

October 27, 2020
ASEAN-Japan Centre

AJC Appointed RAFAELITA C. CASTRO as Director of Operations

The ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Rafaelita C. Castro as Director of Operations of the AJC in Tokyo as of October 2, 2020. She assumed the post of Director of Operations in charge of the Research and Policy Analysis Cluster and the Trade and Investment Cluster.

Ms. Castro is seconded from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) of the Philippines. She brings with her more than 25 years of experience in trade promotion. Prior to the appointment, she was the Chief Trade and Industry Development Specialist at the Export Marketing Bureau (EMB) of the DTI.

During her stint at the bureau, she handled various export promotional missions to various countries including US and Mexico, Australia and New Zealand, South Africa and Mozambique, Russia, China, India, Israel, ASEAN Member States, and Japan. In addition to her work in export promotion, she led the “Doing Business in Free Trade Areas”, a nationwide advocacy program on the benefits of Philippine free trade agreements (FTAs) which was shortlisted in ITC’s (International Trade Center’s) 2014 TPO (Trade Promotion Organization) Network Awards held in Dubai. She was also a member of the Philippine team that negotiated the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA).

Ms. Castro holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Economics and a Master of Public Management degree, both from the University of the Philippines.

Ms. Castro aims to work towards the enhancement of ASEAN-Japan trade and investment relations through the production of research papers meant to provide information and policy recommendations to ASEAN Member States and through the strengthening of network linkages between ASEAN and Japanese companies.



Ms. Castro, newly appointed Director of Operations in charge of the Research and Policy Analysis Cluster and the Trade and Investment Cluster.

<< ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) >>

An intergovernmental organization established by the ASEAN Member States and Japan in 1981. It has been promoting exports from ASEAN to Japan while revitalizing investment, tourism as well as people-to-people exchanges between the ASEAN Member States and Japan.

URL: <https://www.asean.or.jp/en/>

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