



# **Ninth UNCTAD Debt Management Conference**

Geneva, 11 - 13 November 2013

## **External Shocks, Financial Stability and Debt**

by

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Treasurer

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Philippines

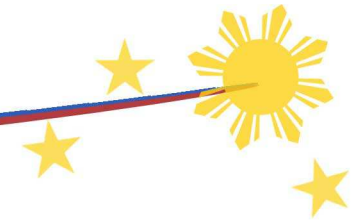
The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD



# **Debt Management Conference:** *External Shocks, Financial Stability and Debt*

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development  
November 2013

# Where we used to be...



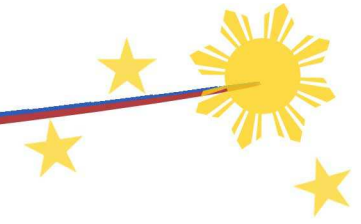
## Back in 2005...

### Nominal Debt

**Php 3,888.2 bn / U\$73.2 bn**

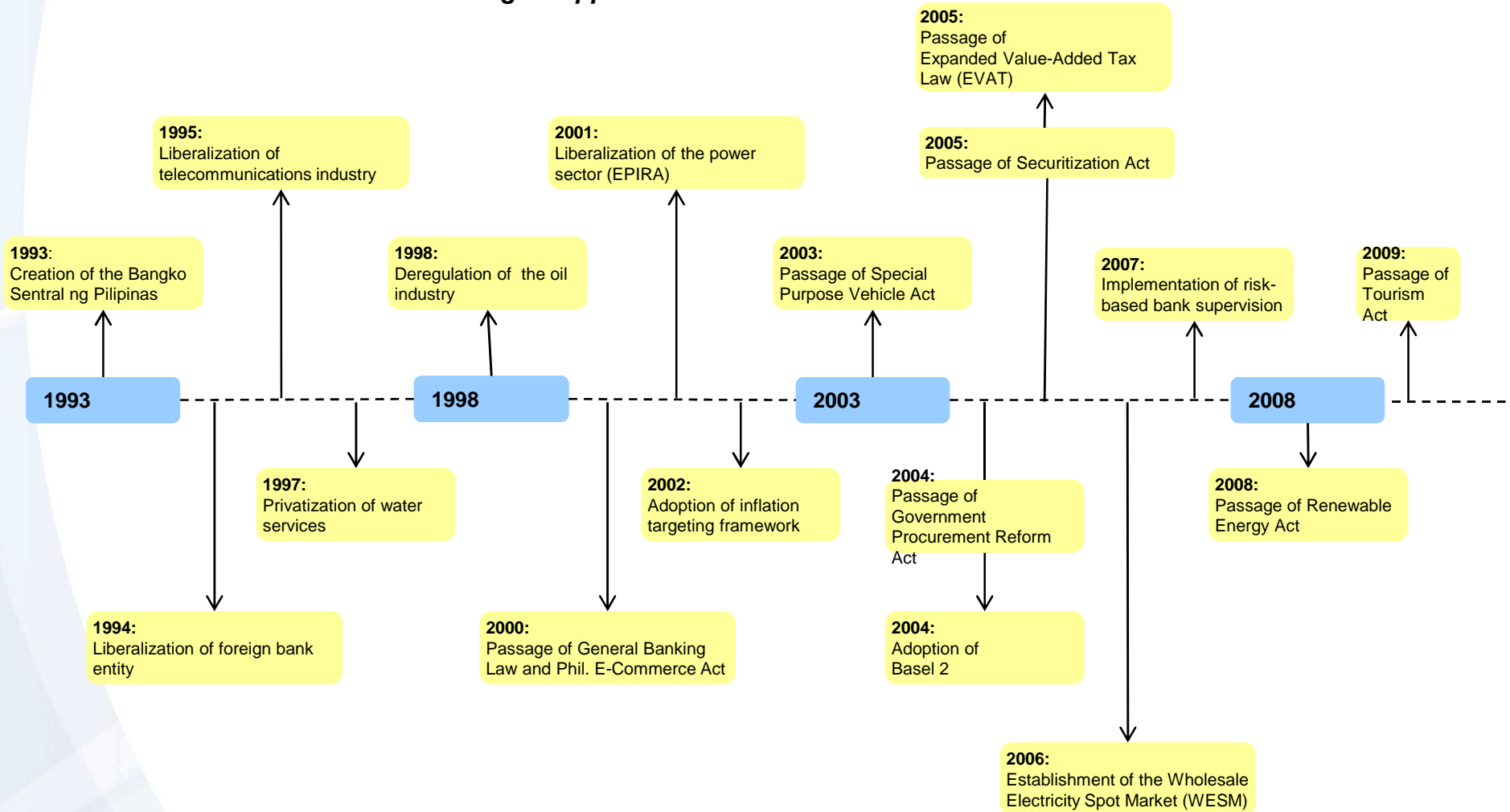
Risk Indicators		
<b>Nominal Debt-to-GDP</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	High indebtedness
<b>FX Risk</b>		
<b>FX Debt as % of Total</b>	<b>44.3%</b>	High exposure to adverse currency swings
<b>Refinancing Risk</b>		
<b>ATM External (Yrs)</b>	<b>10.7</b>	70% of domestic debt have tenor of <5 yrs
<b>ATM Domestic (Yrs)</b>	<b>4.6</b>	
<b>ATM Total (Yrs)</b>	<b>7.3</b>	
<b>Liquidity Risk</b>		
<b>ST FX Debt as % of GIR</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	Ample FX cover
<b>Interest as % of Revenue</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	Large IP posed heavy burden on socio-economic development
<b>Interest as % of Expenditure</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	

# What we did?



## Structural and Other Developmental Reforms and Programs

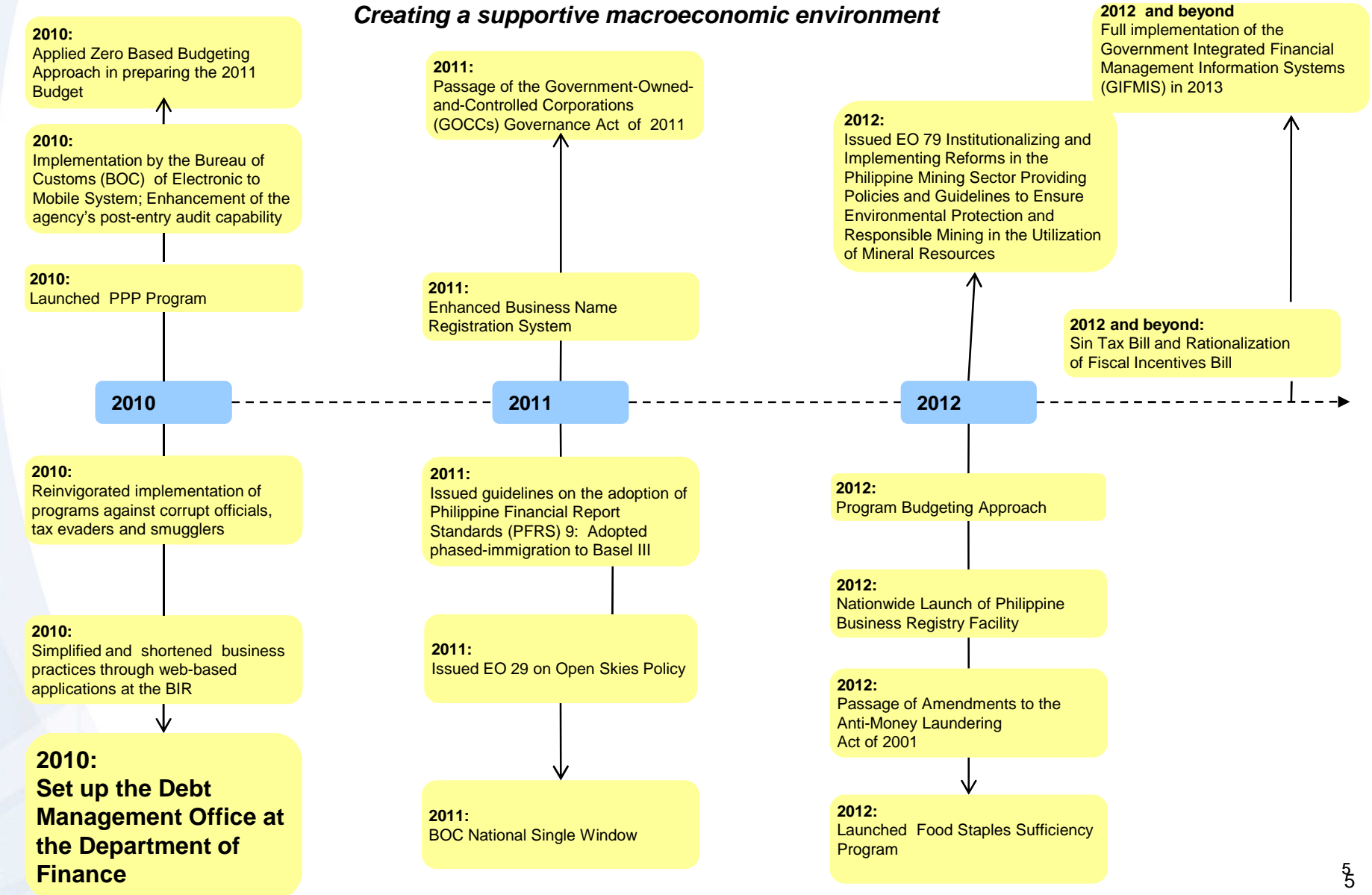
### Creating a supportive macroeconomic environment



