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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE S TO MOST ACTIVE STOCKS BY VALUE TURNOVER " NOVEMBER 10, 2022 (PSET STICKPSHOT OIL 31/3, ditticle oil 32/2)																			
BDO	P129.000	CNVRG	P15.080	SMPH	P34.800	SM	P870.000	ALI	P27.800	JFC	P243.000	AC	P670.000	ICT	P187.500	BPI	P96.600	GTCAP	P407.000
Value	P671,541,499	Value	P631,736,862	Value	P479,221,995	Value	P478,373,870	Value	P398,197,885	Value	P318,755,012	Value	P301,016,250	Value	P238,919,233	Value	P236,302,653	Value I	P208,347,296
-P5.000	▼ -3.731%	P1.140	8.178 %	-P0.150	▼ -0.429%	P0.000	— 0.000 %	P0.500	1.832 %	-P5.000	▼ -2.016 %	-P17.000	▼ -2.475 %	P3.700	2.013%	P0.950	▲ 0.993 %	-P0.800	▼ -0.196 %

DoE opens RE to full foreign ownership

THE PHILIPPINES' renewable energy (RE) sector is now open to full foreign ownership, the Energy department said on Wednes-

Energy Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla signed on Tuesday a circular amending the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 to allow 100% foreign capital in RE projects.

Section 19 of the IRR had previously limited foreign ownership of RE projects to 40%.

The Department of Energy (DoE) said the circular now paves the way for foreign nationals and foreign-owned entities to explore, develop and use RE resources in the country such as solar, wind, biomass, ocean or tidal energy.

"With the impressive amount of interest, the DoE has been receiving both from the local and foreign investors in RE development, particularly in the offshore wind potential, the State can now directly undertake the exploration, development, production and utilization of RE resources or it can enter into RE service or operating contracts with Filipino and/or foreign citizen or Filipino and/or foreign-owned corporations or associations." Mr. Lotilla said in a statement.

In the case of hydropower, he noted that the "appropriation of waters direct from the source shall continue to be subject to foreign ownership in the Water Code."

Mr. Lotilla said the relaxation of foreign equity restrictions will help the Philippines achieve its target to increase the share of renewable energy in the power generation mix to 35% by 2030 and 50% by 2040.

The current share of RE in the power generation mix is at 22%.

"The country has a vast potential in RE development," Mr. Lotilla said, adding that the government expects higher investments in the sector that will create much-needed jobs.

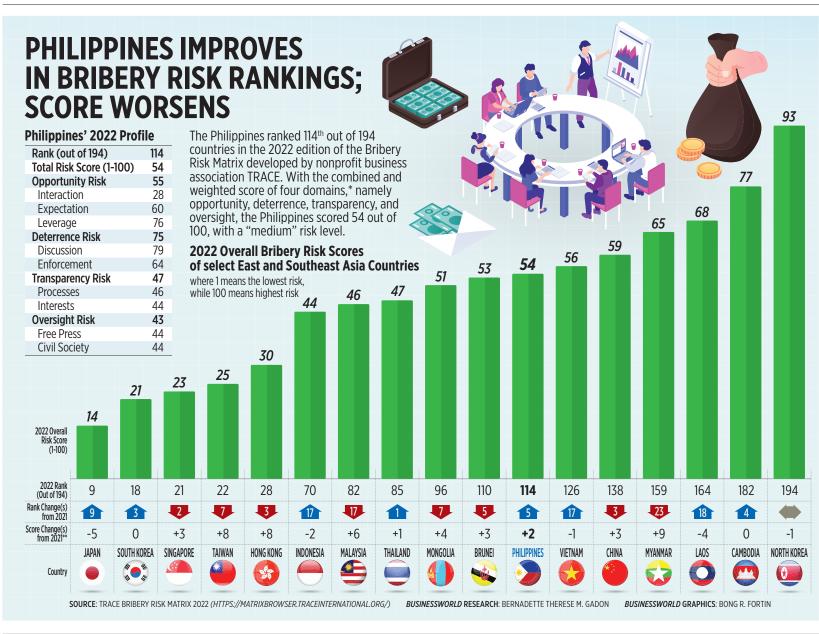
Earlier, the DoE said opening the RE sector to full foreign ownership will not be to the detriment of Filipino-owned companies.

Top 10

"The circular is as simple as we have tried for it to be focused only on ownership. There is no intention to change any process, any other vested rights that you have as key players in the sector. This is a mere opening up, removing the restriction on ownership. The other processes will still continue as is," the DoE said over the weekend.

Foreign ownership, S1/11

+3



2022 Overall Score Change(s) Risk Score (1-100) from 2021** 2021 Rank Rank Change(s) Country Norway New Zealand 0 9 Sweden +2 10 -4 Switzerland +9 Denmark 12 -2 United Kingdom 13 Australia -3 14 +7 Finland 8 14 -5 Japan Canada -1

Bottom 10 Rank Change(s) 2021 Rank 2022 Overall Score Change(s) North Korea 194 **(1)** 93 Turkmenistan 193 ₩0 88 +2 192 **5** 88 +9 **Equatorial Guinea** 88 Syria 191 **9**6 +12 190 82 +1 Venezuela **1** 189 82 Yemen +3 South Sudan 188 80 0 187 79 Somalia -1 78 Rep. of the Congo (Brazzaville) 186 +5

Chad

The TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix both conveys and captures the multidimensional nature of bribery by using four separate risk domains, each comprising either two or

185

. Opportunity (Business Interactions with Government, 40% weight) - concerns the immediate relation between a company (or its agents) and public officials, considering the frequency of interaction, the societal expectations surrounding bribery and the rent-seeking leverage a public official may wield.

