



25 May, 2015

Ms. Vina Vanessa S. Salonga
Head - Issuer Compliance and Disclosure Department (ICDD)
PHILIPPINE DEALING EXCHANGE CORP.
37/F, Tower 1, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Dear Ms. Salonga,

This refers to your letter with respect to Manila Standard Today online entitled "Moody's upgrades credit ratings of PNB, RCBC." The article reported in part that:

"GLOBAL debt watcher Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the ratings of two Philippine banks to investment grade, following the consistent improvement in their credit profiles.

Moody's said it upgraded the long-term and short-term ratings of Philippine National Bank and Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. to Baa3 from Ba2.

Moody's also assigned a counter-party risk assessment of Baa1 to Bank of the Philippine Islands, BDO Unibank Inc. and Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co.; Baa2 to Land Bank of the Philippines, PNB and RCBC; and and B1 United Coconut Planters Bank.

XXX "The upgrade of the long-term and short-term ratings of PNB and RCBC reflects the consistent improvement in the credit profiles of these banks, backed by favorable operating conditions in the Philippines," Moody's said.

It said the upgrade of the bank's baseline credit assessments and adjusted BCA to ba1 from ba3 reflected improvements in asset quality profiles during a period in which new non-performing loans formation remained low in the Philippines."

The Bank confirms the veracity of the above-quoted news article.

We hope we have sufficiently clarified the matter.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

MA. CHRISTINA P. ALVAREZ
First Vice President and Corporate Information Officer