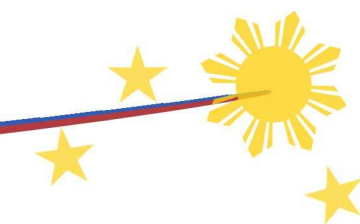
# What we did?

## Structural and Other Developmental Reforms and Programs

### Creating a supportive macroeconomic environment



# What we did?



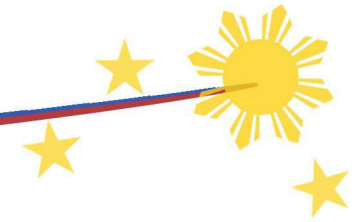
- The passage of landmark reform measures demonstrate improved governance, which has been recognized in third party assessments

Strong political will to pursue and implement difficult reforms



Third Party Report	Latest	Previous	Change
World Bank Ease of Doing Business Assessment	108/189	133/189	Up 25
Transparency International 2012 Corruption Perception Index	105/179	129/183	Up 24
World Bank 2012 Worldwide Governance Indicators Government Effectiveness*	55.9	51.2	Up 4
IMD 2013 World Competitiveness Report	38/60	43/59	Up 5
Heritage Foundation 2012 Economic Freedom Index	97/177	107/179	Up 10
Thomson Reuters/INSEAD Asia Business Sentiment Survey** (Q3 2013 vs Q2 2013)	100/100	94/100	Up 6
Grant Thornton 2013 Global Dynamism Index	21/60	46/50	Up 25
*Percentile ranking			
** % of respondents with positive outlook on the Philippines			

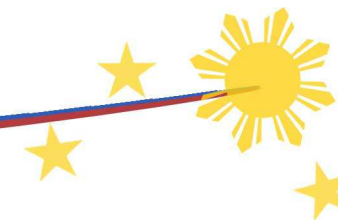
# What we did?



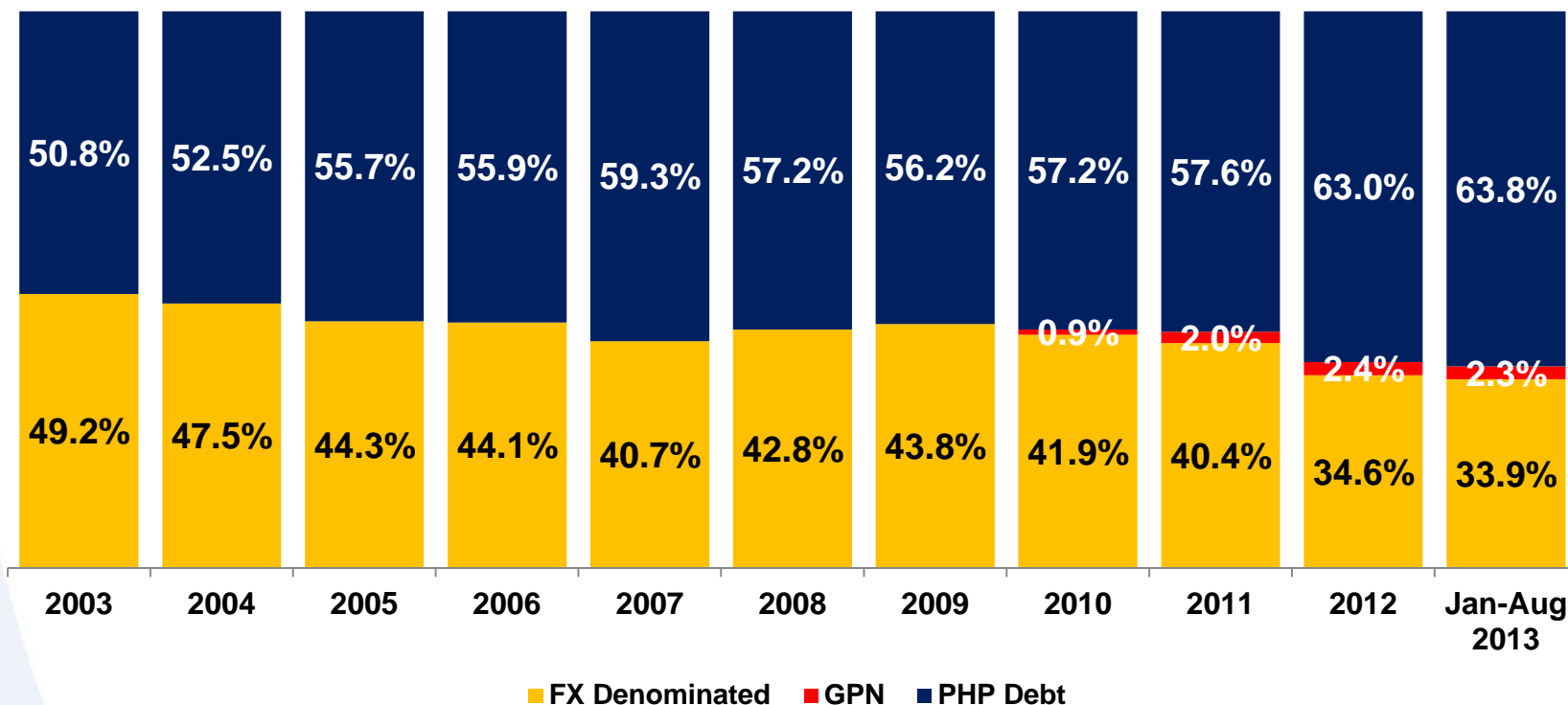
## Improving the Government Debt Portfolio through Prudent Issuance Policy

Ensuring debt sustainability requires long-term commitment to improving the government's debt portfolio. To this end, the formulation of the National Government's debt strategy is guided by the following objectives:

- ❖ to meet the government's financing requirement at minimal cost consistent with an acceptable level of risk;
- ❖ to reduce National Government (NG) foreign currency denominated debt;
- ❖ to further support the deepening and development of the domestic capital market.

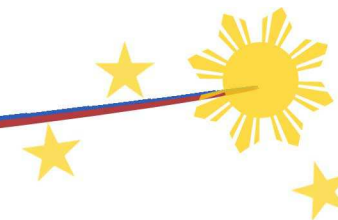


## Heavy Bias Towards Domestic Sources of Financing



- To minimize *FX risk* and help develop the domestic capital market, the borrowing program has been designed to take advantage of ample onshore liquidity.
- Further, with the introduction of the GPN format, the Republic was able to gain access to foreign funds without compromising its debt portfolio's FX position.





