

CATALYST

SPIK NEWSLETTER



176th SPIK GMM: Triple Helix Synergy Drives Chemical Industry Advancement



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), a prominent chemical industry association, successfully held its 176th General Membership Meeting and Induction of New Officers and Board of Directors on February 18, 2025 in Paranaque City. The meeting's central theme focused on the pivotal role of Triple Helix Synergy, which encapsulates the collaborative efforts between government, industry, and academia to bolster business practices, national security, and sustainability within the chemical sector.

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176th SPIK GMM.... cont



Atty. Bernadette Cornel, Chief of the Investigation and Compliance Division at the Department of Trade and Industry – Strategic Trade Management Office (DTI-STMO), graced the event as the keynote speaker and inducting officer. In her address, she underscored the critical nature of collective action to safeguard the country's security without compromising the robust development of the chemical industry. Atty. Cornel's speech set the tone for a gathering that aimed to strengthen the bonds between regulators, businesses, and educational institutions.



Further elaborating on the significance of regulatory compliance, **Engr. Jeric Ancheta** from the same office presented a comprehensive overview of the goods registration and authorization process under the purview of Republic Act 10697. This legislation is essential for the secure and responsible management of strategic trade, ensuring that the chemical industry operates within the framework of international standards and security protocols.



After a rigorous vetting process and a week of voting, the new board members were announced: **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle**, Engr. Arnold Benitez, Engr. Reinier Jay Bagabay, Ms. Doris Torres, Mr. Romeo Dela Cruz, and Mr. Joel Malaluan, who secured the 6th position in a tie-breaker.



The event also highlighted the induction of new officers into the Responsible Care Council, which signifies SPIK's commitment to advancing the principles of Responsible Care within the industry. Engr. Enarle, the newly inducted SPIK President, presided over the ceremony, reaffirming the organization's mission to promote environmental stewardship, safety, and community outreach among its constituents.

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Mr. Romeo Dela Cruz, the Chair of the Membership Committee, together with **Mr. Joel Malaluan**, played a key role in the induction of new members into the SPIK fold. The latest addition to their corporate membership list was **Nippon Paint Coatings Philippines**, which was warmly welcomed and recognized for its contributions to the sector.



The meeting concluded with a stirring closing message from **Engr. Aldrich Bentilanon**, SPIK's Corporate Secretary. Her words underscored the importance of unity and shared knowledge in addressing the challenges and capitalizing on the opportunities that lie ahead for the chemical industry.



The event served as a testament to SPIK's dedication to fostering an environment of collaboration, innovation, and growth that benefits not only its members but the nation as a whole. Through the Triple Helix Synergy approach, the association continues to pave the way for a more secure and sustainable future for the chemical industry in the Philippines.



FEB 06

Successful Meeting on Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap Implementation



A meeting was held on February 06, 2025, led by Mr. Ronaldo DC Buluran, Acting Director of the Philippine Board of Investments, alongside SPIK Vice President Engr. Albert Samuela. This meeting brought together members of the Small Working Group of the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap (PCIR) from the BOI, Adamson University, and the Philippine Paint and Coatings Association. The session aimed to explore funding opportunities and outline the strategies needed for implementing the Industry-Academe Collaboration Playbook, the Industry-Academe ASCEND portal, and the Quarterly ASCEND virtual matching sessions.

The group aimed at improving the coordination between private and public sectors as well as universities and to boost innovation by matching research and technology to industry demands. The group's collaborative work is expected to greatly enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of the local chemical industry and help drive the Philippine economy.

FEB 07

SPIK Honored at EMB Environmental Sustainability Partners Recognition



The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) recently hosted the "Recognition of Partners in Environmental Sustainability" at the Park Inn Hotel in Quezon City, acknowledging the exceptional efforts of various entities in advancing environmental protection and sustainable practices nationwide. The event, held on February 7, 2025, highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts between government agencies, businesses, academic institutions, local government units, non-government organizations, and international partners in addressing critical environmental challenges.

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SPIK Honored.... cont.



EMB's Assistant Secretary for Environment and concurrent Director, Jacqueline A. Caanacan, underscored the significance of multi-sectoral synergy in her opening speech. She applauded the honorees for their contributions to environmental conservation and restoration, noting that their work exemplifies the collective responsibility to secure a sustainable future.

The event was also graced by two distinguished officials from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR): Undersecretary for Finance, Information System and Climate Change, **Atty. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh**, and Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs, **Atty. Jonas R. Leones**. Both officials commended the EMB's partners for translating policies into tangible actions that significantly impact local communities and the environment. They emphasized that these collaborations are essential for achieving the DENR's environmental objectives.



SPIK was among the distinguished awardees, celebrated for its pioneering work in environmental sustainability. The association's commitment to circular economy principles, community empowerment, and educational outreach has significantly influenced the nation's environmental landscape.

FEB 11 Successful SPIK-Saltegra Consulting Coordination for Upcoming Process Safety Management Webinar Series



A landmark coordination meeting was held between SPIK and Saltegra Consulting on February 11, 2025. The agenda for the assembly centered around the detailed preparations for the eagerly awaited Process Safety Management (PSM) Webinar Series, aptly named "Knowledge and Operational Controls." This virtual event will be taking place on the 20th of February 2025 and featuring insights around PSM.

