

**Gerard H. Brimo Closing Remarks**  
**Mining Philippines 2023**  
**September 20, 2023**

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Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

We have reached the end of our conference after the stimulating discussions on various topics of interest to our industry.

We share the government's position on the responsible and sustainable use of natural resources, and support plans being drawn and steps being taken so that mining can further contribute to economic and social progress while championing environmental integrity. There remain a host of issues that have a material impact on the approaches to make our industry grow, but we in the Chamber believe that continued dialogue and consultations are part of the journey to our common objective of sustainable development.

The conference gave us glimpses of how global mining leaders Canada and Australia view the Philippines in their respective minerals development strategies in this part of the world. We look forward to continued engagement with their national mining associations in our effort to improve the ESG performance of our member-companies, particularly through TSM.

It is clear from the various sessions that ESG has evolved from decades of focus on sustainable development and is increasingly becoming a critical business imperative. An increasing number of companies are seeing the substantive benefits of taking ESG seriously and why organizations should work hard to embed it into their value systems and culture. The environmental and social elements are critical in the Philippines, but we should also provide equal focus on good governance as this ensures broader stakeholder engagement and better long-term returns.

The gradual easing of the mining policy environment under a supportive administration is something we are truly thankful for and will never take for granted. We are well aware of the responsibility tied to this renewed trust. As demand for minerals to feed the requirements of the energy transition increase, we shall remain steadfast in our resolve to help expand economic opportunities, promote social development, and protect the environment.

The conference leaves us with loads of ideas, information, statistics, and concepts to think about. The task for us now is how to make use of all these in ways that would push our industry forward, wary of the fact that much is expected of us by our stakeholders.

In behalf of the Chamber of Mines, I wish to thank our speakers whose presence has been invaluable in making Mining Philippines 2023 a success. I also wish to thank the delegates, our sponsors, the exhibitors, and all those who supported us in putting this event together. It had been a long four years since we last held this event, and the excitement was evident in the huge turnout of delegates and exhibitors. We sincerely apologize to those who had wanted to join us

but whom we had to decline because of the limited space. It's a lesson we have learned and will keep in mind in our next conference.

Maraming salamat po.