## The Innovative Global Peso Note (GPN)

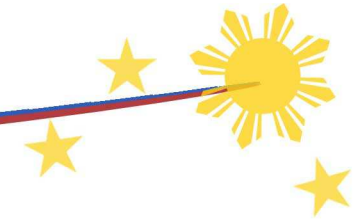
*the first ever local-currency-linked bond in Asia*

- The GPN enhances the government's debt investor profile while paving the way for greater participation by offshore investors in the local capital markets.

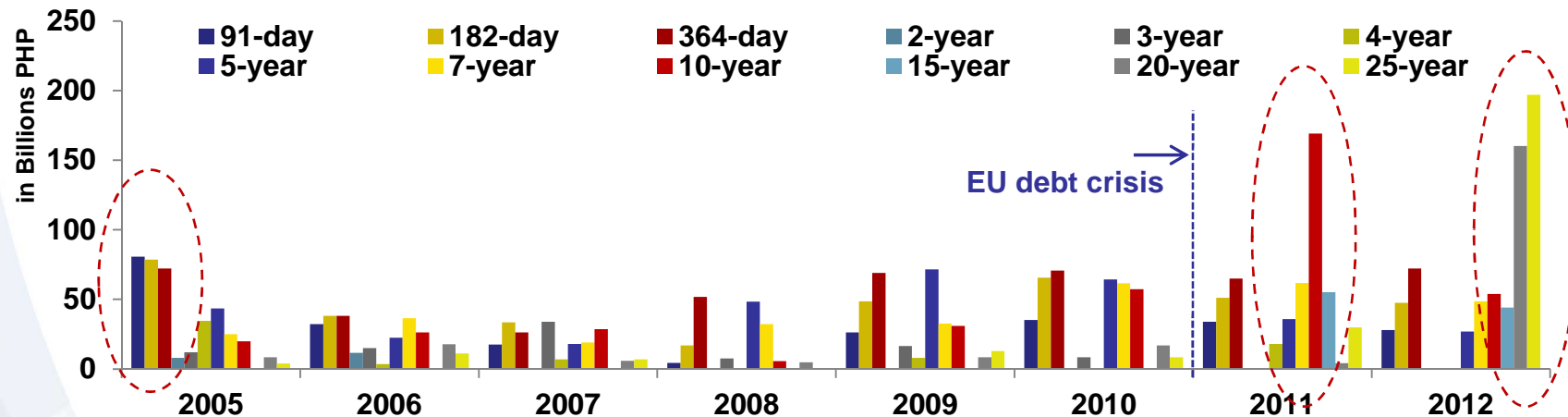
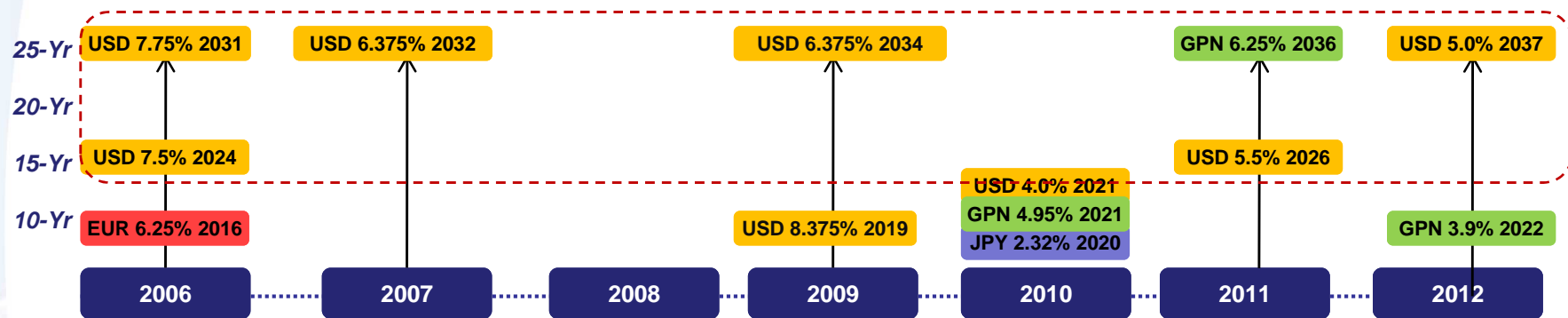


- Because the instrument is denominated in PHP, the government has no exposure to exchange rate fluctuations.
- Since the instrument is priced to mirror the net-of-tax yield of similar domestic benchmark bonds, it gives offshore investors a corridor to hold-on to peso debt w/o the frictional costs associated with participating in the domestic market .

# Issuance Policy | Global Bond Issuances

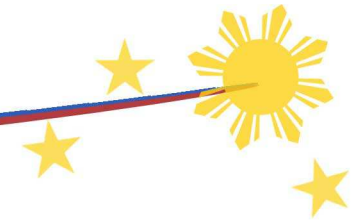


## Extending the Average Maturity of External and Domestic Debt



- Global bond issuances have been concentrated on the long- to the very long-end of the yield curve to maintain comfortable level of average maturity.
- On the domestic side, the decline in borrowing costs across all points in the yield curve provided the perfect backdrop to stretch out portfolio maturities without raising average interest.

# What we did?

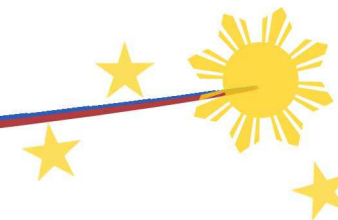


## Debt Portfolio Optimization through Proactive Liability Management

To complement the prudent issuance policy, the Republic also delved actively in **liability management transactions** to minimize portfolio risks and/ cut down costs. These include exercises like:

- ❖ switching high coupon bonds with low coupon new issuances;
- ❖ redeeming foreign currency debt with peso debt;
- ❖ bond exchanges that aim to extend maturities; and
- ❖ consolidation of benchmark bonds

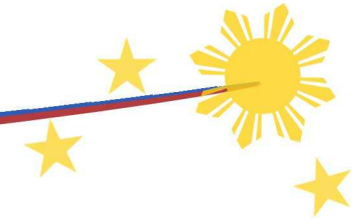
# Proactive Liability Management



2010	2011	2012
<p><i>Quantitative Easing (QE2)</i></p> <p>U\$3.02 billion Global Bond Exchange Offer</p>	<p><i>EU Debt Crisis, "flight to safety"</i></p> <p>U\$1.3 billion Global Bond Tender Offer</p>	<p><i>Deleveraging in Europe – leveraging in EM Asia, Fiscal Cliff</i></p> <p>Redenomination via U\$1.5 billion tender offer and P30.8 billion 10-year GPN issuance</p>
<p><i>Declining interest rates</i></p> <p>P199.5 billion Domestic Bond Exchange, Cash Tender and New 25-year Issue</p>	<p><i>Declining interest rates</i></p> <p>P323.5 billion Domestic Bond Swap, New Long 10-year and 20-year Benchmark Bonds</p>	<p><i>Declining interest rates, Surge in capital inflows</i></p> <p>Landmark issuance of U\$500 million 10.5-year Onshore Dollar Bond</p>