The meeting was attended by the officers from both organizations: Ms. Antoneth Jamora and Engr. Reyson Dela Cruz of Saltegra Consulting and Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle and Engr. Reinier Bagabay, and Ms. Tonette Fallarme of SPIK. Overall, the presence and collaboration of these influential individuals highlighted the significance of the event and the common goal of enhancing the knowledge and capabilities of industry practitioners in the field of process safety.

A meeting that was critical in ensuring the success of the series of webinars tailored to addressing key components of PSM, such as hazard identification, risk assessment and operational excellence. With experience from diverse backgrounds, the team wanted to try and create informative content that educates the target audience and serves to improve safety across other industries. The joint effort demonstrated why cooperating can lead to a safer and sustainable industrial setting.

SPIK participates in the Development of Indicative Guidelines on Know Your Customer (KYC)



The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) held a four-day workshop to finalize the Indicative Guidelines on Know Your Customer (KYC) in Nairobi, Kenya last February 18-21, 2025. Sixteen (16) delegates from Germany, Malaysia, Brazil, Pakistan, Nigeria, Costa Rica, Chile, Croatia, South Africa, United Kingdom, Kenya and the Philippines took part in the activity. RCC member, **Engr. Jorence Rocamora**, represented the country at the said workshop.



Mr. Taeon Kim, Program Officer representing OPCW, together with **Mr. Wiliam Munyoki**, Head of Kenyan National Authority, jump-started the event with an opening remarks to brief the participants on the workshop's objective. This served as a guide on the dynamics of the workshop and to enlighten each participant of the purpose, that is to finalize the contents of the KYC guidelines. The KYC guidelines aim to be a tool in implementing KYC best practices in the chemical supply chain to enhance chemical security

The workshop held in Kenya was the second part of the development of the KYC guidelines. The first part held last February 27-March 1, 2024 in Colombo, aimed to produce an initial draft of the KYC guidelines, which was later on analyzed by the group of experts from the second workshop. Backed by their expertise, collaboration and teamwork during the workshop, the draft was improved and thoroughly discussed by sections.

