



WSG 2001 Roberto F. De OCAMPO

President
Asian Institute of Management

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Roberto F. de Ocampo is the current president of the Asian Institute of Management. As Secretary of Finance (1992-1998) during the presidency of Fidel V. Ramos, he was widely recognized as the principal architect of the resurgence of the Philippine economy.

A consistent honor student, Mr. de Ocampo graduated from De La Salle College and the Ateneo de Manila University where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics (Cum Laude). He has an MBA from the University of Michigan and a post-graduate diploma from the London School of Economics.

He began his career in public service by pioneering the rural electrification program. He was then recognized as the youngest administrator in the history of the national government and received the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines (TOYM) award. After working as Senior Loan Officer at the World Bank, Mr. de Ocampo became President and CEO of the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP). Under his leadership, the DBP won national and international recognition and was named "the world's second strongest bank" by The Banker magazine. For his groundbreaking initiatives in the field of development banking, he was presented with the very first "Man of the Year Award" by the Association of Development Finance Institutions in the Asia-Pacific (ADFIAP).

During his incumbency as Secretary of Finance, Mr. de Ocampo introduced and implemented a number of landmark policies and measures, particularly in the areas of economic liberalization, privatization and tax reform. The results were the Philippines' return to international capital markets after a decade-long absence, the first fiscal surplus in twenty years, and an unprecedented and sustained combination of healthy economic growth, low interest rates and single-digit inflation. The liberalization of the banking and insurance industries opened up these sectors to foreign investment for the first time and marked the exit of the Philippines from a nearly continuous thirty years of IMF economic rehabilitation and reform programs.

His achievement was hailed by the international finance community.

In 1995, he was named "Finance Minister of the Year" by Euromoney magazine -- the first Filipino and first ASEAN finance minister to be so recognized. He was again chosen in 1996 by Euromoney as "Finance Minister of the Year." In 1997, he was named "Asian Finance Minister of the Year" by the Asiamoney magazine. In September 2000, he earned another distinction of being the first Filipino and first from the ASEAN to sit in the Trilateral Commission, an organization whose select membership include distinguished leaders in the fields of business, politics, civil society, the academe, and media from the European Union, North America, and Japan.

Mr. de Ocampo is a much sought-after speaker at international conferences and acts as advisor on Asian and international economic matters.