



PREFACE

With regional and local development being one of the main thrusts of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's socioeconomic development agenda, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022, the first medium-term plan anchored on a long-term vision (*Ambisyon Natin 2040*), was specifically designed to cultivate growth and reduce inequality between the regions. This can be achieved by directing development to key areas throughout the country and connecting these growth centers to rural areas.

As such, the Regional Development Plans (RDPs), as accompanying documents to the PDP, will be an important tool in guiding both public and private investments that will catalyze growth in the regions. It will also serve as our blueprint in laying down the three main pillars of *Malasakit, Pagbabago, at Patuloy na Pag-unlad* that will help us build a secure, comfortable, and strongly rooted life for all Filipinos by 2040.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) for their leadership in the crafting of the RDPs, and in coordinating various development efforts in the regions. Finally, we seek the support of our local government units, regional institutions, and private institutions to support the realization of our plans as we venture towards the creation of prosperous, peaceful and resilient communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernesto M. Pernia'.

ERNESTO M. PERNIA

Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning
and NEDA Director General