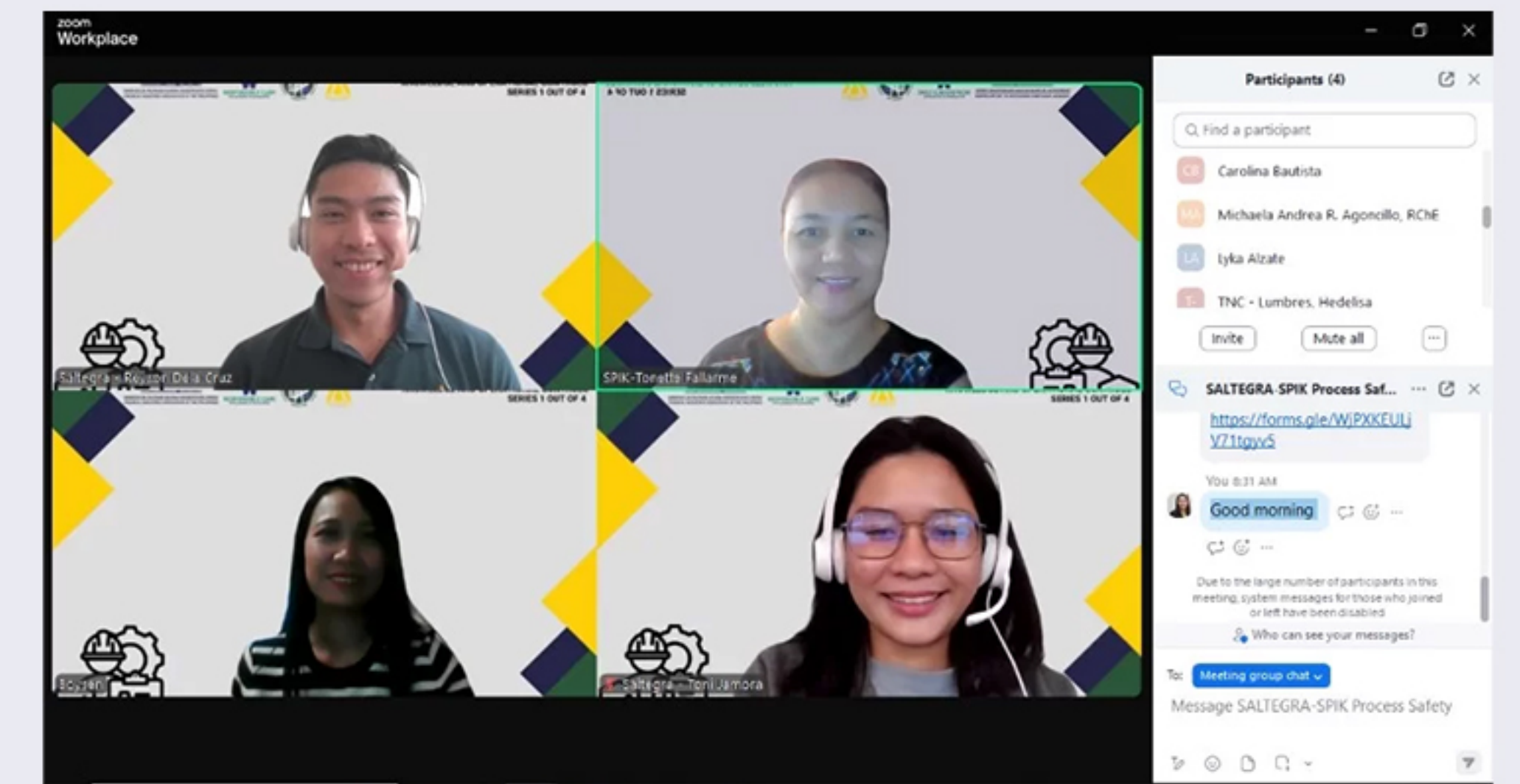


In addition to the workshop, the delegates were able to present and discuss different topics concerning Chemical Security in their respective countries. The needs for customer due diligence in the chemical industry for counterterrorism efforts in Kenya were reported in detail by **Altrine Obiero**. The needs and challenges of implementing KYC for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) were discussed by **Phillip Wedge** from South Africa. KYC best practices in multinational chemical industries in Germany, Malaysia, and Brazil were communicated by **Joerg Kathenbach**, **Mahadi Shaik Omar**, and **Maria dos Santos Souza** respectively.

Furthermore, chemical security in the Asian region and the needs and challenges posed by non-state armed actors were discussed by Nadeem Chughtai from Pakistan and Engr. Jorence Rocamora from the Philippines. Moreover, chemical security in the African region was discussed by Buba Shanu from Nigeria and Geoffrey Otieno from Kenya. Finally, chemical security management in Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) and the role of Customs was reported by John Vidaurre Díaz from Costa Rica and Constanza Bucarey from Chile.



As the workshop ended, the final draft of the KYC guidelines was completed, which will be later circulated to member state parties for further review and approval. The training ended with the closing statement from Mr. Kim and certificates were given to each participant.



PSM Webinar Series

Process Safety Management Webinar Series: Knowledge and Operational Controls

Series F: Process Safety Information, Operating Procedures, Training,
Contractor Management, & Work Permit

Presented by
Michael B. Sauer, CCSPSC, FSP
Founder & President
Senior Process Safety Consultant - HAZOP/LOPA Facilitator

February 26, 2022 at 1:00 AM (PST/PT)
Zoom Room: 929-999-9999

Presented by
SALTEGRA



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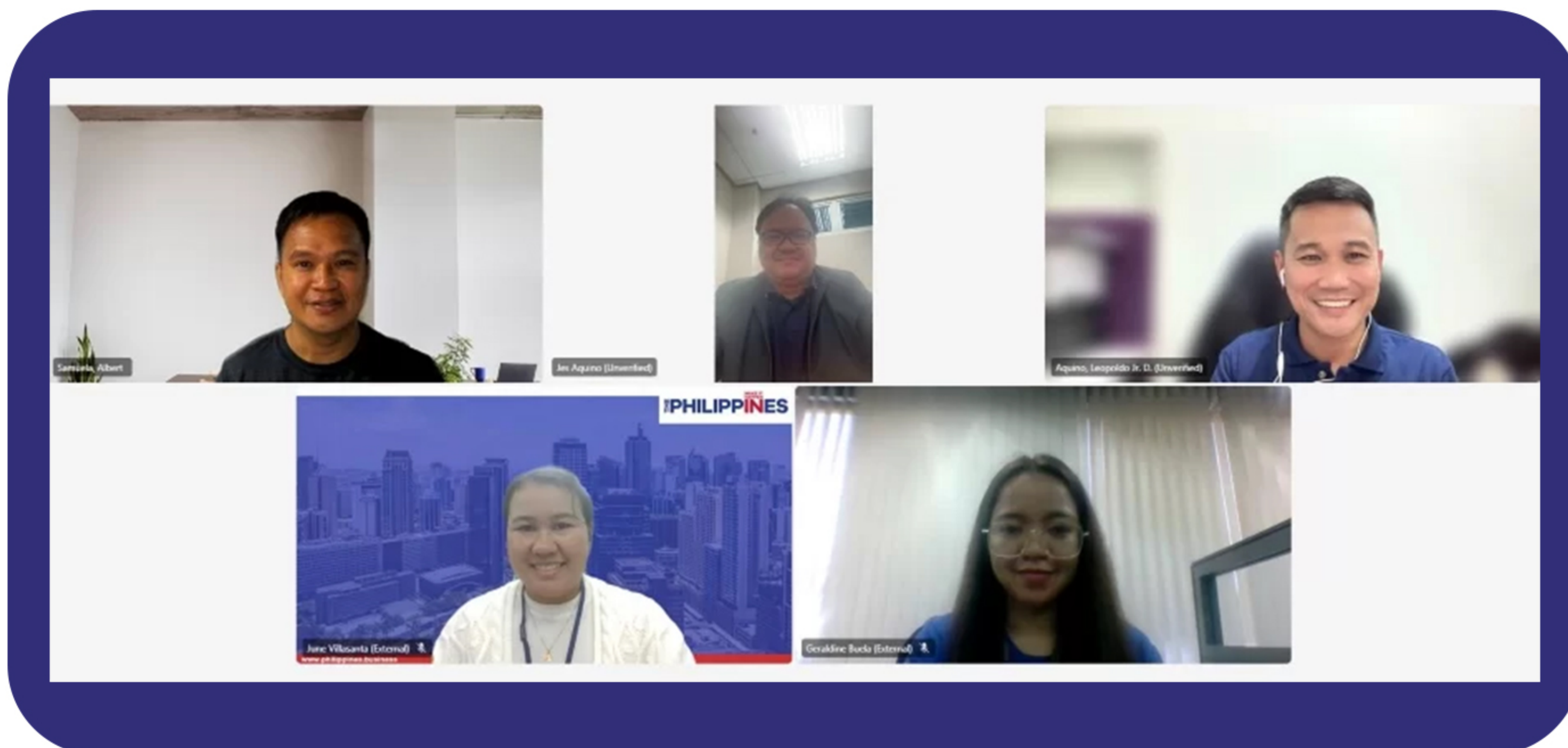
The webinar concluded with **Engr. Reinier Jay Bagabay**, SPIK Responsible Care Chairman, delivering the closing remarks, which reinforced the significance of continuous learning and collaboration in advancing safety standards across the industry. This virtual gathering served as an essential platform for knowledge sharing, fostering a culture of safety, and promoting best practices among the participating organizations.

