



27 January 2025

PHILIPPINE DEALING & EXCHANGE CORP.

29th Floor, BDO Equitable Tower 8751
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Attention: **Atty. Suzy Claire R. Selleza**
Head, Issuer Compliance and Disclosure Department

Re: **BDO Unibank, Inc. – Clarification of News Report**
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Ladies and Gentlemen:

We write in connection with the request of the Philippine Dealing & Exchange Corp. for clarification of the news article entitled “**BDO partners with Japan’s Ashikaga Bank**” (Online Edition) on 23 January 2025, as follows:

“MANILA, Philippines - Sy-led BDO Unibank Inc. has partnered with Japan's Ashikaga Bank, Ltd. (**ABL**) to provide essential support to Japanese businesses looking to establish or expand their presence in the Philippines.

In a statement yesterday, the country's largest lender said it signed a business alliance agreement through a memorandum of understanding (**MOU**) to foster a partnership that enables Japanese companies to thrive in the country's diverse markets.

ABL is a leading regional bank based in Tochigi Prefecture. It is the 17th Japanese bank that has partnered with BDO.

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The bank highlighted that the MOU signed on Dec. 23, 2024 aims to further strengthen the relationship between these two banks as BDO provides banking support services to Japanese business entities who are ABL customers and have existing operations or plan to build or expand their business in the country.

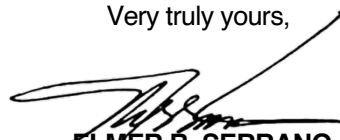
Incorporated in 1895 with over 70,000 corporate clients, ABL expects to grow its roster of customers in the Philippines with new investments and business matching deals.

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We confirm the accuracy of the foregoing news report.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



ELMER B. SERRANO
Corporate Information Officer