



ROWEL S. BARBA

**Undersecretary (Vice Minister), Competitiveness and Ease of Doing Business Group (CEODBG)
Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary (OSEC)
PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI)**

Rowel Barba is a respected name in business and law circles, having had over 20 years of experience. He was the former Managing Partner of Barba & Associates Law Offices. He is perhaps most known for his tenure in the RFM Corporation, a publicly listed corporation, where he used to be Vice President and Head of the Corporate Legal & HR Divisions; the JAKA Group, where he held several positions, eventually moving up to becoming the company's Vice President and Chief Legal Counsel; and as an Associate at the Ponce Enrile Cayetano Reyes & Manalastas Law Offices.

He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in AB Political Science, as well as his Bachelor of Laws degree, from the University of the Philippines, where he also was on the editorial board of the Philippine Law Journal. Other notable positions of his include being Governor for Southern Luzon of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) (1997-1999) and Legal Counsel of the Philippine Practical Shooting Association.

As the Undersecretary for the Competitiveness & Ease of Doing Business Group, he supervises the offices under it, namely: Competitiveness Bureau, & the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP), Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB), Construction Industry Arbitration Commission (CIAC), Philippine Overseas Construction Board (POCB), Philippine Domestic Construction Board (PDCB) & the Construction Manpower Development Foundation (CMDF).

He is also the Supervising Undersecretary of the Intellectual Property of the Philippines (IPOPIL), Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), National Development Corporation (NDC) & the Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC), attached agencies of the DTI.

In his capacity as Chief of Staff of the Office of the Secretary, Undersecretary Barba is the DTI Secretary's alternate representative in cabinet meetings with the President, and is the lead official for the organization of Presidential visits within the DTI.

Undersecretary Barba concurrently sits in various boards of government corporations, agencies and councils such as the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) & the acting Chairman of the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA), among others. He also represents DTI in the Philippine Air Talks Panel.