

SESSION III : Priorities of International Philanthropy

Goals and Priorities of International Philanthropy in Developing Nations

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An examination of the present situation of developing nations will show that on the whole, except for small areas used as show places, the poor have remained poor, hunger has not been solved, and the small entrepreneurship that is the basis of a successful economy does not exist on any meaningful scale.

Countries like the Philippines are unable to cope effectively with the stringent demands of international economic instability and competition, hindered as we often are by trade protectionism, inadequate technology, natural disasters, corruption and mismanagement, and a self-centered and unconcerned government that lays emphasis on show and image rather than actual public needs and welfare.

I think all here realize that the ripples of these problems in the developing countries will necessarily reach your shores and disturb your calm and prosperity. The successful economy of Japan attracts the poor of Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines. Financial failures in the other countries have their repercussions in the banking systems of the East and the West. Even from the narrow point of view of developing and maintaining markets, it is important to take care of your own backyards.

In the Philippines, the Japanese government has provided development aid, but all too often in the form of large ventures such as the Philippine-Japanese Friendship Highway, and the purchase of buses for the transportation needs of Manila. I am