



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF BOHOL
City of Tagbilaran

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MESSAGE

Every year we seek to advance the level of development of Bohol a notch higher. Each time we succeeded and sometimes we even succeeded in pushing it notches higher.

This year I am again very happy to present this Annual Development Plan that will provide the programs towards translating our vision into a reality. Our approach is sectoral but all programs are meant to converge in order to reduce poverty incidence to a manageable level.

The 2005 Report of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) that Bohol is now on the 41st place among the 79 provinces where before it was in No. 17 and belonging to the Club 20 of poorest provinces in the country, inspires and encourages us to push even further. The Award for Continuing Excellence (ACE) given by the Galing Pook Foundation in 2005 has affirmed the high standards that we have set for the implementation of our programs. It is also a confirmation of our resolve to delete altogether the much criticized trait of *ningas cogon* among Filipinos.

All these, and the growing number of foreign governments who extend their support for our programs, make the building blocks of our commitment to the United Nation's Millennium Development Goal of making poverty a history.

A better future especially for our farmers is assured with the clear direction and objectives that are spelled out in the Agriculture Master Plan that has just been approved by the Sanggunian Panlalawigan and whose implementation will start this year with the help of the Australian Government that has been investing quite a sum of money for our human resource development under the Philippine-Australia Human Resource Development Facility (PAHRDF).

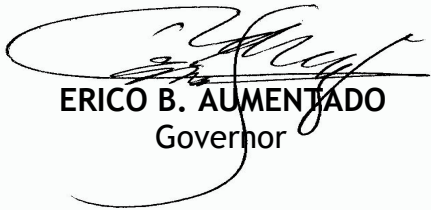
This Annual Development Plan is projected to address recurring issues in social, economic, infrastructure, environment, and development administration through strategies that have been proven effective in the past.

We are giving more premiums to our human resource development because of the new technology, skills, and the attitude needed in the implementation of our programs. We need to teach our farmers the idea of farming as an entrepreneur and agriculture as a business venture. We need to undertake pro-active market development and investment promotion activities, develop new tourism products that support our environment management programs and vice versa. But above all, we want to establish an environment of peace that will attract investments in the province.

With the assistance from UNFPA we are developing a population development program that is acceptable to our stakeholders since population issues always interrelate with poverty and development issues.

We will continue to partner with the private sector in our tourism and environment management programs. We shall continue to focus on improving access to and from the rich agricultural countryside to enable our people and their produce to get to better markets.

And lastly I am happy that this plan is in better harmony with the annual budget that we have submitted for approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.



ERICO B. AUMENTADO
Governor