FEB 25

ASCEND Meeting Fosters Academic-Industry Links in Chemical Education and Career Development

The Accelerating Schools and Chemical Industry Engagements for Nurturing Development (ASCEND) Meeting, held on February 25, 2025, saw a collaborative effort between educational institutions and the chemical sector. Notable attendees included Ms. June Villasanta and Ms. Geraldine Buela from the DTI-Board of Investments, Mr. Leopoldo Aquino of Mapua Malayan College Mindanao (MMCM), Engr. Jesuniño R. Aquino of Mapua Malayan College of Laguna (MMCL), and Engr. Albert Samuela of Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK). The primary focus was the organization of a Chemical Industry Career Event aimed at JHS and SHS students to explore engineering opportunities within the chemical and allied industries. Additionally, the event sought to introduce the concept of Responsible Care to both students and educators.

Engr. Samuela emphasized the imperative for enhanced collaboration in research and development projects. A significant outcome



was the suggestion to establish a formal partnership through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between SPIK and MMCM. This would pave the way for targeted collaborations such as internships and career seminars. Mr. Aquino of MMCM welcomed the proposal and requested a MOA template for thorough review.

This initiative highlights the commitment of both the academe and industry to prepare the future workforce for the dynamic landscape of the chemical sector, while also fostering responsible and sustainable practices.

APEC Chemical Dialogue Industry Pre-Meeting Sets Stage for Renewed Terms of Reference Discussion

FEB 25



The APEC Chemical Dialogue Industry Pre-Meeting (CD IPM) kicked off in Gyeongju, Korea on February 25, 2025, with Mr. Sergio Barrientos of Chile as Industry Co-chair. The meeting's primary focus was the future of the Chemical Dialogue, with the current terms of reference set to expire at the end of the year. The session aimed to gather insights from various industry stakeholders on how to best prepare for the upcoming Chemical Dialogue plenary on February 26, where the renewal and potential expansion of the terms of reference would be the central topic of discussion.



In a proactive move, the CD industry had already submitted a letter to the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) in late 2024, expressing strong support for the

continuation and revitalization of the Chemical Dialogue. The letter highlighted the importance of maintaining this public-private partnership in fostering a conducive environment for chemical trade and investment within the APEC region.



Industry representatives from Australia, Chile, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and the United States of America, alongside the APEC Secretariat, actively participated in the discussions. The outcomes of the CD IPM will be instrumental in shaping the dialogue during the plenary on February 26, where representatives from these economies and others will look into the future of the CD.

ENHANCING CBI MANAGEMENT IN APEC CUSTOMS CLEARANCE



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) recently participated in a Capacity Building Workshop focused on the Effective Management of Confidential Business Information (CBI) in Inwards Customs Clearance. This event took place on February 25th at the Hwabaek International Convention Center in Gyeongju, South Korea, as part of the APEC Chemical Dialogue within the APEC 2025 framework.