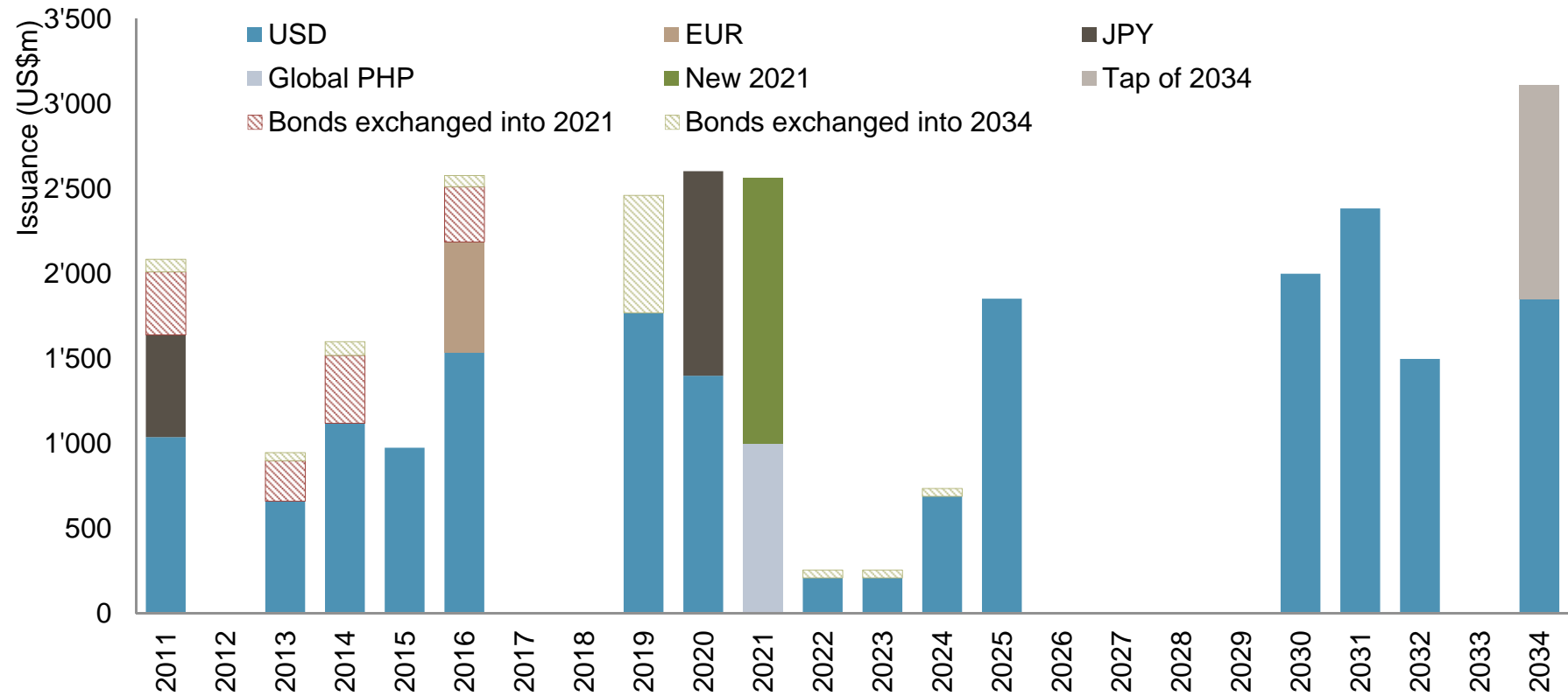
- The Republic has continuously sought out opportunities to advance its portfolio profile even amidst challenging external environment.

# Managing the Debt Portfolio



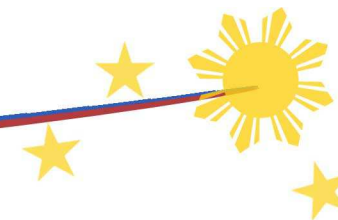
## The Global Bond Exchange of 2010

*lengthening the maturity of the external debt portfolio*



- In September 2010, the Republic got back some of its high coupon old debt in exchange for US\$1.5 bn of new ROP 2021 and US\$767 mn of the re-opened ROP 2034.
- The transaction helped mitigate refinancing risk by extending the maturity of the global bond portfolio by 9 years. It also reduced annual debt service cost by about US\$69.6 million.

# Managing the Debt Portfolio



## Domestic Bond Exchange Program

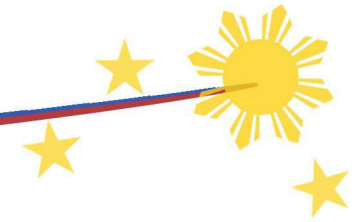
*Taking advantage of declining interest rate environment to manage refinancing risk*

### ROP PHP Debt Maturity Profile Post Exchange



- Similarly, the republic has also executed bond exchanges in the domestic market in 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011 to smoothen its debt maturity profile, extend the maturity of existing Peso liabilities, and establish liquid benchmarks at the long end of the yield curve.
- The transactions also achieved cashflow and debt service relief, allowing the government to channel more resources to its infrastructure and socio-economic projects.

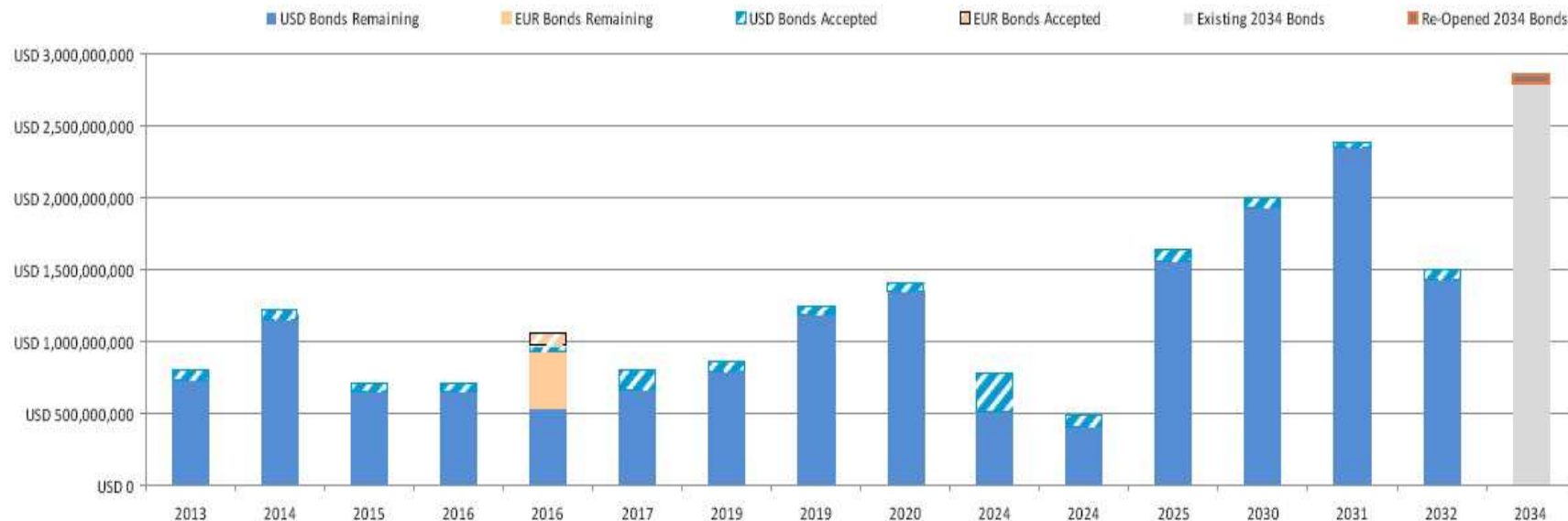
# Managing the Debt Portfolio



## Synthetic Buyback | Tender Offering of 2011

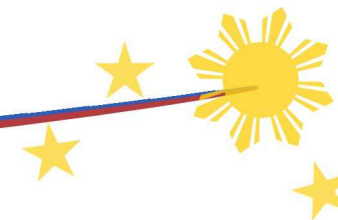
*Riding market jitters to buyback expensive dollar debt*

### ROP USD Debt Maturity Profile Post Tender Offer and New Issue



- Riding the wave of global risk aversion, the Philippines executed a *Global Cash Tender Offer* targeting a significant portion of its high coupon foreign debt.
- Approximately U\$1.3 bn of ROP and EUR bonds were bought back using investible funds from the Bureau of the Treasury's managed fund and proceeds of a U\$50 mn tap of the ROP 2034, thereby transferring the ownership of these bonds to government and hence effectively retiring them.

