



FINEX FOCUS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FINEX



AMB. JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**PRESIDENT EJ QUA HIANSEN DURING
THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

RIPPLES OF THE SECOND TRUMP PRESIDENCY: PREPARING FOR IMPACT



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**PANEL DISCUSSION WITH AMB. CUISIA, DR. MARIA GOCHOCO-
BAUTISTA, AND MS. MALOU CRISTOBAL**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"This adage has never been more relevant, reminding us of the interconnectedness of our global economy as President Trump has already made radical changes to the US Government, including announcing unprecedented trade tariffs, brokering a ceasefire in Gaza and streamlining the US Government."

EJ Qua Hiansen

To navigate the impact of these changes and his second term in office, we have one of the most qualified speakers in the Philippines as former Ambassador Cuisia to share his thoughts so that we can properly guide our companies.

To that effect, along with the Makati Business Club, Management Association of the Philippines, Philippine Business for Social Progress, the Judicial Reform Initiative and the UP School of Economics Alumni Association, FINEX signed a joint statement calling for a transparent and accountable budget process. Through our Advocacy Committee we are continuing to educate ourselves on this matter of national importance and plan our role accordingly.

Read the full President's Message [HERE](#).

FINEX FOCUS

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PROFILE OF THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

AMB. JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.

Jose Cuisia Jr. was previously the Philippines Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America and held other assignments as non-resident Ambassador to other smaller countries. He also served as Governor for the Philippines to the International Monetary Fund and Alternate Governor to the World Bank.

He was also the Administrator and CEO of the Philippines Social Security System from 1986 to 1990 and Commissioner representative of the Employer's Group for the Social Security System from September to December 2010. He is also a FINEX Past President during 1984.



- Mr. Cuisia Jr. in his keynote speech during the FINEX February GMM. Read his full speech [HERE](#) or watch it on 

"In the current unprecedented economic and political climate at home and in the world, analysis, critical thinking, and reflection must be our guide in creating the society which we dream of for Filipinos: one of prosperity, peace, justice, and inclusion." This was the sentiment expressed by Amb. Cuisia as he discussed the possible implications of a second Trump presidency on the Philippine economy.

Ambassador Cuisia outlined several key areas of concern:

The military and security alliance with the US and its implications on our position with China in the West Philippine Sea. Under the Trump 2.0 Presidency, which is expected to emphasize defense, the Philippines may witness a renewed focus on strengthening military ties with the U.S. This could result in increased joint military exercises and enhanced security cooperation, potentially bolstering the country's national defense capabilities. The implications of such developments on the Philippines' position with China in the West Philippine Sea remain a critical area to watch.

Trade and Investments, including tariffs on exports. The second Trump administration is likely to prioritize bilateral agreements, potentially opening doors for the Philippines to negotiate more favorable terms for its export products. Ambassador Cuisia stressed the importance of proactive engagement by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) with U.S. counterparts to safeguard the country's economic interests.

Ambassador Cuisia also highlighted that the CREATE MORE Act is expected to attract foreign direct investments from U.S. companies, particularly those recognizing the tremendous potential of renewable energy in the Philippines.

Immigration. Changes in U.S. immigration policy under the second Trump presidency could significantly impact the flow of Filipino workers and the remittances they send home. Should the Trump administration aggressively pursue the deportation of undocumented Filipinos, the Philippine government would face the challenge of providing them with stable jobs, food, and shelter upon their return.

Climate Change. The second Trump presidency could make it more difficult for the Philippines to secure financial assistance for programs promoting clean energy and the expansion of the national greening program.

Federal Grants. Philippine projects currently funded by the U.S. government, amounting to approximately \$485.9 million, now face uncertainty. The potential loss of these development projects would have a tangible impact on the country's growth and progress. Ambassador Cuisia expressed concern that this funding may not be immediately recoverable from alternative sources.

"We have to remind ourselves, we cannot change his (Trump's) way of thinking or his decisions. What we can and what we can affect is what happens to our own country," Ambassador Cuisia emphasized.

Congratulations to the newly inducted members during the FINEX 2nd General Membership Meeting at Manila Polo Club!

Also in the photo is FINEX President and inducting officer, EJ Qua Hiansen.

Welcome to FINEX!



Diane de Mesa



(L-R) Lynn Baile, Melissa Delgado, Katrina Francisco, Melissa Ortiz, Pres. EJ, Usec. Renato Reside, Carlo Puno, Andre Ramirez, Karla Rufino, Krizelle Santos, and Charisse Siao

FINEX GMM PHOTOS



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