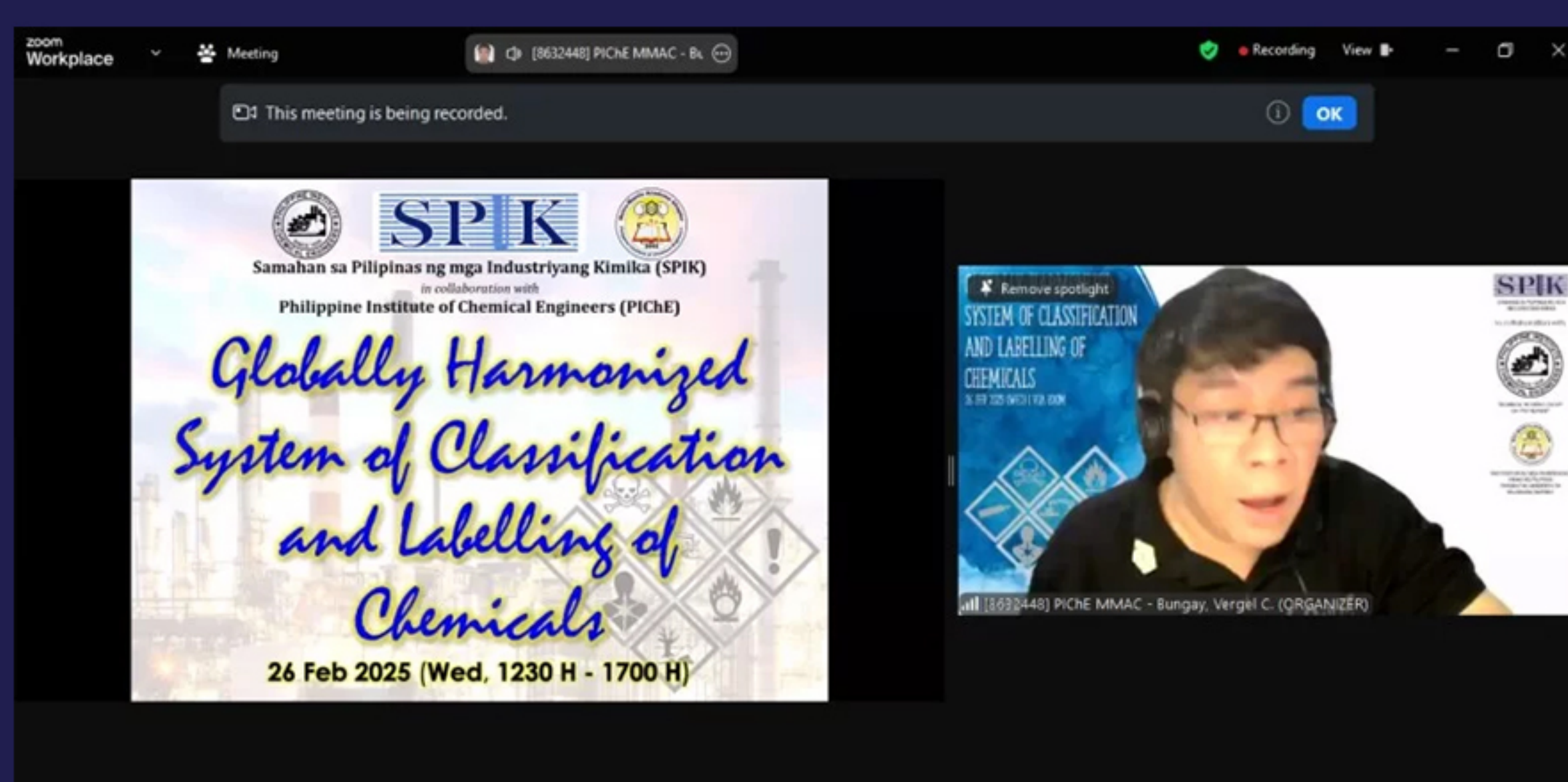


The workshop showcased a distinguished lineup of speakers from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the United States, and Vietnam. Throughout six sessions, these experts delved into the importance of CBI and trade secrets, the process of submitting such information to government entities, and the strategies for overcoming current industry challenges.

