

Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi)

6,041.04

▼6.93 PTS.

▼0.11%

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

BusinessWorld

PSEI MEMBER STOCKS

AC Ayala Corp. P610.00 —	ACEN ACEN Corp. P4.70 -P0.01 -0.21%	AEV Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. P46.00 +P0.30 +0.66%	AGI Alliance Global Group, Inc. P12.58 —	ALI Ayala Land, Inc. P26.80 —	AP Aboitiz Power Corp. P30.75 +P0.35 +1.15%	BDO BDO Unibank, Inc. P127.80 -P2.00 -1.54%	BPI Bank of the Philippine Islands P107.00 +P0.70 +0.66%	CNVRG Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. P8.80 +P0.30 +3.53%	DMC DMCI Holdings, Inc. P10.44 —
EMI Emperador, Inc. P20.95 +P0.05 +0.24%	GLO Globe Telecom, Inc. P1,772.00 +P11.00 +0.62%	GTCAP GT Capital Holdings, Inc. P570.00 +P5.00 +0.88%	ICT International Container Terminal Services, Inc. P204.00 -P2.00 -0.97%	JFC Jollibee Foods Corp. P225.20 -P4.40 -1.92%	JGS JG Summit Holdings, Inc. P35.05 -P0.65 -1.82%	LTG LT Group, Inc. P8.93 +P0.03 +0.34%	MBT Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. P52.55 +P0.05 +0.1%	MER Manila Electric Co. P362.40 +P2.40 +0.67%	MONDE Monde Nissin Corp. P8.44 +P0.31 +3.81%
MPI Metro Pacific Investments Corp. P5.11 —	PGOLD Puregold Price Club, Inc. P28.90 +P0.50 +1.76%	SCC Semirara Mining and Power Corp. P35.25 +P0.45 +1.29%	SM SM Investments Corp. P789.50 -P11.50 -1.44%	SMC San Miguel Corp. P105.90 +P1.00 +0.95%	SMPH SM Prime Holdings, Inc. P28.95 +P0.25 +0.87%	TEL PLDT Inc. P1,138.00 +P38.00 +3.45%	UBP Union Bank of the Philippines P69.80 +P0.80 +1.16%	URC Universal Robina Corp. P113.00 -P1.50 -1.31%	WLCON Wilcon Depot, Inc. P21.85 -P0.15 -0.68%

Pangilinan eyes listing of tollways unit, Maynilad

By **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**
Reporter

METRO Pacific Investments Corp. (MPIC) is set to list at the stock market its tollways and water businesses once the listed holding firm completes its voluntary delisting plan, according to its top official.

“After delisting, we will list our tollways. Maynilad has got to list by 2026. We will list our major subsidiaries,” MPIC Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer Manuel V. Pangilinan said on the sidelines of a mining conference on Wednesday.

“Most probably, the tollways unit will be the first to list,” Mr. Pangilinan said, adding that the listing at the local bourse will be by next year.

MPIC’s tollways unit is Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. (MPTC) while Maynilad Water Services, Inc. is managed by a joint venture among MPIC, DMCI Holdings, Inc., and Marubeni Corp.

Maynilad is a water and wastewater service provider for Metro Manila’s west zone and nearby areas while MPTC operates tollways such as North Luzon Expressway, Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway, Manila-Cavite Toll Expressway, Cavite-Laguna Expressway, Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway, and the NLEX Connector Road.

The water provider is mandated to list on the Philippine Stock Exchange under its franchise and

the revised concession agreement signed with the government.

Aside from toll operations and water, MPIC has business interests in sectors such as power via Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), rail through Light Rail Manila Corp., healthcare, logistics, and agribusiness.

Sought for comment, China Bank Capital Corp. Managing Director Juan Paolo E. Colet said that MPTC and Maynilad would be “very attractive initial public offering (IPO) candidates.”

“They are strong cash-generating businesses that have good room for long-term growth. I expect many investors will look at them as healthy dividend stocks as well as demographic plays,” Mr. Colet said.

“The tollways assets can actually be structured into and listed as a real estate investment trust, which would make it the first of its kind in the Philippines,” he added.

COL Financial Group, Inc. Financial Analyst George Ching said the attractiveness of the two possible IPOs will depend on the valuation.

“If they will sell it at a cheap price, then it will be good,” Mr. Ching said via mobile phone.

