

Annual Public Policy Conference

Regulations as Drivers of a Pandemic-Resilient Economy

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Regulatory bottlenecks vis a vis commercial transactions and novel business models during the New Normal.

The Philippines regulatory landscape must transform to one that is able to support systems that will enable economic activity during public crises.



COVID-19 and Regulatory Reforms

The occurrence of crises triggers regulatory reform due to the desire to facilitate and ensure support for the conduct of the following:

1. Execution of contracts
2. Trading across borders; barriers (including physical; social distancing)
3. Employing workers
4. Starting a business; procuring government licenses and permits
5. Education

COVID-19 and Regulatory Reforms

Crucial need for systems that enable efficient operations of the following:

- a. Networks; platforms; infrastructure**
- b. Remote transactions; borderless transactions**

Crucial role of institutions and regulations during uncertain times to facilitate economic activities

- **Online platforms**
- **Logistics**
- **Retail**
- **Telecommunications**
- **Education MOOCs**

The Situation in the PH

- Tech and network infrastructure
- Barriers to entry
- Incoherent and uncertain regulatory environment
 - Prohibitions and outright restrictions
 - Lack of regulations; overlapping regulations
 - Inconsistent application

Pandemic: Speeding up Reforms



Ransomware attacks are the new normal.

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DILG: Over 1,500 cell site applications approved under simplified process

By David Tristan Yumol, CNN Philippines

Published Aug 11, 2020 12:42:55 AM



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PH needs reliable, cheap internet heading into new normal – World Bank

By Melissa Luz Lopez, CNN Philippines

Published Jun 9, 2020 4:08:09 PM



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DOTr to require cashless transactions in toll expressways

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz  August 24, 2020, 5:13 pm

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MANILA – The Department of Transportation (DOTr) announced on Monday that it will soon require contactless and cashless transactions in toll expressway as a means to curb the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) both in private and public transportation.

In a statement, the DOTr said Department Order 2020-012 ordered the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), the Land Transportation Office (LTO), and the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to formulate new processes and procedures within three months that would “ensure the smooth implementation of the policy”.



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DOTr says reduced PUVs won't result in distancing in public transport

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HEADLINES



SC OKs remote notarization of documents

Philippine Daily Inquirer / 05:10 AM August 02, 2020

MANILA, Philippines — Amid the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, the Supreme Court on Friday said it would allow the notarization of documents through videoconferencing in areas under community quarantine.

The high court approved a resolution on July 14, which provided interim rules on remote notarization of paper documents that would take effect 15 days after publication.

EDITORS' PICK

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BUSINESS
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NOTICE

TO : ALL CONCERNED

**SUBJECT : SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES ON THE FILING OF REPORTS
AND OTHER DOCUMENTS DURING THE ENHANCED
COMMUNITY QUARANTINE**

DATE : 8 APRIL 2020

- Tech companies during the pandemic
 - Telco and transportation networks rising to the occasion
 - Big Tech aiding in contact tracing and info dissemination
- Increased demand for bandwidth
- Infrastructure investments (in other countries) paying off

COVID-19 and Regulatory Reforms

Crucial role of institutions and regulations during uncertain times to facilitate economic activities

- i. Contactless transactions
 1. Executing private contracts (e-notarization); making payments
 2. Consumer protection
 3. Government interactions
 - a. Coordination among regulators; between national government and LGU
- ii. Exploit potential presented by regional and international trade and investments

Crucial Role of institutions and regulations during uncertain times to facilitate economic activities

