



ANTONIO I. BASILIO (Tony)

Director

ABAC International Secretariat

Tony is a self-confessed APEC junkie, which started when he was part of the Philippine delegation to the founding meeting of APEC in 1989 in what was then the Gazebo Hotel in Sydney. He subsequently attended the inaugural meeting in Canberra later that year and has had continuing participation in the APEC process initially as a public official and subsequently from the private sector. In 1996 during the Philippine chairmanship, he was deputy to the APEC SOM Chair tasked with coordinating substantive issues and as spokesperson. One of his specific responsibilities was to oversee the development of the Leaders' Statement which at that time was not integral to the SOM process. The following APEC year under Canada, he was Senior Official for the Philippines representing the Department of Foreign Affairs.

A career foreign service officer, Tony served in London, Beijing, Geneva, Jeddah and Washington, D.C. (where he was Deputy Chief of Mission from 1992-1998). During this time, he also served as lead negotiator on market access issues for the Philippines during the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (GATT/WTO) from 1989-1990. He was Director of the Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR) of the Department of Trade and Industry from 1989 to 1991. BITR is responsible for providing substantive support to Philippine participation in bilateral and multilateral trade agreements.

Tony left public service and joined the private sector in 1998 as President of the Philippine Foundation for Global Concerns Inc., a non-profit organization involved in regional economic issues. In this same capacity, he served as Executive Director of the Philippine National Committee of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC); Director of the International Secretariat of the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC); and Secretary General of the Philippine chapter of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). In 2001, he was appointed Chairman of the Manila Economic and Cultural Office which represents Philippine interests in Taiwan. Tony was also Senior Adviser at the Asian Development Bank from 2001-2002 working on a project on sub-regional economic integration in South Asia. He was an independent Director of the Board of Equitable Banking Corporation in 2006-2007 then the Philippines' 3rd largest bank.

Tony earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the Ateneo de Manila University. He took up postgraduate studies in international marketing at Brunel University (UK) and has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.