# Managing the Debt Portfolio

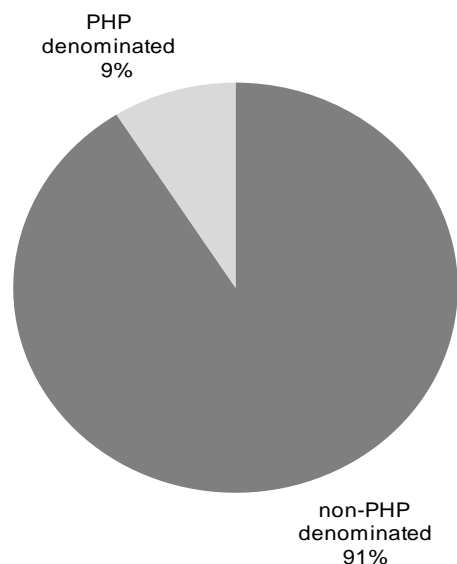


## Redenomination of 2012

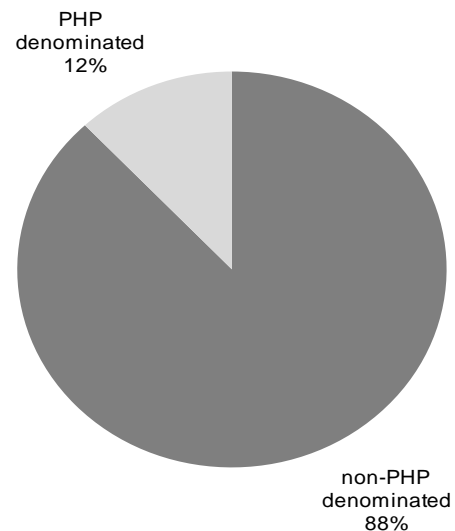
### *Issuance of cheaper PHP debt to buyback expensive FX debt*

In Nov 2012, the Republic executed a series of transactions that bought back U\$1.168 bn of high coupon foreign currency bonds using a mix of proceeds from the issuance of a 10 Yr GPN (72%) and assets from the Government's investible funds(28%).

Prior to the transaction



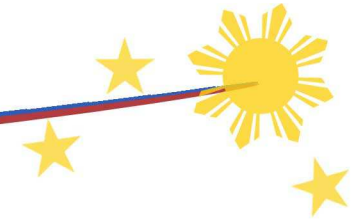
After the transaction



- The transaction was able to achieve: **1)** interest savings of U\$73.9 mn per annum; **2)** maturity extension through the GPN leg; and **3)** redenomination of about 3% of the external debt portfolio to PHP.



# Managing the Debt Portfolio



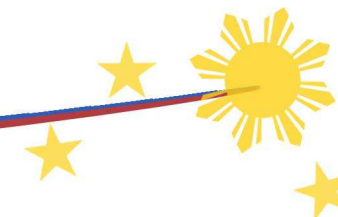
## Liquidity Management | Onshore Dollar Bond (ODB)

*comprehensive balance sheet approach to managing the country's risk exposure*

The landmark issuance of the 10.5-Year Fixed Rate Onshore Dollar Bonds (ODB) was envisioned to:

- (i) take advantage of the excess liquidity of US\$ in the local banking system;
- (ii) increase domestic borrowing vs. external to balance international markets in period of volatility; and
- (iii) develop a new, alternative and domestic US\$ Fund source, proceeds of which can be used to pay off high coupon dollar debt.

# Where we are now . . .



## Macroeconomic Indicators

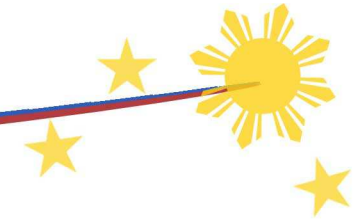
### *Sustained improvement across credit metrics*

	2005 vs. 2011		2013
	2005	2011	Latest
<b>GDP Per Capita<sup>(1)</sup> (US\$)</b>	<b>1,209</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>1,317<sup>(2)</sup></b>
<b>Real GDP growth (%)</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>7.8<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>National Government Interest (% of Revenue)</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>20.1<sup>(5)</sup></b>
<b>Fiscal Deficit (% of GDP)</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.9<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>National Government Debt (% of GDP)</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>47.5<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>Import Cover (x)</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>16.3<sup>(6)</sup></b>
<b>Current Account (% of GDP)</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.2<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>OFW remittances (US\$ billions)</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>14.5<sup>(5)</sup></b>
<b>Gross International Reserves (US\$ billions)</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>83.5<sup>(6)</sup></b>

Source: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Finance (DOF) and Bureau of the Treasury (BTr<sup>nl</sup>).

- (1) At current prices
- (2) GDP per capita (US\$ current) as of 1H 2013;
- (3) As of 1H 2013
- (4) As of Jan-Sep 2012
- (5) As of Jan-Aug 2013
- (6) Based on September 2013 data

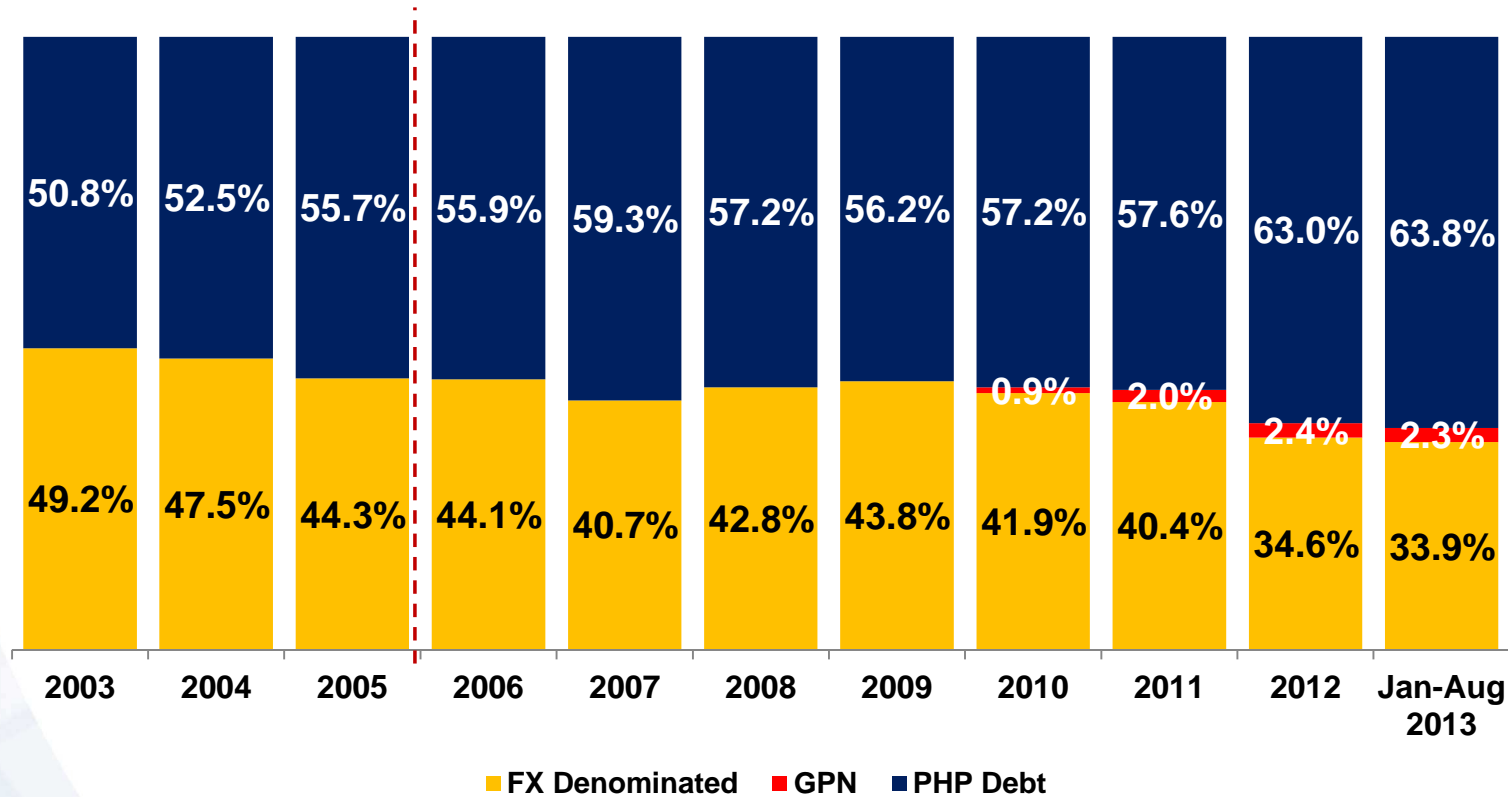
# Where we are now . . .



