

## ARTA, DICT to ink MOA for nationwide automation of government services

August 19, 2019 – Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) Director General Atty. Jeremiah Belgica and Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Assistant Secretary Emmanuel Rey Caintic met last Friday to discuss the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between ARTA and DICT on the nationwide automation of government services. Also present in the meeting is ARTA Chief of Staff Atty. Ira Paulo Pozon.

The two agencies are eyeing a collaboration that will be marked by the signing of the MOA on the first week of September 2019. This initiative will be carried out by both agencies in an effort to accelerate efficiency in the government through automation by making the most of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

According to DG Belgica, the automation and digitization of government services can bring benefits across numerous functions of government. Among others, this breakthrough initiative, once completely implemented, would lower the operational costs for government agencies and would pave the way for a faster service offering to the benefit of the transacting public.

DG Belgica added that automation would be pivotal in our government's effort to go paperless in the years to come, and to eliminate corruption by minimizing interaction between applicants and government employees and officials.

To this end, ARTA is calling for all government agencies' proactive participation and support in this initiative. For starters, the heads of government offices and agencies are advised to reach out to DICT for assistance in their automation efforts. Asec. Caintic introduced the project Chief Information Officer (CIO) Corps. This initiative is a DICT-backed program where DICT IT experts would partner with a government agency's IT team to assist in automating and digitizing their services.

In an effort to jumpstart the digital transformation within the organization itself, ARTA will take the lead and be the first to avail of this CIO Corps service from the DICT.

Together with DICT, ARTA intends to be the window to the future of government, ultimately paving the way to a digital Philippines that maximizes productivity and minimizes waste and eliminates corruption. We implore all government agencies to take the huge step in adopting modern technology with us. ARTA is ready to embrace change to serve the Filipino people better.

[END]

