

CATALYST

SPIK NEWS LETTER



SPIK Meets PDEA to Address SDS Compliance & Chemical Importation Concerns

A delegation from the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), paid a courtesy visit to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) on January 16, 2025. The meeting aimed to address ongoing issues and concerns about the requirement for a 100% composition declaration in Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for the evaluation of chemical imports by the Customs Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force (CAIDTF).

The SPIK delegation, spearheaded by President Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle and other directors, Engr. Aldrich Bentilanon, Mr. Jose Racquel Santos and Ms. Mary Grace San Jose together with Ms. Antonette Fallarme, engaged in constructive talks with PDEA representatives, including Ms. Agnes Mandap, Director of Compliance Service, Mr. Edgar Reino, Chief of LRD Compliance Service,

Mr. Roberto T. Caladiao, and Ms. Aileen Tuliao.

The gathering fostered a positive atmosphere, highlighting the collaborative efforts to ensure regulatory compliance and combat the illicit drug trade without hindering the legitimate chemical industry's operations. Both parties expressed their commitment to work together to find practical solutions that balance safety and business interests.

The meeting also highlighted the importance of open dialogue between government agencies and the private sector to achieve common goals efficiently.

JAN 17

SPIK Announces New Leadership for 2025 Administration



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) kicked off the year with a significant event as they recently elected their new officers and board members. Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle from Atlantic Coatings, Inc. emerged as the President, while Engr. Arnold Benitez of Dow Chemical Philippines Inc. took the post of Vice President for Internal Affairs. Engr. Albert A. Samuela from Nalco, An Ecolab Company will serve as the Vice President for External Affairs. Engr. Aldrich Bentalanon from DKSH Philippines, Inc. was elected as the new Board Secretary, and Engr. Romeo G. Dela Cruz will handle the position of Treasurer.

inclusion of Engr. Reinier Jay C. Bagabay from Pigmentex, Inc., Ms. Maria Lourdes Formalejo of Rezcoat, Inc., Ms. Mary Grace San Jose from Henkel Philippines, Inc., Ms. Doris P. Torres of Stamm International, and Mr. Jose Racquel Santos of Chemlux, Inc. Joining them is Mr. Joel C. Malaluan from All Waste Services, Inc.

The election took place during the first board meeting of the year on January 17, 2025, signalling a new chapter for SPIK's governance and strategic direction. This diverse and experienced leadership team is poised to advance the chemical industry's interests and promote sustainable growth in the Philippines.