“Between the two though, toll roads have more expansion opportunities. Maynilad is more straightforward, it’s just the concession agreement,” he added.

Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. Chief Economist Michael L. Ricafort said in a Viber mes-

sage that the two planned listings would provide opportunities for local and foreign investors.

“These would provide local and foreign investors the opportunity to invest in infrastructure units that may also need large capital for capital expenditure for the coming years,” Mr. Ricafort said, adding that the units will also await “better market conditions alongside greater profitability to realize and maximize the highest possible selling price/valuations once they list at the stock market.”

Meanwhile, MPIC said in a stock exchange disclosure on Wednesday that the company’s tender offer is closed.

“The total of tendered shares, excluded shares and other non-public shares is equivalent to 97.22% of MPIC’s total issued and outstanding listed shares and has exceeded the threshold required to complete the voluntary delisting,” MPIC said.

“The bidders stated that the tender offer is now closed,” it added.

According to MPIC, the cross date is on Sept. 26 while the settlement date is on Sept. 28.

“When the tendered shares are accepted and crossed, the bidders expect MPIC’s public float to fall to 2.78% whilst the total of tendered shares, excluded shares and other non-public shares will be above the voluntary delisting threshold of at least 95% and the bidders anticipate MPIC’s voluntary delisting around October 2023,” the disclosure said.

Mr. Pangilinan said that state-led Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) will be entitled to a board seat “post-delisting.”

GSIS recently acquired an additional stake in MPIC, which resulted in an aggregate holding of about 3.44 billion common shares, equivalent to 12% of the company’s total issued and outstanding listed shares.

“This is welcome news to the tendering shareholders as they can now look forward to the payment of their shares next week,” China Bank Capital’s Mr. Colet said on the closing of the tender offer.

“The seat will allow GSIS to take a more active role in the corporate governance and business direction of MPIC. This is very important to protect the pension fund’s interests and sizable investment in the company,” Mr. Colet added.

On Wednesday, shares of MPIC at the local bourse closed unchanged at P5.11 apiece.

Metro Pacific Investments Corp., which has a majority stake in Maynilad, is one of three Philippine units of Hong Kong-based First Pacific Co. Ltd., the others being Philex Mining Corp. and PLDT Inc.

Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary MediaQuest Holdings, Inc., has an interest in *BusinessWorld* through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls.

ACEN seeks P5.5-B loan from ADB to fund solar projects

ACEN Corp. is eyeing a P5.5-billion loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to develop solar photovoltaic projects in the country.

In addition to the loan, the firm is also seeking a partial credit guarantee of P1.1 billion, according to documents on the ADB website.

The loan and guarantee will be a “sustainability-linked facility with performance indicators on environmental and social matters. The loan proceeds will be used to finance solar photovoltaic projects in the Philippines,” it added.

“The sustainability-linked note aims to boost the renewable energy capacity of the Philippines, which has traditionally relied on coal to meet its growing electricity needs,” it added.

The ADB said that ACEN’s proposal is consistent with its strategy of promoting private

sector participation in infrastructure through corporate financing and expanding support for renewable energy, among others.

“The project will contribute to poverty reduction through the provision of clean and sustainable electricity to support productivity while being able to improve the quality of life through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and improving local air quality,” it added.

The proposal will be up for approval on Oct. 20.

ACEN has about 4,200 megawatts of attributable capacity spread across the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, India, and Australia.

It is targeting to expand its renewable energy portfolio to 20 gigawatts by 2030.

On Wednesday, ACEN shares declined by 0.21% or P0.01 to finish at P4.70 apiece. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocsan**

Megaworld to build two-tower residential condo in Bacolod

LISTED property developer Megaworld Corp. is set to build a two-tower residential condominium development in Bacolod City as part of its portfolio expansion.

The company said the development, called Kensington Sky Garden, will be a 26-storey two-tower residential condo development within its Upper East township in Bacolod.

“Megaworld is expecting to generate around P5 billion in sales from this new property, which is scheduled for completion in 2029,” the company said in a stock exchange disclosure on Wednesday.

Kensington Sky Garden, located at the corner of Upper East Ave. and Bentley St., will offer 643 “smart home” units. The company said the Kensington Sky Garden will be its tallest residential condo in the Visayas to date.

