding anniversary, economic briefings or industry expert updates open for alumni etc.)

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# Editorial Page

Our People Alumni Edition is a quarterly publication of KPMG R.G. Manabat & Co. produced by the Markets Group.

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## Our Values

We lead by example  
We work together  
We respect the individual  
We seek the facts and provide insight  
We are open and honest in our communication  
We are committed to our communities  
Above all, we act with integrity

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