

**NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
20TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
and the
4TH NATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS**

**The Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel
Pasay City
08-09 July 1998**

WELCOME REMARKS

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Honored guests, honorable Secretary William Padolina of Science and Technology, and Secretary Bro. Andrew A. Gonzalez – the new Secretary of Education – Undersecretary Amelia C. Angcog, honorable National Scientists, fellow Academicians, esteemed co-workers in science, friends, ladies, and gentlemen:

This year, we take pride in celebrating our 100th year of independence. To this, we happily dedicate the NAST 20th Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) with the theme “The Philippine Social Sciences in the Life of the Nation”.

Through the eight plenary sessions set for this two-day meeting, the significant role that social science plays in shaping the life of our nation will be highlighted. I am deeply grateful to and honored by all the speakers for taking time, effort, and energy to share their scientific insights in this activity. And at the end of the conference I do hope, and am very confident, that meaningful resolutions will be arrived at and may these resolutions be a guide as we venture towards the next centennial and as we enter the 21st century.

Social science, I believe, is the soul and conscience of our nation toward global competitiveness, economic development, and dynamic human progress. For, among any other fields of sciences, social science is the one dealing with human feelings, emotions, and thoughts, all of which affect, in one way or the other, human motivations, behaviors, and relations.

Thus, I bid everyone here in this eventful occasion, warmest welcome and may this be a fruitful, insightful, and successful conference.