## Reduced External Debt Component

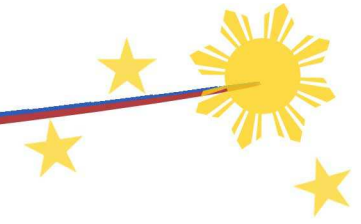
*Exposure to adverse foreign exchange movements has been mitigated*

The share of *foreign currency denominated* debt to total National Government debt has been gradually declining over the years.



*\*includes MRTBs and ODB*

# Where we are now . . .

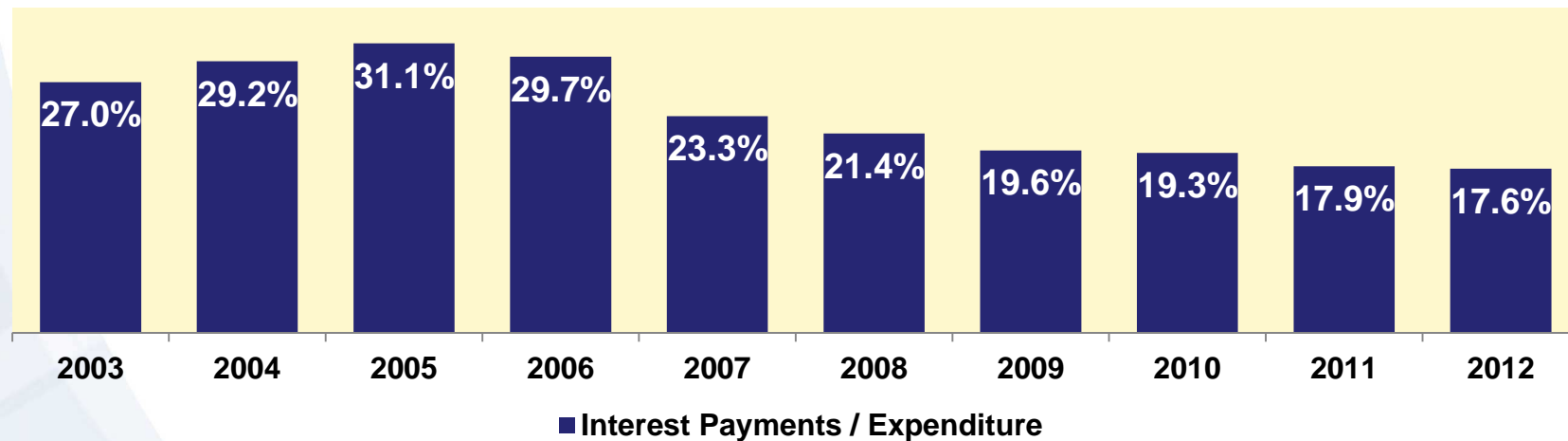


## Lengthened Debt Maturities and Reduced Burden of Debt

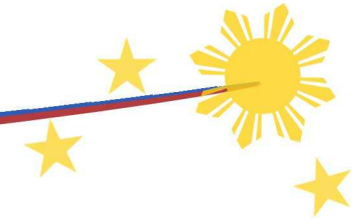
*Reduced rollover risk and increased debt carrying capacity*

Average maturity of both domestic and external liabilities have been stretched- out enabling the government to channel more funds to finance more programs supportive of sustainable economic growth

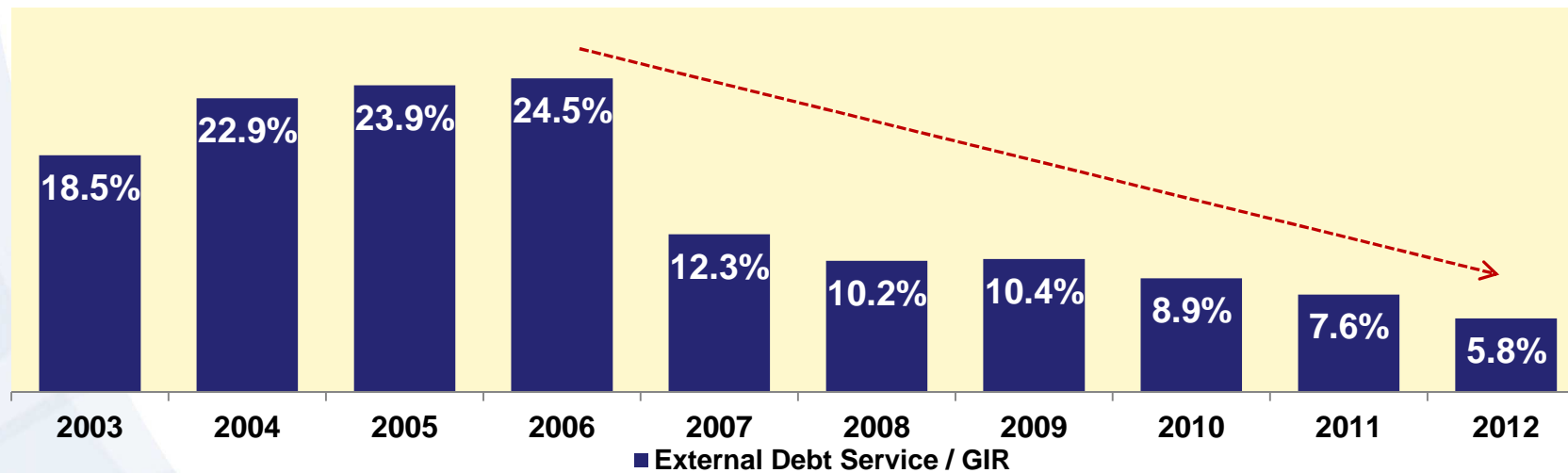
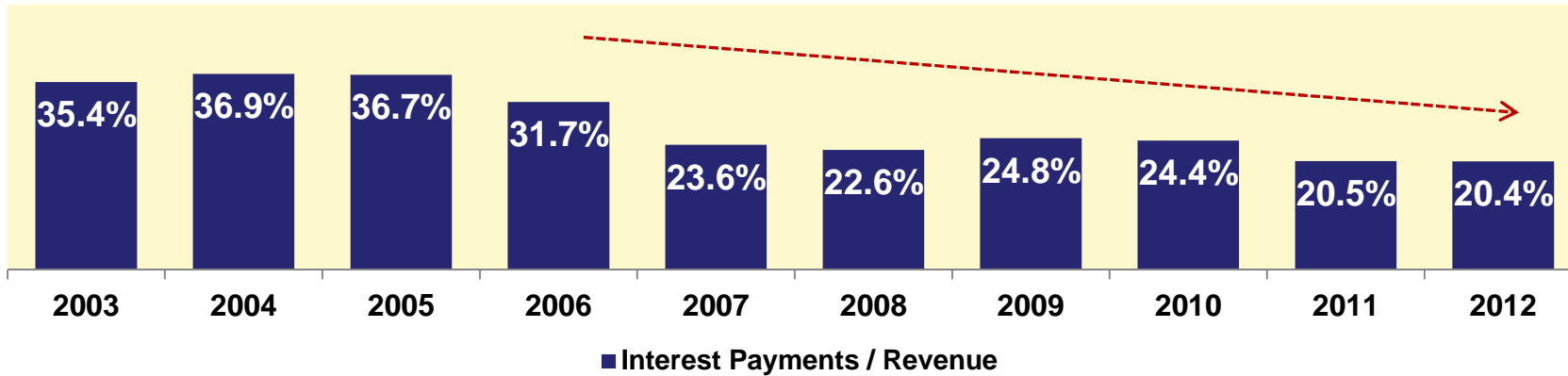
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>NG Portfolio</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>10.9</b>
Domestic	5.2	5.2	5.2	6.0	6.7	9.2	10.4
External	10.6	11.8	11.0	10.6	11.3	11.4	11.5



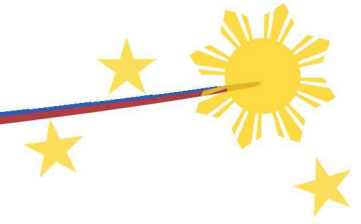
# Where we are now . . .



