

Philippine Ambassador presents credentials to Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto

8 May 2018 – The new Philippine Ambassador to Mexico, H.E. Demetrio R. Tuason, formally presented his Letter of Credentials to Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto in a ceremony held at the *Palacio Nacional* in Mexico City on 7 May 2018.

During his exchange with President Peña Nieto, Ambassador Tuason conveyed the well-wishes of President Rodrigo Duterte, and his desire to enhance the centuries-long historic ties that bind Mexico and the Philippines.

For his part, President Peña Nieto warmly welcomed Ambassador Tuason to Mexico and wished him the best in his assignment. The President also expressed his appreciation for the distinctive *barong tagalog* pieces worn by Ambassador Tuason and the Philippine Embassy delegation to the ceremony, and remarked that he still retained his own *barong tagalog* that he received during his visit to the Philippines for APEC 2015.

After the meeting, Ambassador Tuason issued a statement to the assembled press corps, wherein he noted the cultural and historic influence that Mexico and the Philippines have had on each other due to the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade. The Ambassador also mentioned Mexico's contribution to Philippine history in the Second World War when it sent its 201st Fighter Squadron to join Allied Forces in the liberation of the Philippines.

The Ambassador concluded by noting the steady growth in commercial ties between Mexico and the Philippines over the past decade, and stated that his main priority during his term would be to further strengthen the trade and investment between both countries.

Prior to his appointment by President Duterte, Ambassador Tuason spent the greater part of his career in the business sector, serving as the chairman (now chairman emeritus) of Arm Scor Global Defense, Inc.



Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto (L) receives the Letter of Credentials from Philippine Ambassador Demetrio R. Tuason (R)



Philippine Ambassador Demetrio R. Tuason (second from left) and the other foreign Ambassadors stand for the Mexican national anthem,



Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto and Philippine Ambassador to Mexico Demetrio R. Tuason