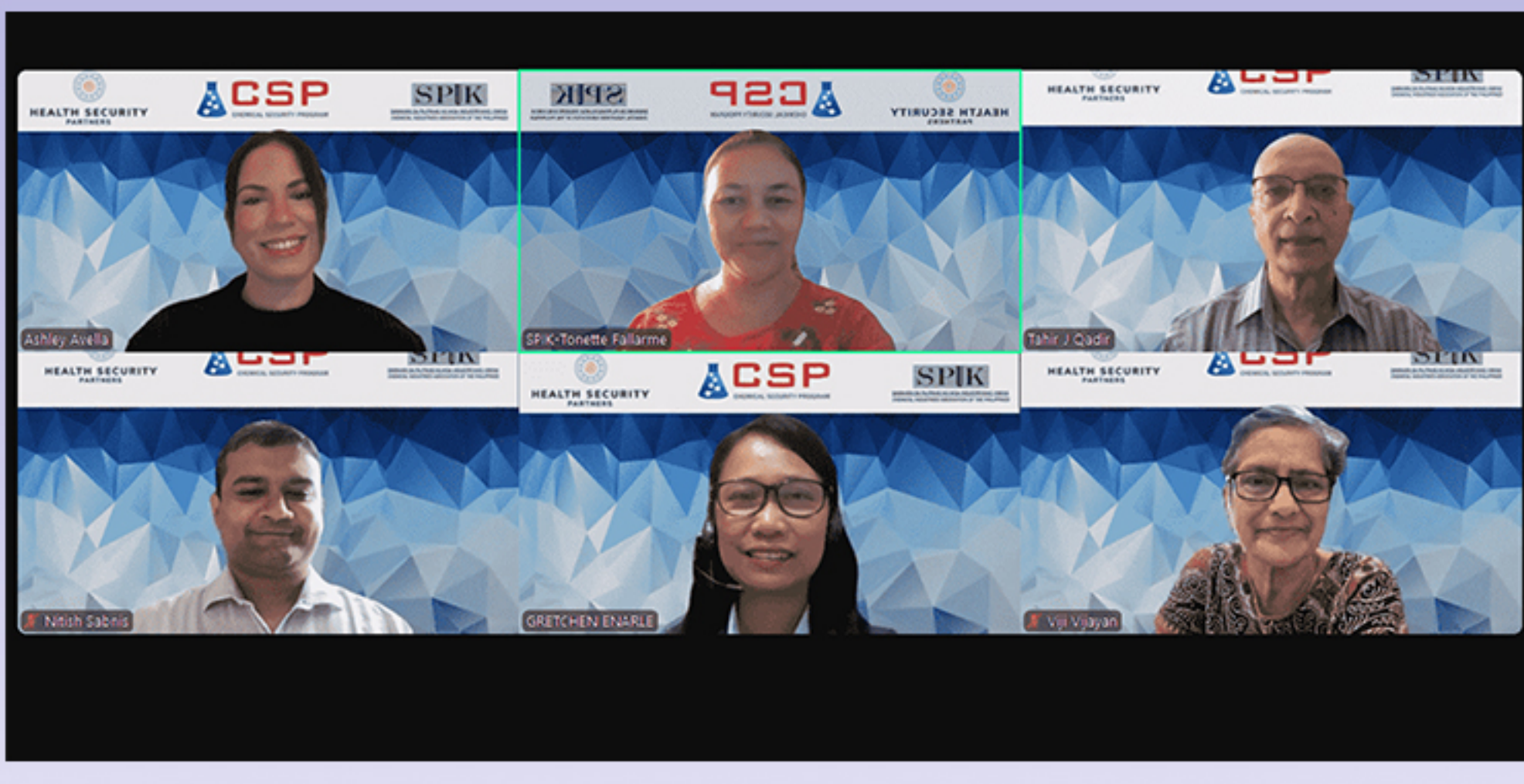
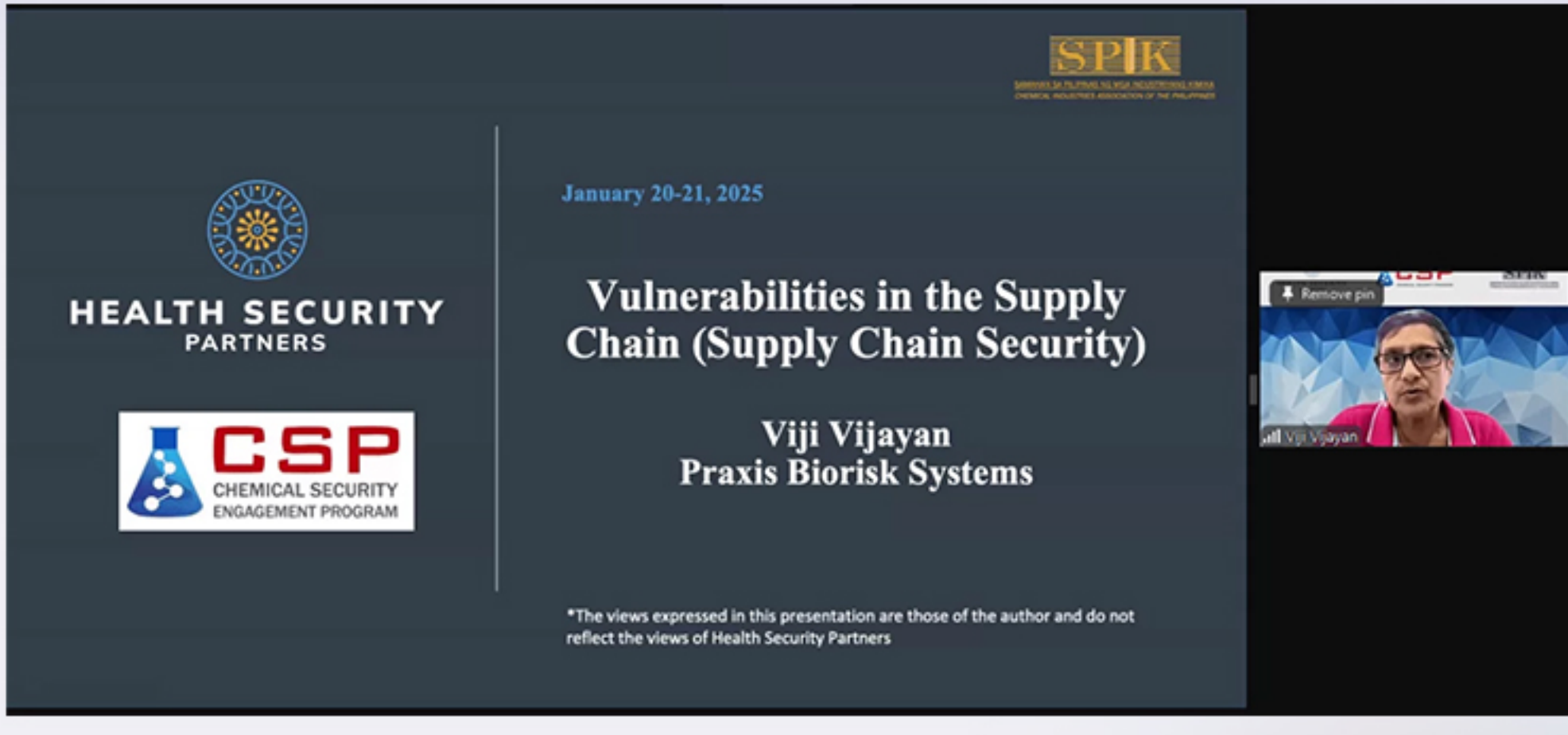
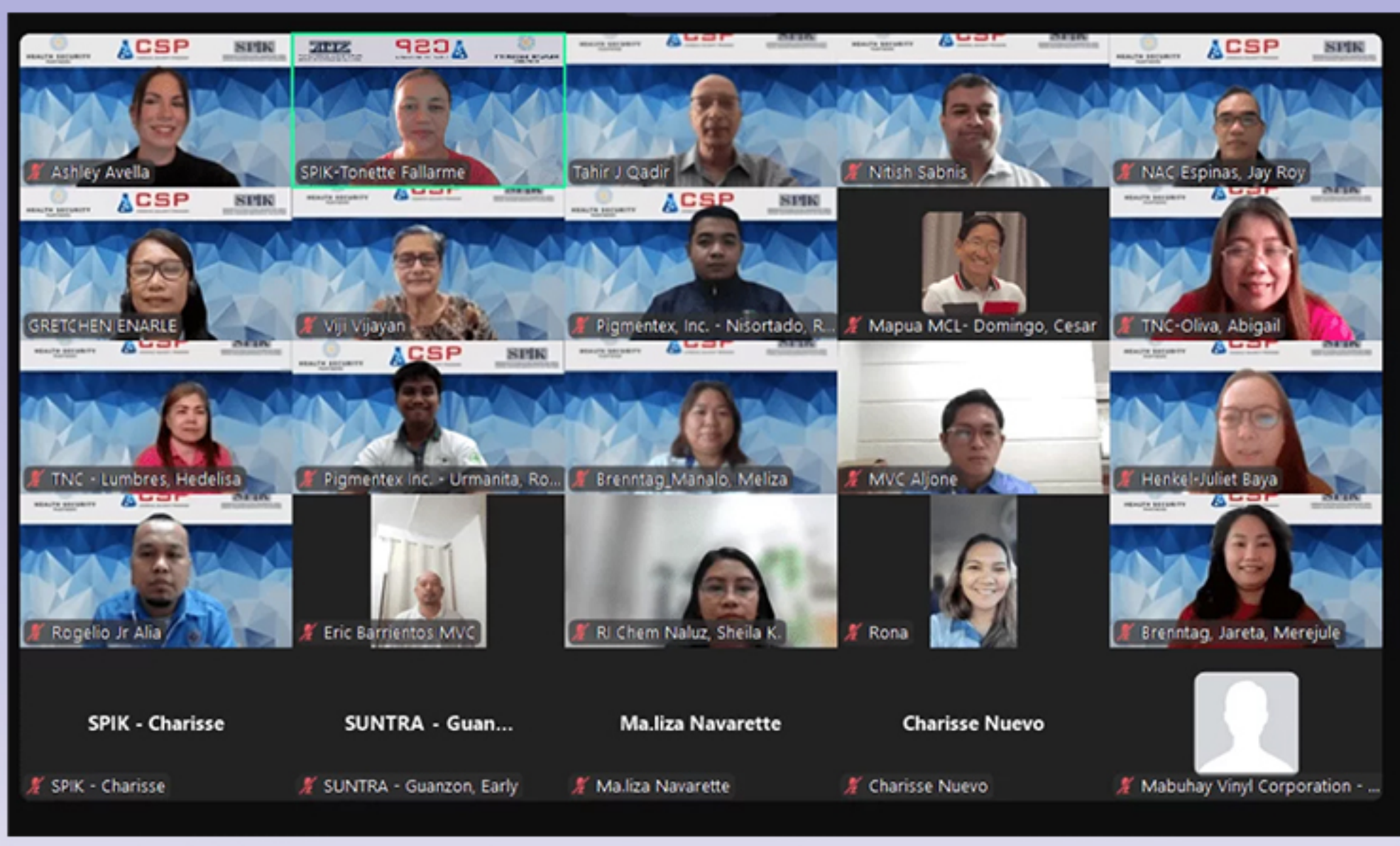
These professionals are set to lead the chemical industry association in the forthcoming administration year (AY) 2025. Additionally, the board of directors has been enriched with the