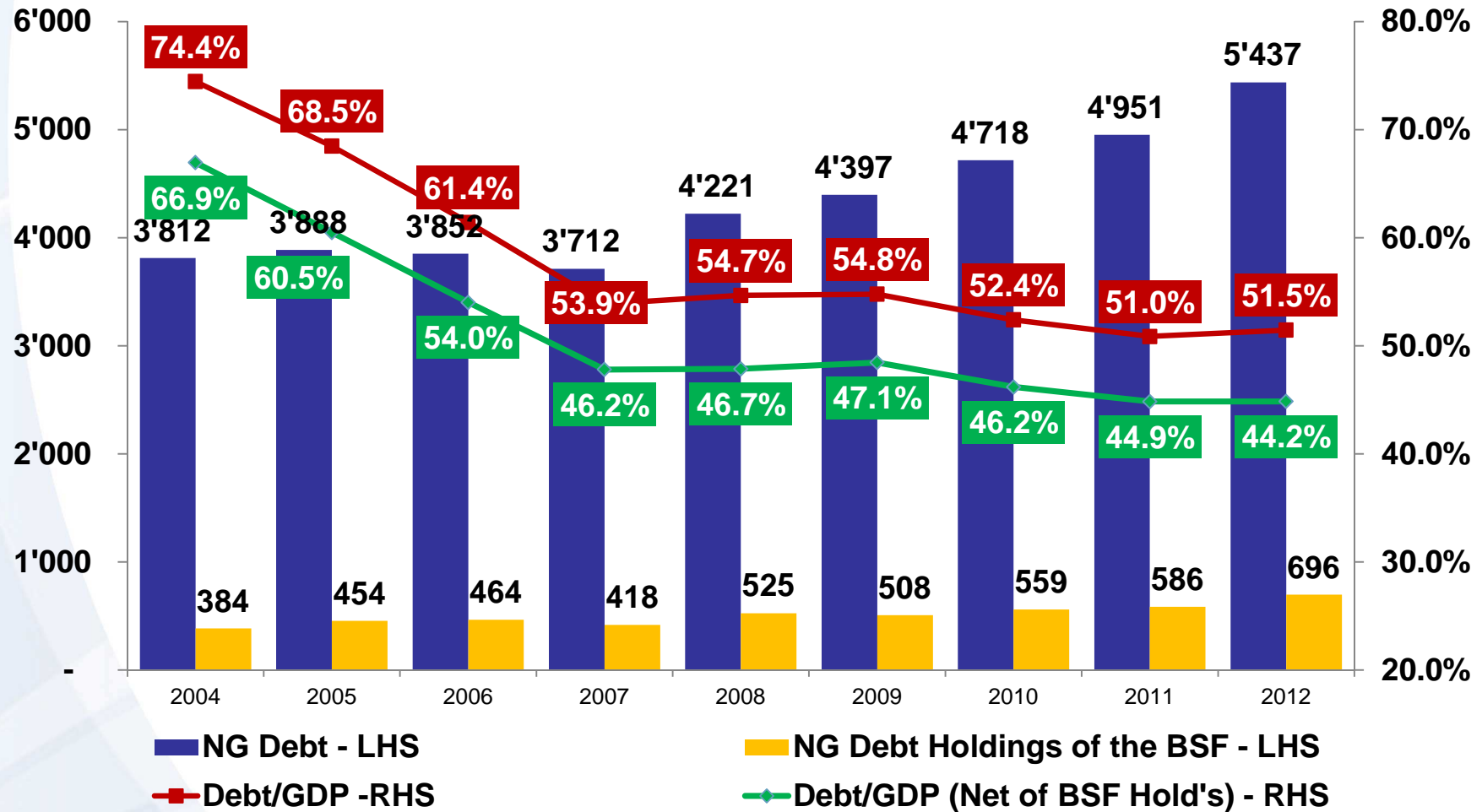
## Ability to Service Debt



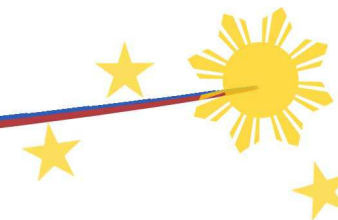
# Where we are now . . .



## Debt Sustainability has Improved Significantly



## Where we are now . . .



	2005	2012
<b>Nominal Debt-to-GDP</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>51.5% ✓</b>
<i><b>FX Risk</b></i>		
<b>FX Debt as % of Total</b>	<b>44.3%</b>	<b>34.6% ✓</b>
<i><b>Refinancing Risk</b></i>		
<b>ATM External (Yrs)</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>11.5 ✓</b>
<b>ATM Domestic (Yrs)</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>10.4 ✓</b>
<b>ATM Total (Yrs)</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>10.9 ✓</b>
<i><b>Liquidity Risk</b></i>		
<b>ST FX Debt as % of GIR</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>3.1% ✓</b>
<b>Interest as % of Revenue</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	<b>20.4% ✓</b>
<b>Interest as % of Expenditure</b>	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>17.6% ✓</b>

# Investment-grade approval from the three largest CRAs

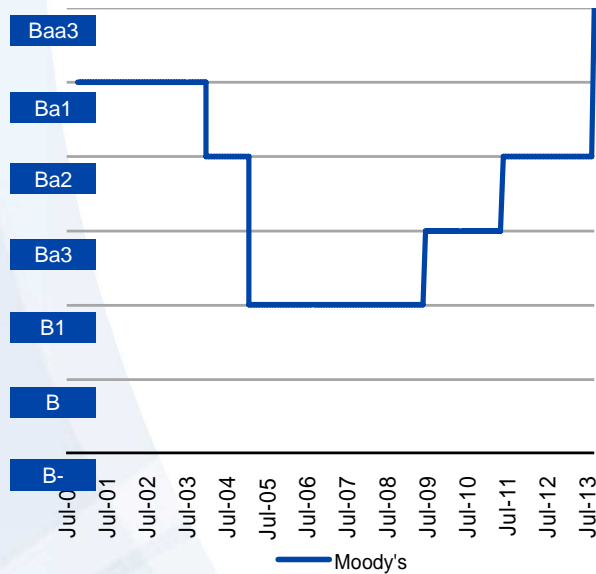


## MOODY'S

“

The **stability of the Philippines' funding conditions** – during the recent bout of market volatility in emerging markets – points to the **country's relative lack of vulnerability to external financial shocks**

Moody's: Upgraded to Baa3 (Oct. 3, 2013)/ Outlook: Positive ”

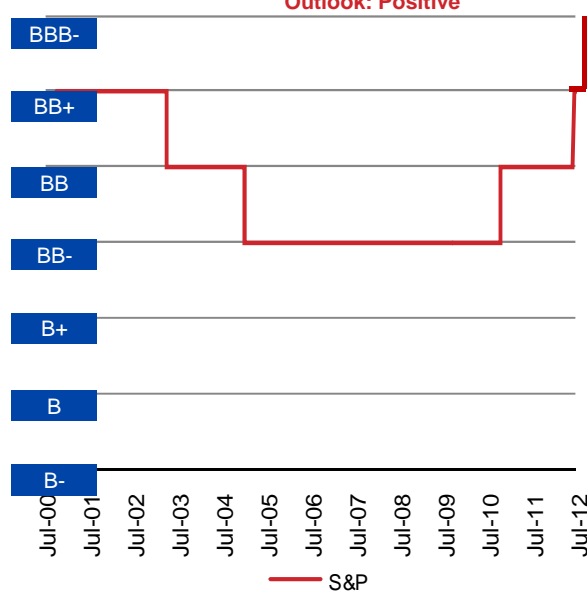


## STANDARD & POOR'S

“

The upgrade on the Philippines reflects a strengthening external profile, moderating inflation, and the government's **declining reliance on foreign currency debt**