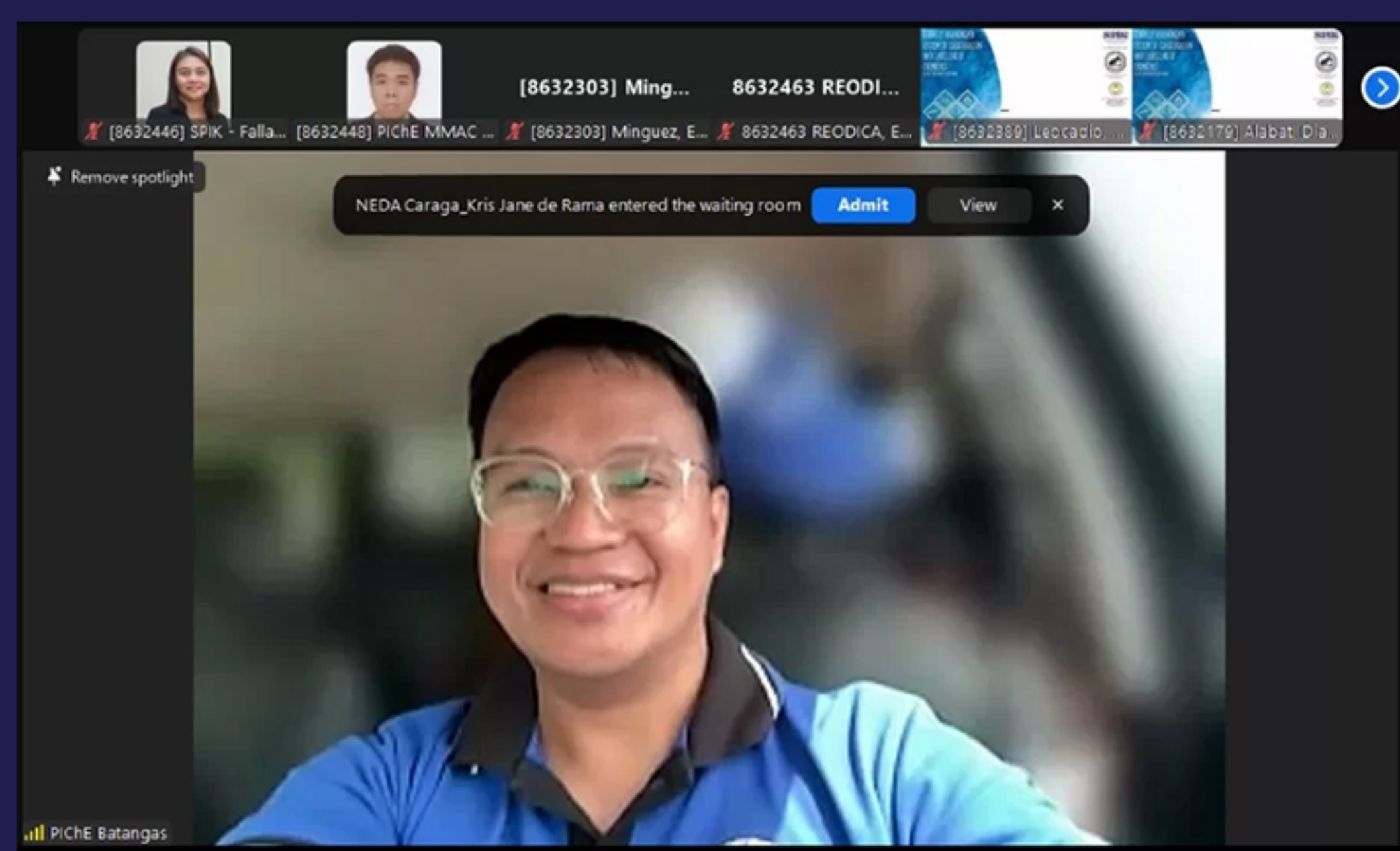
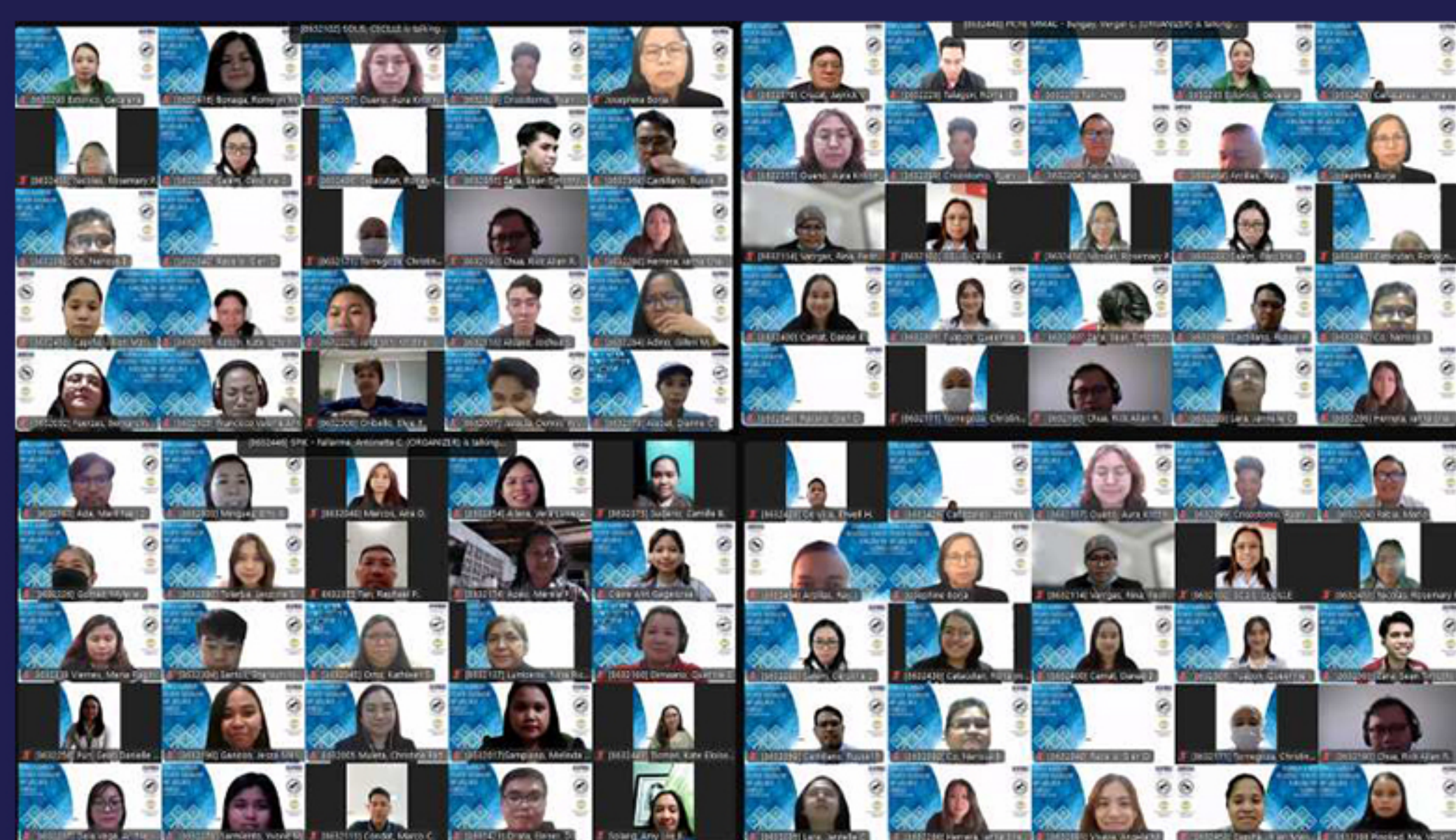
A highlight of the event was a breakout session featuring a case study that demonstrated the creation of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for products, providing a hands-on understanding of CBI management in practice. The discussions and presentations offered invaluable knowledge and best practices that are essential for navigating the customs clearance process with confidential information.

