

4 June 2013

Hon. Joseph Emilio A. Abaya

Secretary (Minister), Department of Transportation and Communication
Republic of the Philippines
Acting President, Liberal Party of the Philippines

Dear Secretary Abaya:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to the Liberal Party of the Philippines for its success in the recent midterm elections. We believe that this victory reflects the Filipino people's continuing support for the systemic reforms and institution-building that President Noynoy Aquino embraced since he vowed to serve the country in 2010. Without a doubt, the result of the elections is a clear expression of the people's unwavering trust in an honest and effective government.

Mid-way in President Aquino's presidency, we are confident that the next three years would remain bright for the Philippines. With the Liberal Party's clear electoral mandate in the Senate, the House of Representatives and in the local government units, we are assured that the "Tuwid na Daan" or "Straight Path" will move closer to the realization of a strong and democratic country with empowered citizenry. We laud the Party for staying along the "Straight Path", and for continuing to exemplify the liberal ideals that keep governance truthful and accountable.

We wish the Liberal Party the very best as it continues to push for genuine reforms in governance and for meaningful and inclusive economic development. We trust that the Filipino people will sustain the reforms that President Aquino instituted by choosing to support liberal leaders who can make a difference come 2016.

Once again, we send our very best wishes and felicitations. We look forward to meeting you again at CALD's 20th anniversary celebrations in Manila this 8-11 November 2013.

Very truly yours,

Sam Rainsy

Chair