

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE HOLDS AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT FORUM FOR OFWS IN BAHRAIN



During the lecture of Usec. Evelyn Lavina, of the Department of Agriculture

21 December 2016 – The Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Philippine Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain, organized an *Agribusiness Investment Forum* at the Premier Hotel in Manama on 15 December 2016 from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

A total of 150 participants, including the Embassy personnel and its attached agencies, attended the forum. The Resource Speakers from the Department of Agriculture namely, Mrs. Evelyn Lavina, DA Undersecretary for High Value Crops, Mr. Noel Clarence M. Ducusin, Chief, Program Development and Management Division, Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC), Ms. Jennifer E. Remoquillo, Assistant Director, Bureau of Plant Industry, Mr. Roel M. Rosales, Deputy Executive Director, Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), Department of Agriculture, Mr. Albert Q. Valenciano, Director IV, Policy and Program Development of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and Philippine Agricultural Attaché to Dubai, U.A.E., Mr. Gil B. Herico all took turns in providing presentations to the Forum's participants.

Mr. Gil B. Herico also provided a briefing on the Accomplishment Report of the Department of Agriculture for the period 2010 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2016.

H.E. Alfonso A. Ver, in his welcome remarks, thanked the resource persons, especially Undersecretary Evelyn G. Lavina, highlighting her initiative in organizing and conducting the Agribusiness Investment Forum. He also encouraged the participants to apply what they would learn from the seminar in managing their finances and share the same with their families, friends, colleagues, and their respective organization.

In closing, Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver concluded that the event is a timely one for OFWs and their participation indicated their keen interest to learn and gain knowledge on agribusiness.

The Forum discussed topics such as reformatting Philippine agriculture to achieve food sufficiency and maximum productivity in the country, investment opportunities in high value crops, the Mandate of the Philippine Coconut Authority and its programs and projects, Agribusiness-related programs and services for OFWs and their families including the OFW-Enterprise Development and Loan Program (OFW-EDLP), and the Agricultural Credit Policy Council's mandates, partners, framework, programs, and Calamity Assistance.

The Agribusiness Investment Forum was well-received by the members of the Filipino community in Bahrain and there was lively interaction between the resource persons and participants. END.



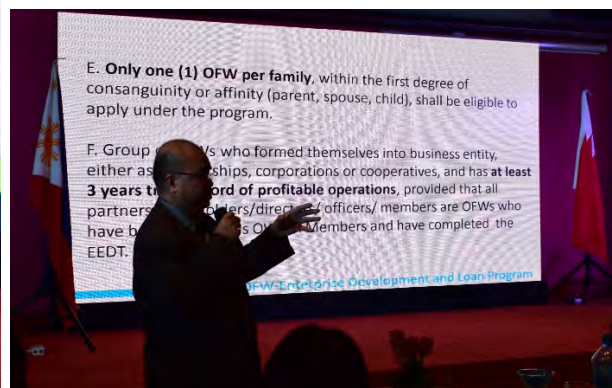
Ms. Jennifer Remoquillo during her presentation



Mr. Roel M. Rosales during his presentation



Mr. Gil B. Herico during his presentation



Mr. Noel Clarence M. Ducusin during his presentation





H.E. Alfonso A. Ver during his welcome remarks.

PARTICIPANTS OF AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT FORUM

