

**SGBT OPENING STATEMENT
PRESSCON ON 2nd PRIVATE-PUBLIC SECTOR
DIALOGUE ON POST-DISASTER ASSISTANCE
December 2, 2009**

- Good afternoon everyone.
- We would like to give you some of the highlights of our dialogue with development partners held today.
- According to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report, typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng caused considerable damage and losses, estimated to amount to about P206 billion (\$4.4 billion), or 2.7 percent of GDP.
- A large share of the damage and losses—more than 90 percent—is accounted for by the private sector. Private

sector losses were particularly large in housing, agriculture and in commerce.

- Economic losses were high in part because the disasters hit those regions in the country that together account for almost 60 percent of GDP, of which almost 40 percentage points were attributed to the devastation in Metro Manila alone. It also hit at a time when much of agricultural crops in the region were in the fields about to be harvested and a time when many enterprises had stocked up for the Christmas season.
- The overall needs for recovery and reconstruction for the next three years are estimated to be in the order of P208 billion or \$4.4 billion. The report estimates that the public sector share of these needs are about 55 percent (P114.5 billion) of the reconstruction and

recovery costs and the private sector, 45 percent (P93.4 billion). For the public sector, financing requirements will be secured from LGUs, GOCCs, GFIs and the NG.

- Looking at the consolidated public sector financial position, there is ample headroom to help us meet the requirements, particularly with contributions from the LGUs, the GFIs and SSIs, which are expected to continue to post surpluses in 2010.
- The Land Bank of the Philippines, for example, has as much as P46 billion in available funds for the needy sectors, including housing, infrastructure, and agriculture.

- The Pag-IBIG Fund, which is under the Vice President, has already disbursed P12 billion in calamity loans for its members whose houses were damaged by the typhoons. We believe that around P50 billion more could be provided by our housing agencies for recovery efforts.
- We are pleased with the broad indication of support by our development partners which reached more than \$3 billion. Together with available funding from the public sector of about \$2 billion plus private sector efforts through the PDRF, we have more than enough funds to meet the requirement for the country's recovery and reconstruction.
- Thank you and good afternoon to all.