



Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats

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28 November 2022

Hon. Arthur R. Defensor Jr.
Governor of Iloilo
Philippines

Dear Governor Art:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), I would like to thank you for graciously hosting the CALD delegation during its 14th General Assembly in Iloilo City last 11-14 November 2022 with the theme "Building a Democratic Coalition Against Disinformation."

It was indeed a memorable event for all our distinguished guests and partners who have shared their commitment to fight disinformation and uphold truth and justice beyond elections. We are happy to share that a declaration was adopted during the plenary to take appropriate action and reclaim our lost and damaged democratic spaces. Please find attached file for your reference.

The event would not be a success if not for the hospitality of the people of Iloilo particularly the students who have actively participated in the event. All of us felt the warm welcome of your province and the delegates conveyed their utmost gratitude, not just for the meaningful discussions, but also for the generosity and sincerity that Iloilo have genuinely showed us during our visit.

I would like to personally thank you, Governor Art, for being there with us, sharing a meal with us, celebrating with us, and sharing rekindled hope for better days ahead. When all seems difficult, you shared your time and resources with fellow liberals and democrats who continue to face challenges, but nevertheless, forge forward regardless of circumstances. We appreciate this and we are forever grateful.

The success of the event is the success of Iloilo. We are happy to have organized our most prestigious gathering of the year in your beloved province. Definitely, our CALD members will keep coming back to explore more its beauty. Again, thank you and we hope to see you again in future CALD events.

Sincerely,

Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan
CALD Chairperson
Former Senator, Republic of the Philippines