S&P: Upgraded to BBB- (May 2, 2013)/ Outlook: Positive ”



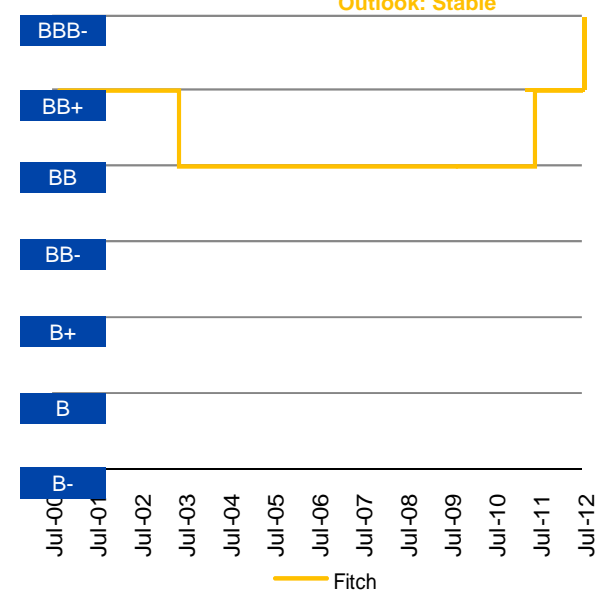
## Fitch Ratings

KNOW YOUR RISK

“

The sovereign has taken advantage of generally favourable funding conditions to **lengthen the average maturity** of GG debt to 10.7 years by end-2012 from 6.6 years at end-2008. The **foreign currency share of GG debt has fallen** to 47% from 53% over the same period

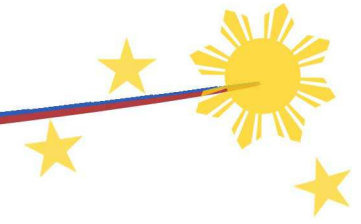
Fitch: Upgraded to BBB- (March 27, 2013)/ Outlook: Stable ”



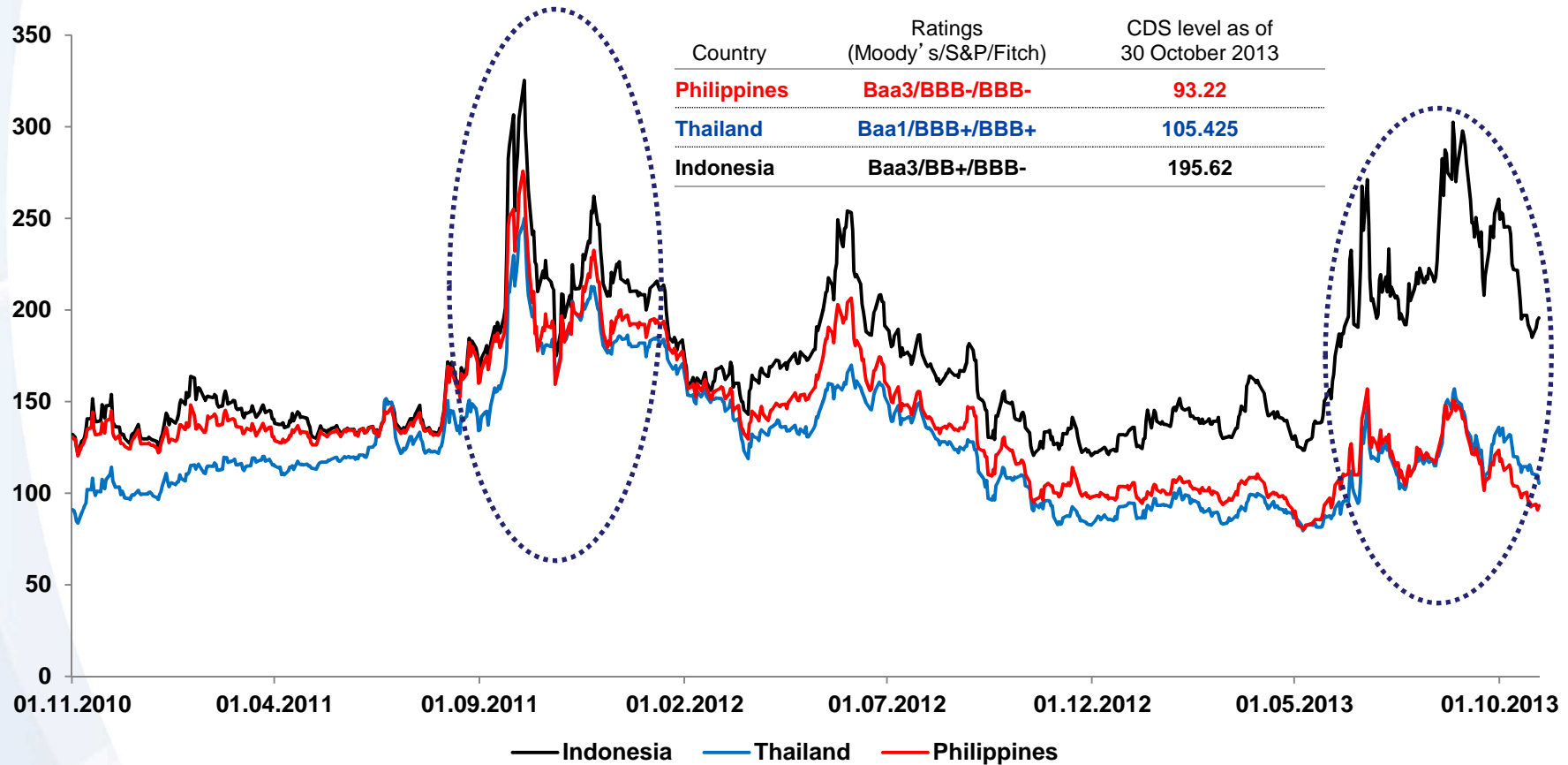
Source: Moody's, S&P and Fitch.



# High market confidence in Philippine debt

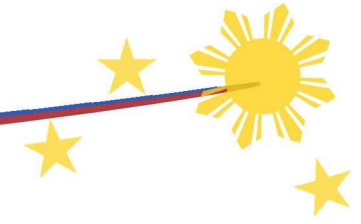


## Philippines' CDS levels are performing better than some higher rated peers



Source: Bloomberg.  
 (1) Long-term issuer default rating.

# Moving Forward: Capital Market Development



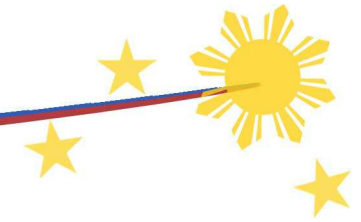
## Ongoing Efforts and Initiatives

### *Comprehensive program for deepening of domestic capital markets*

- The republic has continuously implemented reform programs to develop and deepen the domestic capital market to become the sustainable source of financing.



# Medium term debt targets



ACTION REQUIRED	2013	2014	2015
<b>Reduce debt service payments (interest payments to revenue)</b>	18.5% to 20.1 %	17.0% to 19.5%	15.5% to 18.5%
<b>Minimize foreign exchange risk by reducing foreign currency denominated debt (as % of total debt)</b>	32.5% to 35.0%	29% to 33.5%	26.5% to 32.5%
<b>Minimize financing risks through:</b>			
a) Minimizing debt maturing in one year (as a % of total)	9% to 15%		
b) Maintaining average maturity of debt portfolio	7 to 10 yrs		

- The government has committed itself to a sustainable debt portfolio through institutionalizing a medium-term debt strategy.



**Thank You!**

