#### Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR)

41<sup>st</sup> SESSION 6 – 8 November 2024

Thursday, 7 November 2024

Agenda item 3. Review of progress in harmonization and practical implementation of sustainability reporting, assurance and ethical considerations

Presented by

McJill Bryant Fernandez Commissioner Securities and Exchange Commission Philippines

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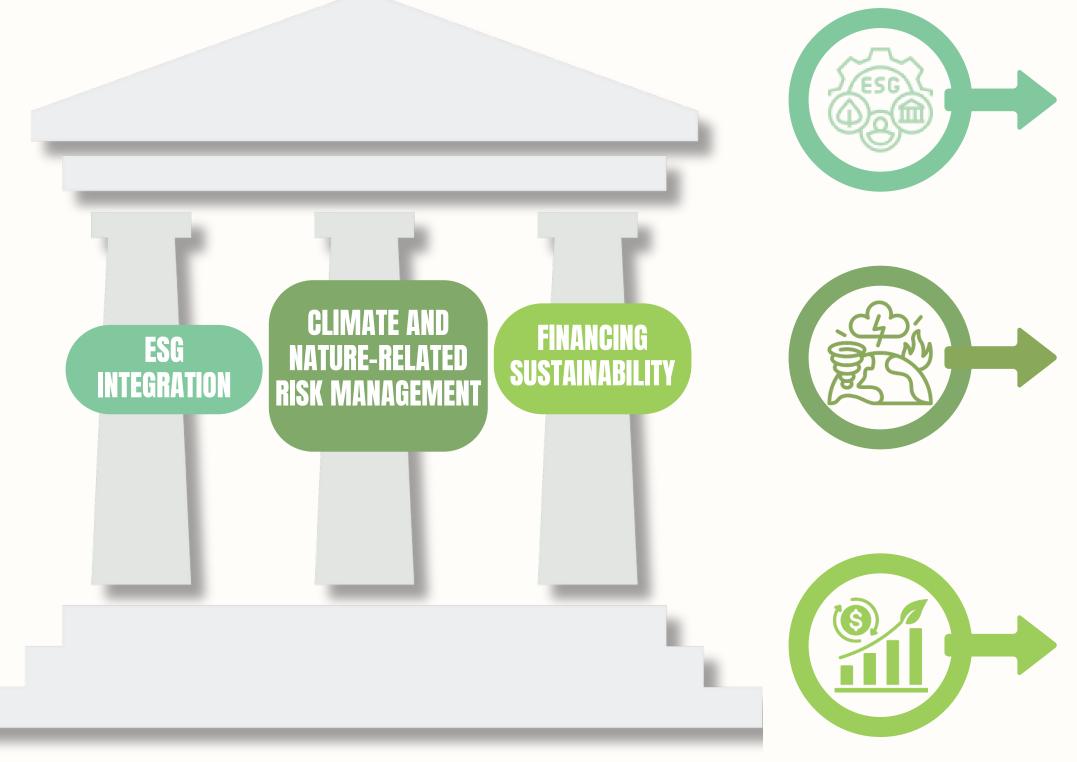
# Charting the Path Towards Mandatory Sustainability Disclosures in the Philippines

COMMISSIONER MCJILL BRYANT T. FERNANDEZ SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION PHILIPPINES





### The Philippines: An Emerging Market, A Sustainability Champion



Source: 2024 Global Progress Brief

#### **MATURING-CONSOLIDATING STATUS**

This underscores the foundational importance of ESG risk management in a country's sustainable finance journey. The Philippines comprehensively adopts frameworks with supporting tools, capacity building, and governance structures for implementation.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION-ADVANCING STATUS**

This measures the adoption and implementation of frameworks to contribute to national and international efforts to manage climate- and naturerelated risks. The status of the Philippines reflects the rapid translation of national commitments made under the Paris Agreement into regulatory action.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION-ADVANCING STATUS**

This captures national progress in developing and implementing sustainable finance fmechanisms to promote capital flows toward climate, social, green economy, and sustainability goals. This status indicates expanded operationalization of sustainable finance frameworks across the financial sector.

### Path Towards Mandatory Disclosures: Progress So Far

#### **FEBRUARY 2019**

**SEC** issued **Memorandum Circular** No. 4, providing sustainability reporting guidelines for Publicly **Listed Companies** 

#### **JUNE 2023**

**ISSB** issued inaugural standards, IFRS S1 & S2, ushering in a new era of sustainability-related disclosures in capital markets worldwide.

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#### **MARCH 2023**

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From common disclosures, initial set of priority SR indicators were identified, based on PLC response, giving birth to the SuRe Form

**OCTOBER 2023 Revised Sustainability Reporting Guidelines** and SuRe Form exposed for public comment.

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#### **MARCH 2024**

**SEC launched the Small** and Medium Industries, and Large Enterprises **Embracing Sustainability** (SMILEES) Roadshow in partnership with UNDP and **GRI** 

### **JULY 2024**

**Private Sector Forum** on the Prototype Jurisdictional **Roadmap Towards ISSB** Adoption

# **Priority Areas for Sustainability Reporting Implementation**

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#### **Networking and** Feedback

Sustainable Enterprise Collaboration Network or eSECnature fosters knowledge sharing and collaboration in the Philippine businesses actively engaged in sustainability



#### **Framework for** Interoperability

Anchored on intent to provide consistent and comparable sustainability data, creating synergy among internationally recognized frameworks and standards (ISSB, GRI, UN SDG, and TNFD)



#### Consistent **Disclosure Format**

SuRe Form features sustainability performance metrics (i.e., Industry-Specific Metrics)



### **Digitalization for Sustainability**

To prepare for the submission of SuRe Form, a customized web application is being developed to streamline data collection, verification, management, and analysis of sustainability data from Form.



### **Sustainable Value Chain**

The nationwide SMILEES roadshow, in collaboration with UNDP and GRI, promote sustainable business practices and commence institutionalizing sustainability reporting among small, medium, and large enterprises

### Path Towards Mandatory Disclosures: Looking Forward

### 2025

Continuous refinement of jurisdictional roadmap through market sounding



#### 2027

Implementation of Mandatory Disclosures for Tier 2: Mid capital listed entities



### 2026

Implementation of Mandatory Disclosures for Tier 1: Large capital listed entities

#### 2028

Implementation of Mandatory Disclosures for Tier 3: SME listed entities and large nonlisted entities

Implementation of Limited Assurance for Tier 1

#### 2029

Implementation of Limited Assurance for Tier 2

> **2030** Implementation of Limited Assurance for Tier 3

## Areas for Future Collaboration



#### **Capacity Building** for

regulators, issuers, local assurance providers, and investors



Information, Education, and Communication for stakeholder engagement and to raise awareness on the value of SR, assurance, and ethical considerations



#### Technical Assistance in

establishing interoperable, proportional, and up-todate standards and systems for SR and assurance

# Thank You.



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