

December 2, 2021

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Secretariat Building, PICC Complex
Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City

Attention: **DIRECTOR VICENTE GRACIANO P. FELIZMENIO**
Markets and Securities Regulation Department

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

6th Floor, PSE Tower
28th Street corner 5th Avenue
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

Attention: **MS. JANET A. ENCARNACION**
Head, Disclosure Department

PHILIPPINE DEALING AND EXCHANGE CORP.

37/F Tower 1, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas
Makati City

Attention: **ATTY. MARIE ROSE M. MAGALLEN-LIRIO**
Head, Issuer Compliance and Disclosure Department

Gentlemen:

We respond to the correspondence received via PSE EDGE on December 2, 2021, seeking clarification and/or confirmation of the news article entitled "**UnionBank surprise front-runner for Citi's PH retail business**" posted in Inquirer.net on December 2, 2021, which states:

"Aboitiz-led Union Bank of the Philippines is the 'preferred bidder' for the Philippine consumer and retail banking assets of American banking giant Citigroup, a report from Bloomberg newswire said.

In the coming weeks, UnionBank will negotiate on the sale in a prospective deal valued at \$1 billion, Bloomberg reported on Wednesday, citing anonymous sources."

The Bank has noted media reports about a potential transaction.

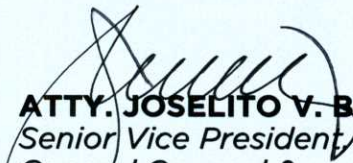
The Bank confirms that it is in discussions with Citigroup Inc. ("Citi") with respect to a potential acquisition of Citi's consumer banking business in the Philippines.

The discussions between the Bank and Citi are at a preliminary stage, and any transaction in relation to the foregoing would be subject to, among other things, the completion of satisfactory due diligence, the negotiation and execution of definitive transaction documents, satisfaction of the conditions contained therein and the approval by the regulators of the transaction. Accordingly, there can be no assurances that the transaction will be completed at this stage.

Further announcement(s) with respect to the Bank's discussions with Citi will be made as appropriate.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



ATTY. JOSELITO V. BANAAG
*Senior Vice President,
General Counsel &
Corporate Secretary*