Megaworld said units at Kensington Sky Garden start from a studio and executive studio of up to 40 square meters (sq.m.), one bedroom of up to 56 sq.m., two bedrooms of up to 90 sq.m., and three bedrooms of

up to 110 sq.m. All unit sizes will have either a balcony or a lanai.

Each unit will be equipped with a wireless smart home system and devices with Wi-Fi routers that can be accessed remotely via a dedicated phone app. The technology allows residents to control several unit features such as lighting fixtures and other smart appliances in the living, kitchen, and dining areas as well as the bedroom.

The amenities at Kensington Sky Garden include an adult pool and kiddie pool, pool bar, landscaped areas, outdoor fitness area and children’s play area, gazebo, reading nooks, fitness center, daycare center, and game and entertainment room.

The ground-level exterior will also feature several retail spaces, while two basement levels will be allocated for parking.

Kensington Sky Garden will also have features such as a private dining hall, a function room, skydecks at the 14th and 26th levels of each tower, a shared outdoor sitting lounge on the fifth floor, and an electric vehicle charging facility at the basement parking area.

Meanwhile, the sustainability features of the development include low flow rate fixtures for water conservation, occupancy sensors in hallways and parking floors to conserve energy, LED lights for units and common areas, a rainwater harvesting system, and a materials recovery facility.

Aside from Kensington Sky Garden, Megaworld’s 34-hectare Upper East township also houses four other residential developments such as One Regis, Two Regis, One Manhattan, and Herald Parksuites, which have a combined total of 1,028 units.

The company is also expected to begin the construction of the 300-room Kingsford Hotel and the Upper East Mall by next year.

Megaworld recorded P7.9 billion in attributable net income in the first six months, a 34% improvement from P5.9 billion a year ago, due to surging demand in the property sector.

On Wednesday, shares of Megaworld at the local bourse closed unchanged at P1.98 each. — **Revin Mikhael D. Ochave**

PLDT rolls out home fiber to Samal island

PLDT Inc. has expanded the reach of its fiber-to-the-home business by bringing its services to Island Garden City of Samal, the company said on Wednesday.

George Carmelo Clemente, VisMin head for PLDT Home sales, said in a statement that the launch of PLDT Home Fiber in the southern city “marks a momentous occasion, as we bring fast and reliable internet connectivity to the island — enabling entertainment needs of residents and

tourists alike, and powering hybrid workplaces.”

PLDT and its wireless subsidiary Smart Communications, Inc. have committed to expand and enhance their integrated fixed-mobile network. The companies said this goal is in line with the government’s target to advance digitalization in the Philippines.

The company said its rollout in Samal is expected to boost the mobile network services of Smart in the area.

In a separate press release, PLDT and Smart said they are exploring cybersecurity tools to help block network domains containing and publishing child abuse materials. — **Ashley Erika O. Jose**

FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code or by typing the link <tinyurl.com/pz24414c>



SEC Memorandum Circular No. 14
Series of 2023

TO : ALL CONCERNED
SUBJECT : AMENDMENTS TO ANNEX C OF RULE 12 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE

The following provisions of Annex C, Rule 12 of the Securities Regulation Code (SRC) are hereby amended as follows:

NON-FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS
PART I BUSINESS

(A) Description of Business.

xxx

(2) Business of Issuer: This section shall describe in detail what business the registrant does and proposes to do, including what products or goods are or will be produced or services that are or will be rendered.

(a) Description of Registrant

Briefly describe the business of registrant and its significant subsidiaries and include, to the extent material to an understanding of the registrant:

xxx

(xv) Discuss the major risk/s involved in each of the businesses of the company and subsidiaries. **The Company may include disclosure of the procedures to identify, assess, and manage such risks.**

xxx xxx xxx

PART VI. REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND PROSPECTUS PROVISIONS

xxx

(C) Risk Factors.

Under the caption “Risk Factors”, registrant shall list in the order of importance and discuss fully the factors that make the offering speculative or risky (i.e. those factors which constitute the greatest threat that the investment in the securities will be lost in whole or in part, or not provide an adequate return). These factors may include, among other things, an absence of operating history of the registrant, no recent profit from operations, poor financial position, the kind of business in which the registrant is engaged or proposes to engage, or no market for the registrant’s securities.

The registrant may indicate measures to mitigate the risks mentioned above.

Emilio B. Rogino
EMILIO B. ROGINO
Chairperson