NATIONAL POLICY FORUM ON WAGES AND PRODUCTIVITY Manila, 28 October 2009

Partner (TUCP) Response to Productivity Presentation

Presented by FLORENCIA P. CABATINGAN TUCP Women's Chair The NCC programs are elitist. They ignore labor. They ignore the private sector's so-called partners. The programs are so elitist NCC actually believes these programs would prosper without the participation of labor.

The programs even ignore DOLE. The only reference to DOLE on Frame No. 13 is a misprint.

"Government ENABLES. Business DRIVES and goes for GROWTH".

Where is labor? Labor LOOKS ON?

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This is so strange, as these employers and private sector people spew at every opportunity that productivity and people are the Philippines' most important resource. That is what is wrong with the country's productivity and competitiveness programs. Only the elite are privileged to participate. In designing and deciding programs and in the sharing of gains. Or perhaps we were expecting too much. That we were made to believe that labor really was important in the country's competitiveness. Our mistake.

Also the Philippines' mistake.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird following.

In a V formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

To NCC, labor is not even a flapping bird. The NCC flock excludes labor.

Well, it would be the Philippines' doom. Labor will be NCC flock's burden.

Good luck to your labor-less competitiveness. You will need it!