



Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

**PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION'S 109TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY
AWARDING CEREMONIES
9 November 2007
3rd Floor Quadrangle, Philpost Building, Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila**

Anniversary Message
SECRETARY RAY ANTHONY ROXAS-CHUA III
Chairman, Commission on Information and Communications Technology

The Commission on Information and Communications Technology, or CICT, extends its warmest congratulations to the officers and employees of the Philippine Postal Corporation on the occasion of its 109th Founding Anniversary.

As an attached agency of the CICT, the PPC actively participates in all our efforts to improve the delivery of public service in the country. This year's anniversary theme "*Post Office: Tugon sa Makabagong Panahon*" is very timely. In our present society where we witness and experience the unprecedented penetration of ICT in the way we do business, facilitate governance, provide learning and, more astoundingly, in how we communicate and interact with one another, the essence of postal services emerges as a focal point of discussion. There surfaces a need to revisit our postal policies, procedures and operations to determine if they parallel the way new technologies cater to the communication needs of the citizenry.

This is why the CICT commends the PPC for this year's awarding of the Ten Outstanding Postal Workers for 2007, who, in their own capacities, have demonstrated unyielding determination, fostered innovative ideas and delivered commendable performance in the course of fulfilling their responsibilities. These outstanding workers have greatly contributed to the PPC's goal of maintaining effective, efficient and reliable operations. Congratulations to all of you!

Going back to the theme of this celebration, although ICT is recognized as a key component of our national development, it may also be perceived as a threat to the more traditional functions of the postal service. Emerging technologies have already triggered significant changes in lifestyles. For example, e-mail has become a primary communications tool, thereby decreasing reliance on the traditional method of communicating through letters delivered by postal service providers. Likewise, the entry of what we call “postal and express messengerial service” providers such as LBC, FedEx and others on the postal services scene provides additional competition to the PPC. The concern now is how these competitive forces will affect the PPC’s revenue potential and ultimately its future relevance.

In this regard, the CICT is pleased to announce that the Universal Postal Union, an international forum for cooperation between postal service players, has provided an opportunity for technical assistance through the collaborative formulation of an “Integrated Postal Reform and Development Plan,” or IPDP, for 2008. The IPDP offers our government, regulators and operators the chance to draft a master plan for postal reform and sector development after a thorough study of our postal service sector’s economic and commercial environment, as well as the legal and regulatory framework. This opportunity is deemed essential in our joint efforts to address the current challenges in the postal service sector, as well as the issues that I have mentioned above. To date, the PPC has agreed to participate in the IPDP formulation and has organized a team for this purpose. Let us hope that this master plan will provide the roadmap for the Philippine postal service sector and ensure its relevance in an increasingly automated and computerized world.

On behalf of the Commission on Information and Communications Technology, I would like to congratulate the Philippine Postal Corporation on its 109th Founding Anniversary, and we look forward to more years of partnership and collaboration in the service of the Filipino people.

Thank you and good day!