2. Deterence (Anti-Bribery Deterrence and Enforcement, 15%) - considers both formal enforcement mechanisms and the less formal ways in which bribery is discouraged. 3. Transparency (Government and Civil Service Transparency, 22.5%) - addresses the accessibility of information about the public sector.

4. Oversight (Capacity for Civil Society Oversight, 22.5%) - examines the freedom and strength of nongovernmental institutions that can act as checks on public corruption. ** Score improvement (-) / deterioration (+) changes from 2021.

The Entrepreneur Of The Year Philippines 2022 has concluded its search for the country's most undaunted and unstoppable entrepreneurs. Entrepreneur Of The Year Philippines is a program of the SGV Foundation, Inc., with the participation of copresenters the Asian Institute of Management, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippine Business for Social Progress, and the Philippine Stock Exchange. BusinessWorld will feature each finalist for the Entrepreneur Of The Year Philippines 2022 ahead of the awards ceremony on Nov. 21.

Fuel for the people

Ricardo Abelardo, Jr. **President and Chief Operating Officer** Artemisplus Express, Inc.

TRUE BLUE corporate guy-turned-entrepreneur Ricardo "Jun" Abelardo, Jr.'s track record for success speaks for itself. He graduated first honor from Ateneo de Naga University High School, and completed a degree in chemical engineering at the University of the Philippines. He received leadership awards upon graduation from high school and college. Mr. Abelardo joined a multinational petroleum company as part of its international leadership program, which is limited to high-potential employees. He was one of the youngest and fastest promoted to the management committee in the company.

Becoming an entrepreneur was initially top of mind for Mr. Abelardo, but he knew an opportunity when he saw one. In 2010, his best friend invited him to go into business. He helped pitch for a nationallevel pharmaceutical distribution contract. which he and his partners won. Apolloplus was born. Around the same time, Mr. Abelardo's partners had an investment in Urban Chef, a small canteen conces**EY Entrepreneur** Of The Year 2022 Philippines

sionaire business. After some thought, they all decided to sell Apolloplus and take over Urban Chef completely. It was then that Artemisplus Express, Inc. was established.

Fuel, S1/9

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PHL improves ranking in bribery risk index

By Kyle Aristophere T. Atienza

THE PHILIPPINES improved its ranking in a global index that measures business bribery risks,

although its score worsened. In the 2022 Bribery Risk Matrix released by US business

association TRACE, the Philippines saw its ranking improve five places to 114th out of 194 countries. The Philippines ranked 119th out of 194 countries in the 2021 report.

This year's report showed the Philippines had a "medium" risk level for commercial bribery. Its

overall risk score stood at 54, worsening from last year's 52.

A risk score of 1 indicates the lowest risk, while a score of 100 reflects the highest risk of business bribery. TRACE said in a statement the matrix "addresses the likelihood of encountering bribe demands when doing busi-

ness in a given jurisdiction." According to TRACE, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and Denmark had the lowest risk for commercial bribery. North Korea, Turkmenistan, Equitorial Guinea, Syria and Venezuela had the highest commercial bribery risk.

In the matrix, the Philippines' score in government and civil service transparency saw the biggest decline at 47, compared with the previous score of 44.

The country scored 55 in business interactions with the government, down from last year's 53. Its score in anti-bribery deterrence and enforcement was unchanged at 75, while its score in capacity for civil society oversight declined to 43 from 42.

"Corruption among civil servants seems to be more rampant than ever, and that's because of the perceived opacity in government operations," said Zy-za Nadine Suzara, Institute for Leadership, Empowerment, and Democracy (I-LEAD) executive director, in a Bribery, S1/4

SEIPI clings to 10% export growth goal this year

THE SEMICONDUCTOR and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Foundation, Inc. (SEIPI) is clinging to its 10% export growth target this year, as it expects higher demand during the holiday season.

"This year, it (target) is still 10%. Although as of September, we are running at 4% from year on year. Why are we holding on to the 10%? Usually with the Thanksgiving and Christmas rush, the demand accelerates. There is still a chance that we will hit the 10%," SEIPI President Danilo C. Lachica said on the sidelines of the 17th Philippine Semiconductor and Electronics Convention and Exhibition (PSECE) in Pasay City on Wednesday.

SEIPI had exceeded the 10% growth target last year. Based on SEIPI figures, the country's total electronics exports ended the year with \$45.92 billion, up 12.9% from the \$40.67 billion in 2020 on the back of stronger demand for new technologies.

As of September, the cumulative electronics exports amounted to \$35.34 billion, up 4.71% year on year, according to SEIPI figures.

Electronics exports remain the country's top export commodity, accounting for 60.60% of the \$58.31 billion worth of overall commodity exports.

For next year, Mr. Lachica said SEIPI may opt for a more "conservative" export growth target due to economic uncertainty and unstable market demand. However, he declined to give a specific target, saying SEIPI is still consulting members on their business outlook.

The global economic outlook has become increasingly gloomy as major economies face a risk of recession next year, amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, soaring inflation and rising interest rates.

SEIPI, S1/11