Attendees from the Philippines included **Atty. Geniefelle Lagmay**, the Acting Director of Ports Operations Service of the Bureau of Customs (BOC), **Atty. Kristine Dinar Sison** from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), and **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle** of SPIK. The overall experience was profoundly enriching, offering a wealth of information and practical advice for professionals in the field.

PIChE-SPIK Seminar Highlights GHS Significance in Chemical Safety



The **Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers (PIChE)** and the **Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK)** recently conducted a seminar emphasizing the role of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) in safety, health and environmental protection within the chemical industry. Held virtually on February 26, 2025, the event gathered over 300 professionals eager to enhance their understanding of the standardized system for classifying and labeling chemicals.



In his opening address, Engr. Albert A. Samuela, SPIK's Vice President for External Affairs, highlighted the seminar's objectives and the importance of GHS in health, safety, and environmental initiatives.

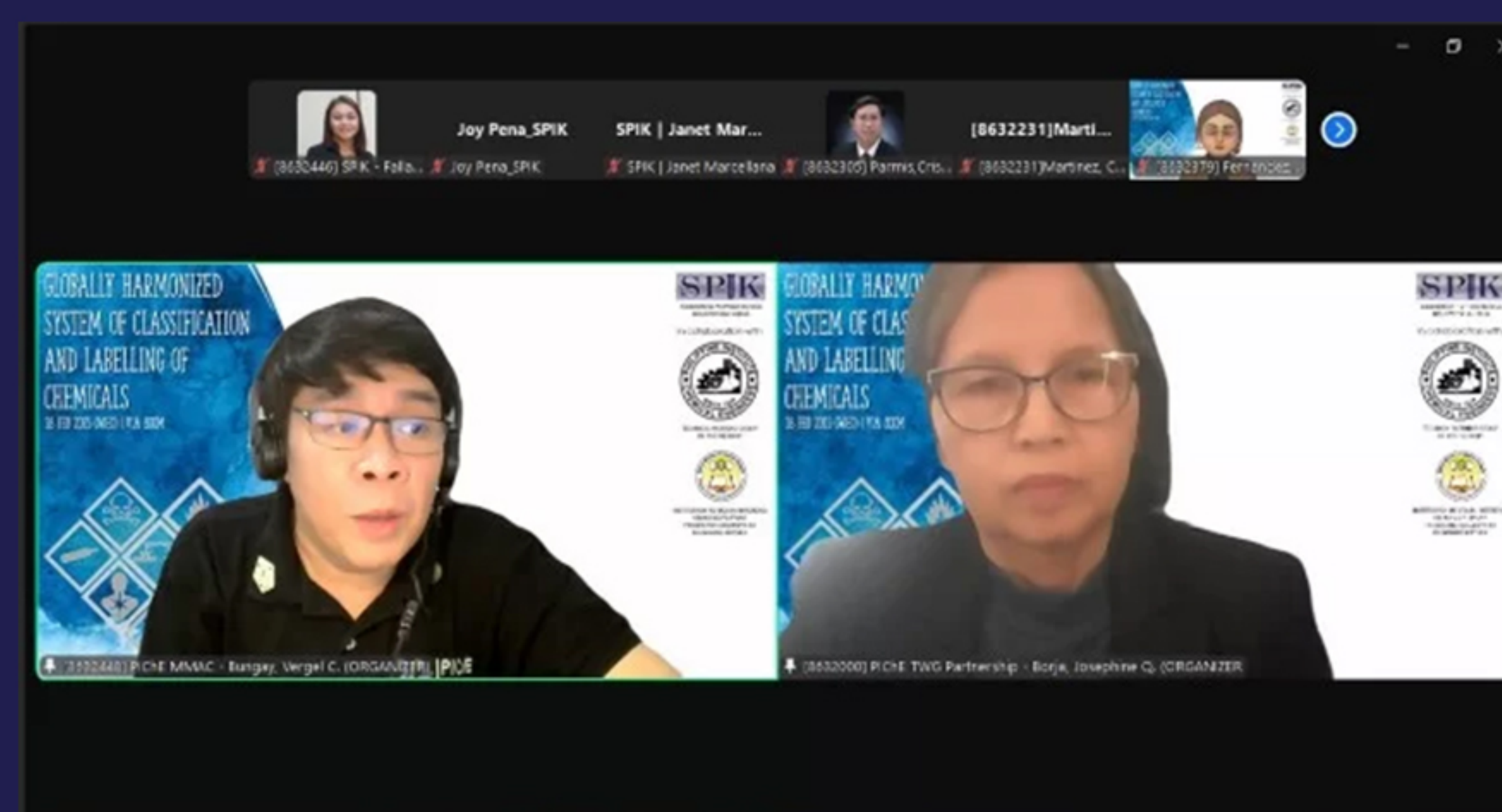


Engr. Jocelyn M. Pena, a Senior Regulatory Specialist at Dow Chemical Philippines Inc.,