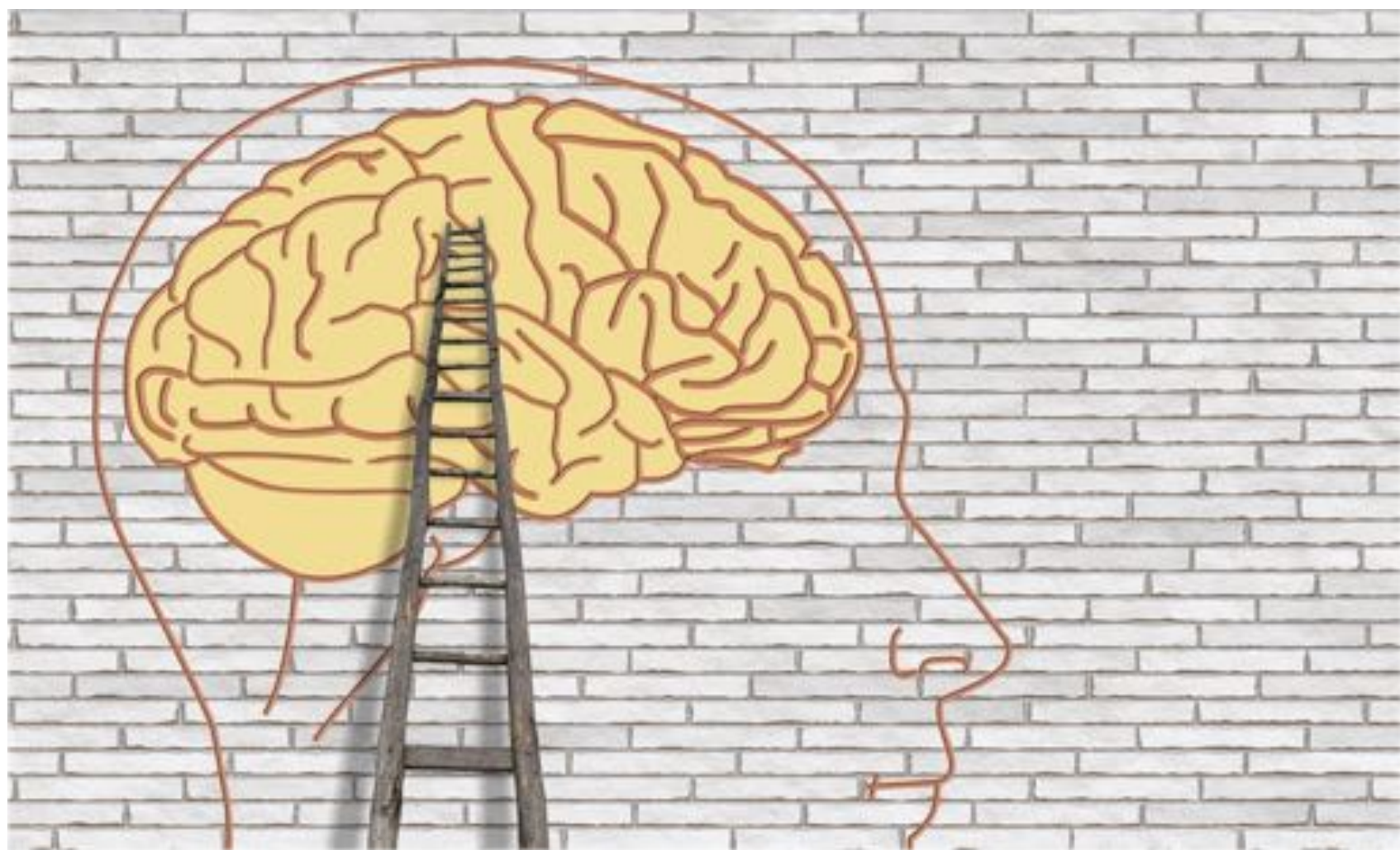
- Resolve gray area and make it easier for investors and entrepreneurs to choose the PH

- **online platforms;**
- **Logistics**
- **Retail**
- **Education MOOCs**

constitutional restrictions but may be resolved through legislative amendments and administrative guidance (esp online platforms)

Crucial Role of institutions and regulations during uncertain times to to facilitate economic activities

- Exploit potential presented by regional and international trade and investments
 - Friendlier investor regulations



COVID-19 experience should
shape review of policy

Regulatory Strategies

- No one size fits all
- Depends on policy thrusts and vision
 - BSP Example
- Depends on the problem that you want to solve
 - Static v dynamic industries
- Whole of government approach
- Public-private interaction
- Not just amending regulations; but also ensuring consistency and predictability in its application

Regulatory Strategies

- Outright Ban (China and its Great Firewall, SoKor and ICOs, USA and cashless businesses)
- Wait and See Approach
- Rulemaking through legislation
- Agency threats (interpretative rules and guidelines)

Public Crises as an Opportunity for Reforms

Mandate to protect the public + facilitating innovation

Thank you!
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