JAN 21

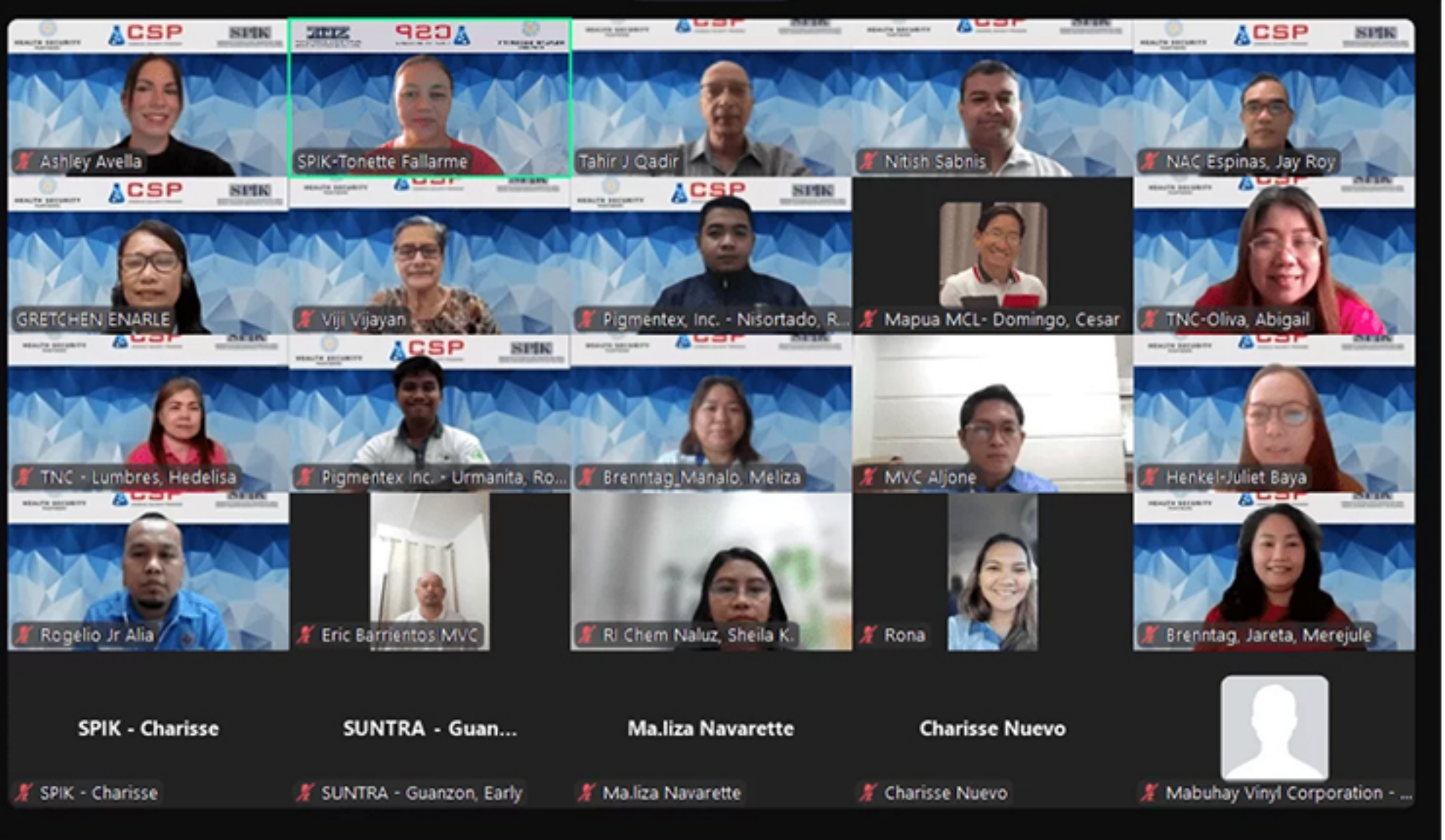
Enhancing Chemical Security in Southeast Asia's SMEs through Supply Chain Sustainment



The recent 2-day webinar titled "Strengthening Chemical Security Sustainment within Southeast Asia's Small and Medium Chemical Enterprises: Chemical Security in Supply Chain" concluded successfully on January 21, 2025. This event was funded by the Health Security Partners and co-organized with the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK). The virtual gathering aimed to bolster chemical security within the region's supply chains, particularly focusing on small and medium chemical enterprises.



This collaborative effort underscores the importance of a unified approach to chemical security amidst the evolving threats in the region. The webinar series offered practical advice and innovative solutions to enhance the resilience of SMEs against potential risks, fostering a safer and more secure chemical industry landscape. The engagement of key stakeholders from Southeast Asia highlights the growing commitment to safeguarding public health and environmental protection through sustainable chemical security practices.



The Featured speakers included Dr. Viji Vijayan, a Biorisk and Human Factors consultant at Praxis Biorisk Systems, Mr. Nitish Sabnis, the Director of GRC at Synclature, and Mr. Tahir Qadir, Associate Director of Health and Safety Advisory at WSP Middle East. Their combined expertise offered invaluable insights and practical advice to the approximately 20 participants who attended the virtual sessions.

JAN 23

ENHANCING CONTROLLED CHEMICALS REGULATION: TWG MEETING ON RA 9516 IRR



The Technical Working Group (TWG) on Controlled Chemicals, comprising key stakeholders from the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), Integrated Chemists of the Philippines (ICP), Department of Science and Technology- Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI), and the Philippine National Police- Firearms and Explosives Office (PNP-FEO), gathered virtually on January 23, 2025. This meeting was hosted by the DTI- Board of Investments and facilitated by Mr. Ronaldo DC. Buluran, the Acting Director of Manufacturing Industries Service.

