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## **Lapus speaks at Learning and Technology World Forum in London**

Education Secretary Jesli A. Lapus has emphasized that the Philippines continues to harness the power of technology to expand access, promote equity and improve the quality of education in the country in his ministerial keynote address in the recent Learning and Technology World Forum held in London, England.

During the same forum, a British lawmaker cited the gains posted by the Philippine education department as a result of the increased use of technology.

Mr. Iain Wright MP, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for 14-19 Reform and Apprenticeships, and moderator of the Ministerial Keynotes, particularly noted the improvement in class attendance rates as a result of increased and creative use of technology, and the utilization of wireless communications for the timely delivery of information in remote and inaccessible areas.

The LATFW is an internationally recognized leadership forum for sharing best and debating future practice in education and skills. The 2010 forum had the main theme "Re-imagining Education" attended by over 1,000 participants worldwide.

Among the attendees are 75 ministers of education and skills, representing 80% of the world's population. Senior Officials of the Philippine Embassy in London also took part in the event.

In his ministerial keynote speech, Lapus spoke both as minister for education in the Philippines and as the incoming President of the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) where he also discussed the ongoing discourse among Southeast Asia education ministers in optimizing technology to achieve quality education for all.

Earlier, Lapus met with the Right Honourable Ed Balls, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, during the LATFW reception at the House of Lords. The two education secretaries shared a vision for maximizing the use of information and communications technology, as well as the Internet, to widen the reach of education among the poor and improve the capabilities of teachers.

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