

# **Aerospace, Defense, and Security (ADS) Mission to the Philippines**

## **August 14-15, 2025 in Manila**

Dear Members and Colleagues,

The US-ASEAN Business Council (USABC), in collaboration with U.S. Embassy Manila and the International Trade Administration (ITA), is pleased to invite you to the Aerospace, Defense & Security (ADS) Mission to the Philippines from August 14-15, 2025, in Manila.

This high-level engagement will bring together U.S. industry leaders and key Philippine government officials to explore strategic collaboration in defense modernization, aerospace development, and security advancements. While defense will be the primary focus, discussions will encompass civilian aerospace, cybersecurity, advanced and dual-use technologies, and other critical areas across the broader ADS ecosystem. The mission will feature roundtable discussions, keynote addresses, industry presentations, and exclusive networking opportunities, ensuring meaningful engagement between U.S. companies and Philippine government agencies overseeing ADS policies, procurements, and industrial development.

Of note, this mission will align with the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Maritime Security (MARSEC) Consortium, a new public-private initiative reconfirmed by the Secretary of Defense at the Shangri-La Dialogue aimed at transforming maritime security in Southeast Asia. The MARSEC Consortium offers a unique partnership between industry and government to deliver asymmetric and autonomous capabilities to our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific, with a focus on Southeast Asia.

### **Background**

Amid an increasingly complex regional security landscape, the Philippines is accelerating its military modernization and deepening strategic defense ties—particularly with the United States. Both nations have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening defense and industrial cooperation, recognizing the importance of a resilient and interoperable Indo-Pacific security architecture. Looking beyond the bilateral relationship, the Philippines is set to chair ASEAN in 2026, a role that coincides with two major milestones: ASEAN's 60th anniversary in 2027 and the 80th anniversary of U.S.-Philippines diplomatic relations. Additionally, Manila is pursuing a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for the 2027–2028 term. Together, these milestones highlight the Philippines' broader diplomatic ambitions for global and multilateral leadership, offering a timely opportunity for deeper international engagement.

As a global leader in innovation and advanced solutions, the U.S. Aerospace, Defense, and Security (ADS) sector is well-positioned to support the Philippines' evolving needs. This mission offers a timely platform for U.S. companies to engage with new officials and key stakeholders shaping defense policy, budgets, and procurement—laying the groundwork for long-term collaboration. By showcasing cutting-edge technologies and building strategic partnerships, U.S. firms can position themselves as trusted allies in the

Philippines' defense and aerospace sectors. Beyond commercial opportunities, this engagement supports Philippine security goals, drives innovation, and fosters enduring relationships that strengthen regional stability and shared growth.

### **Objectives**

- **Strategic Perspectives:** Share the latest insights on emerging challenges and opportunities.
- **Strengthen Partnerships:** Engage with new officials and key stakeholders to explore future collaborations.
- **Showcase Solutions:** Demonstrate private sector advancements and support for the Philippines' modernization efforts.
- **Promote Sustainable Growth:** Establish enduring commercial relationships that contribute to regional stability.

### **Focus Areas**

- Defense
- Civilian aerospace
- High and dual-use technologies
- Autonomous systems
- Cyber and secure communications
- MARSEC Consortium: Capabilities would include a mix of commercially available, off-the-shelf surface, subsurface, and aerial uncrewed systems that enhance the development of persistent maritime domain awareness within an exclusive economic zone, compatible with a SeaVision-based common operating picture. Also of interest are technology solutions enabling sustainment operations and at-sea logistics. Given a maritime defense and security environment in which malign actors and transnational threats offer a status quo where our partners and allies are challenged by qualitative and quantitative overmatch, DoD is seeking solutions that upend these conditions through state-of-the-art, advanced capabilities, delivered more rapidly and at lower cost. Wherever reasonable, a modular open systems approach is preferred.

### **Anticipated Engagements:**

Anticipated engagements include senior leadership from the Philippine defense and security establishment, including the Secretary of National Defense and the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, along with the Commanders of the Philippine Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, as well as the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, the Chief of the Philippine National Police, and the Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense. Legislative stakeholders include the Chairpersons of the Senate and House Committees on Defense, given their roles in shaping national defense policy and budget priorities. Further engagements may include representatives from the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, the Board of Investments, and others overseeing industry development and the Self-Reliant Defense Posture (SRDP) Revitalization Act. Additional briefings from the U.S. Embassy in Manila and

the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group (JUSMAG) will provide broader context and coordination, while potential engagement with visiting senior U.S. government officials is also possible.

### **Fees**

***Note: Non-Member companies are subject to a 50% surcharge, which can be applied toward US-ASEAN Business Council membership in 2025.***

Early Bird Rate: \$4,500

- *Increases to \$5,000 if the invoice is not paid by July 22*
- Includes: Up to 2 company representatives
- Discount: \$1,000 off if also attending the Business Mission

Optional Add-Ons:

- Extra Representatives: \$1,000 per additional person
- If not attending the Business Mission: \$2,500 to join the meeting with President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., and attend the US Ambassador's Reception

Startup and Small Businesses Fee: \$5,000

- Includes participation in all working-level sessions and networking events for one representative, with limited access to senior-leader engagements.
- Available to qualifying startups and small businesses. If your organization may qualify, please contact Jacqueline Roeder at [Jacqueline.Roeder@trade.gov](mailto:Jacqueline.Roeder@trade.gov).

We look forward to your participation in what will certainly be an impactful event. For more information, please contact Chuck Casey at [ccasey@usasean.org](mailto:ccasey@usasean.org).