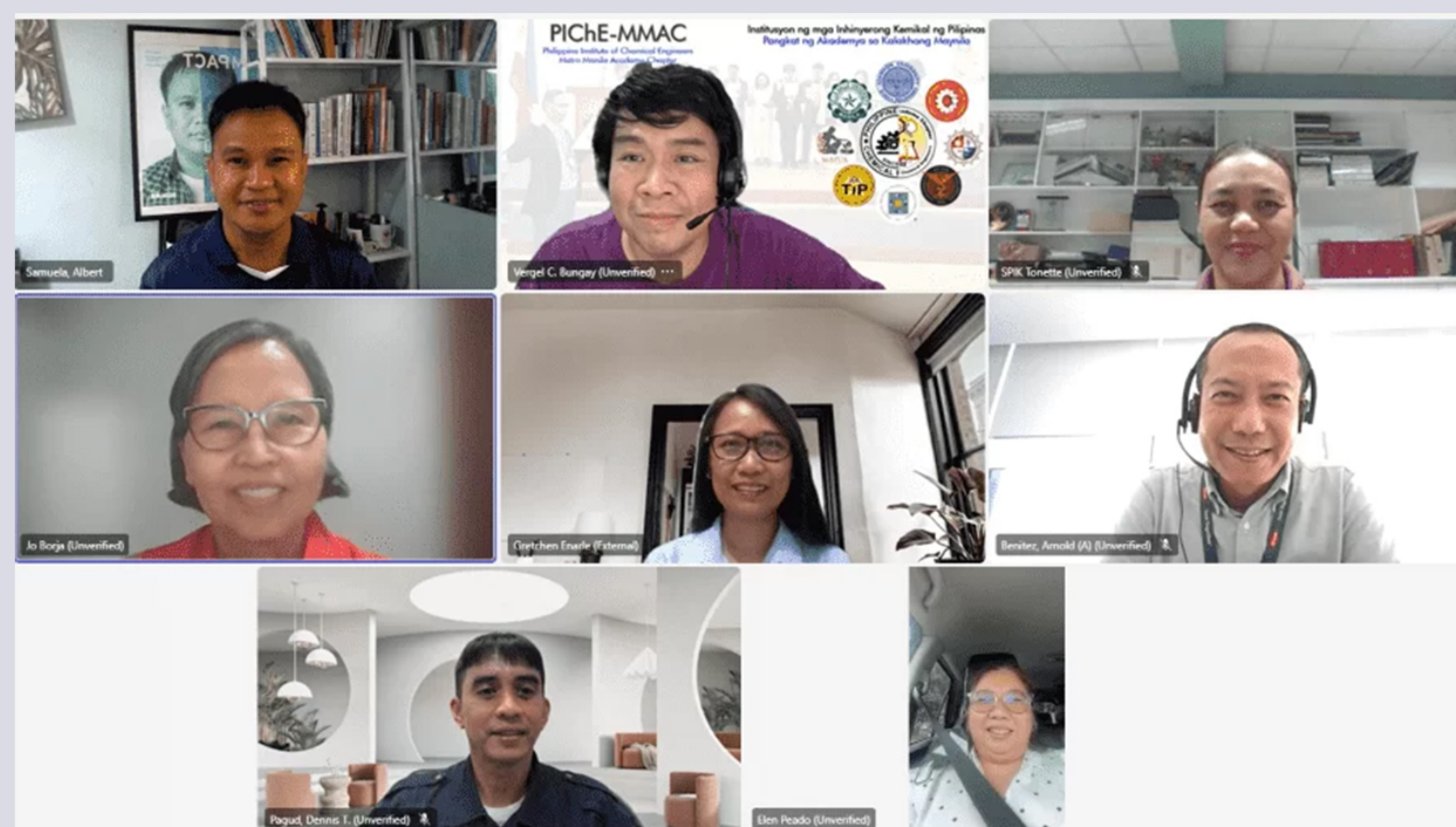
The main focus of the meeting was the line-by-line review and discussion of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9516, which pertains to the regulation and monitoring of controlled chemicals. The event underscored the importance of updating these rules to cater to the evolving needs of the chemical industry, ensuring safety and security while fostering growth and innovation. The collaborative approach of the TWG is essential for addressing concerns and developing guidelines that balance chemical industry growth with public safety considerations. This meeting is anticipated to pave the way for a more robust and efficient regulatory framework that will significantly impact the sector's future.

