

FINEX FOCUS

GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FINEX

Binondo Through Time The Making of a Commercial & Financial Hub



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FINEX FOCUS



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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Confidence begins from within FINEX.

If we are to speak credibly to government, regulators, markets and partners, our own engagement must be deep, structured, and active. This year, we are going committee by committee. Clear mandates, Measurable outputs, and Defined stakeholder engagement. A more proactive and execution-focused Secretariat.

We will provide early visibility of our annual programs to promote stronger and more meaningful engagement. We will track and report committee participation and outputs to ensure accountability, transparency, and measurable impact. On that foundation, we will continue to advance concrete recommendations to strengthen capital formation, market integrity, and long-term investor confidence.

Catalyzing confidence means leading capital responsibly. It means upholding integrity without compromise. It means advancing innovation with prudence.

Read the full message of his speech [HERE](#).

Carlo Enrico B. Lazatin
PRESIDENT

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

ANSON YU
WRITER, PHOTOGRAPHER, AND TOUR GUIDE



Read the full message of his speech [HERE](#).

A spiritual consultant, intuitive guide, and founder of The House of Mystics PH, known for bridging ancient wisdom with modern life mastery.

Specializing in Feng Shui, crystal energy, tarot, human design, and life coaching, his work focuses on translating spiritual insights into practical, real-world outcomes—supporting clients in love, career, business, and personal transformation.

It was only during the 1970s that 'Chinese' architectural details, like the Friendship Arches, were added to give the district the traditional 'Chinatown' look we recognize today.

As the Chinese community of traders, carpenters, and artisans grew, it eventually outnumbered the Spanish population. Feeling anxious about being outnumbered so far from Spain, the Spanish authorities restricted the Chinese to the Parian—an area within cannon range of the Intramuros walls for "security" reasons.

So, how did Binondo come about? It was born from a religious mission. In 1594, Governor Luis Pérez Dasmariñas created a second enclave specifically for Catholic Chinese.

JV YAP
FENG SHUI MASTER



Read about his full speech [HERE](#).

FINANCIAL NEWS



Silver Lining

By Dr. George Chua

Silver has been in the news lately hitting an all-time high of \$121.62/troy ounce or 31.1034768 grams on January 29, 2026, before crashing into an intraday low of under \$75. Last year, silver went from about \$29 to \$70 for an annual return of more than 140 percent! Given the volatility of silver, is it worth considering taking a long position on this precious metal?

How political dynasties hamper economic growth

By EJ Qua Hiansen

When a country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth slows while public debt increases, it faces a combination of economic, fiscal and social challenges. In the Philippines, this pressure became more evident in 2025, when economic momentum significantly weakened: GDP slowed to 4.4 percent for the full year, with fourth-quarter growth at 3.0 percent.

The mid-market opportunity: A call for realism

By Carlo Lazatin

For the better part of a decade, the Philippine capital market has circled the same debate: why don't our mid-market companies list? We have analyzed the friction, blamed the costs, and lamented the lack of volume.

An option to reduce power costs in PH

By Bingo Dejaresco

The cost of electric power in the Philippines remains among the highest in Asia. This is driven by a combination of high imported fuel costs, ongoing grid work-in-progress, significant system losses (five percent in Singapore versus 10 percent in the Philippines), and an oligopolistic market structure dominated by 11 key players.



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FINANCIAL NEWS

GALLERY WALL



Check out more photos [HERE](#)

**GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**



GMM: WHAT'S AHEAD



FINEX

General Membership Meeting

Makati Diamond Residences

MARCH 18, 2026 • 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Geopolitical Risk: Borders Shake, Markets Break



Victor Andres "Dindo" Manhit

Strategic Advisor, Geopolitical Analyst, and Governance Reform Advocate

In a financial landscape reshaped by **geopolitical tensions**—from renewed conflicts in the Middle East and shifting alliances across Asia—understanding the implications on global markets has never been more critical.

Join us for an insightful and timely discussion with **Dindo Manhit** as we **unpack how the latest developments**—including the Iran war—are disrupting borders, rattling markets, and impacting investment strategies.

 **Gallardo Ballroom** - Makati Diamond Residences **RSVP NOW**

 **March 18, 2026**

 Registration starts at 11:30 AM

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