JAN 23

SPIK AND PICHE COORDINATION MEETING: FINALIZING GHS WEBINAR AND RESPONSIBLE CARE WORKSHOP

In a collaborative effort to strengthen the chemical industry's knowledge and compliance, the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) and the Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers (PIChE) held a coordination meeting on January 23, 2025. Conducted online, this meeting focused on finalizing preparations for two significant events: a webinar on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) and an in-person workshop dedicated to Responsible Care.

The GHS webinar, set for February 26, 2025, aims to provide information governing chemical handling and safety. Following closely on March 26, 2025, the Responsible Care workshop will convene industry professionals to promote sustainable practices and environmental stewardship within the sector. Both occasions are anticipated to be instrumental in fostering a culture of safety and environmental consciousness among local chemical engineers and stakeholders.



Responsible Care Council's 2025 Strategic Planning: Aligning Initiatives with Industry Roadmap and Expanding Partnership

JAN 24



The Responsible Care Council (RCC) held its strategic planning session on January 24, 2025, with the aim of aligning its projects and activities with the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap. Under the leadership of Director and Responsible Care Chairman Engr. Reinier Bagabay, and with the support of RC Tri-cord Member Director Malou Formalejo and Vice President Engr. Albert Samuela, the Council members discussed and prioritized their initiatives for the year. Key topics on the agenda were the upcoming RC verification process, the enhancement of corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts, and the expansion of training programs.

The event saw the participation of Engr. Joy Pena from Dow Chemical Philippines, Inc., Engr. Jai Rocamora of Mabuhay Vinyl Corporation, Mr. Lian Layog representing DKSH Philippines, Inc., and Mr. Jerrod Rivera from Pioneer Adhesives with the assistance of Ms. Antonette Fallarme. Their collective insights and expertise were crucial in shaping the Council's strategies to promote environmental stewardship, health, safety, and security within the chemical sector.

The RCC is committed to fostering a culture of excellence and continuous improvement among its member companies through the implementation of Responsible Care guidelines. The strategic plan for 2025 also emphasized the importance of collaboration with various stakeholders. These partnerships are expected to strengthen the Council's advocacy and outreach efforts, ultimately contributing to the sustainable growth of the Philippine chemical industry.

SPIK Engages with World Bank for Chemical Industry Supplier Development Program

JAN 30



SPIK, the leading chemical industry association, recently held a successful meeting with the World Bank on January 30, 2025. The discussion focused on a proposed supplier development program aimed at enhancing the capabilities and competitiveness of chemical suppliers within the manufacturing export sector. The SPIK delegation included President Gretchen Enarle, Vice Presidents Arnold Benitez and Albert Samuela, Director Doris Torres, and Mr. Jazon Lih from TNC Chemicals, Inc. The meeting, led by Mr. Luis Abad, a senior private sector specialist at the World Bank, was marked by productive dialogue and collaboration.

The World Bank's initiative aims to bolster the capabilities and competitiveness of suppliers within specific value chains, with a focus on those serving manufacturing exporters. SPIK, as a key player in the chemicals industry, was expected to offer critical insights and feedback to tailor the program effectively. Discussions focused on challenges faced by SPIK member companies in providing inputs to manufacturing exporters and understanding the hurdles they encounter in meeting export requirements and standards.

SPIK's contributions to this initiative are vital, ensuring the program addresses industry needs and aligns with the broader goal of boosting the country's export market. This strategic partnership underscores the importance of public-private collaborations in fostering economic growth and sustainable development in the Philippines.