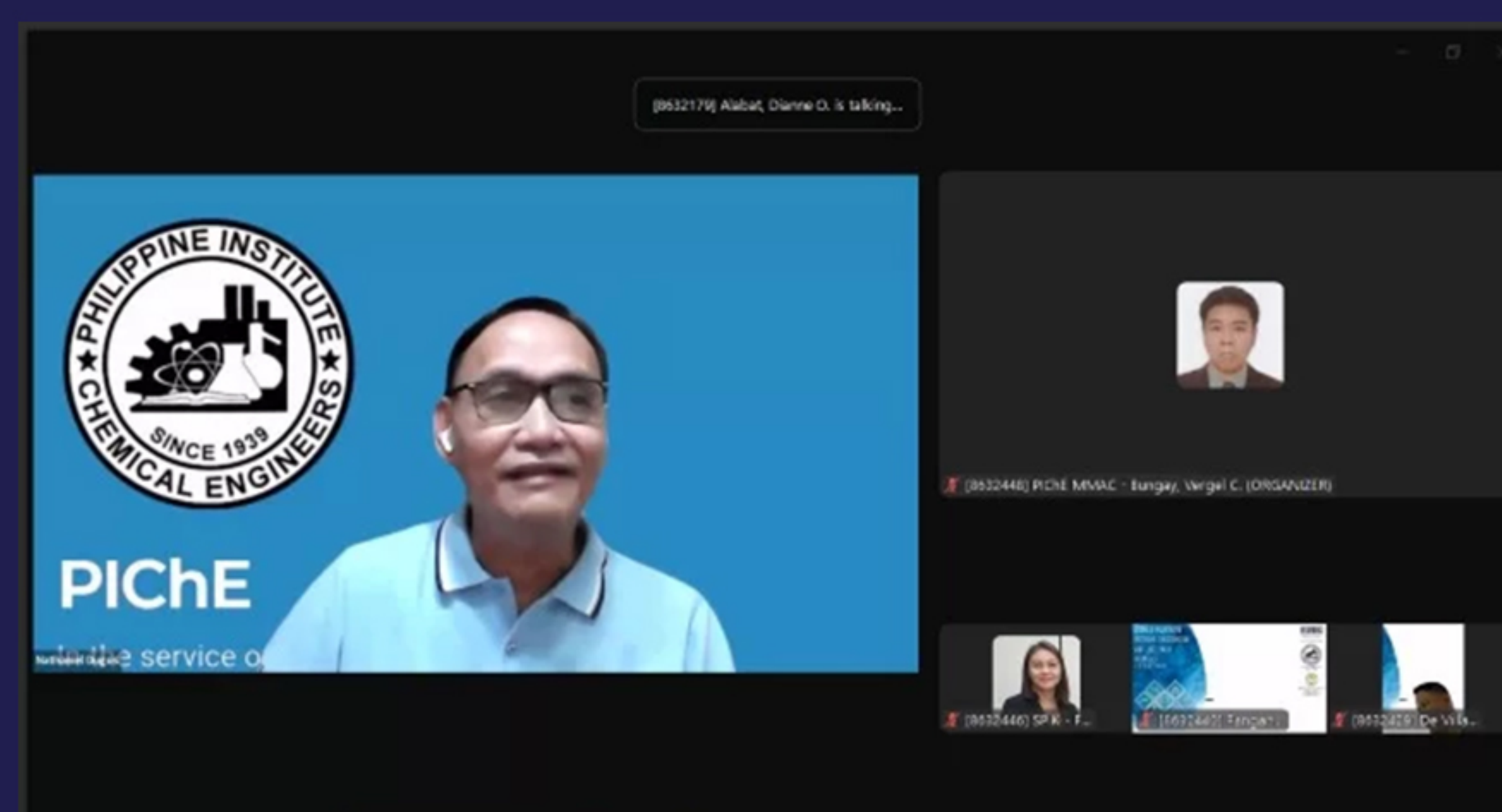
presented the GHS framework, offering insights into its classification methodology and hazard communication, which included a focus on labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS).



Ms. Janet Marcellana, Technical Manager of Shell Pilipinas Corporation, elaborated on the details of GHS classification.



Dr. Vergel Bungay and **Dr. Josephine Borja** of PIChE moderated the webinar, ensuring a smooth flow of information and engagement among participants.



Dr. Nathaniel P. Dugos, PIChE President, delivered the closing remarks, emphasizing the collaboration's commitment to promoting safety awareness and compliance with international standards.

The event's success reflects the growing interest and necessity for chemical engineers and industry stakeholders to adapt to evolving GHS guidelines to maintain workplace safety and environmental sustainability.

FEB 26

2025 APEC Chemical Dialogue: Fostering Regional Collaboration in Chemical Regulations and Trade



The 2025 APEC Chemical Dialogue, hosted in Gyeongju, South Korea, brings together industry leaders and government officials from a diverse economies. Among the participating economies are Australia, Canada, Chile, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States. The Meeting, a pivotal event for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) community, provides a unique platform for stakeholders to discuss the chemical regulations and trade policies.



At the forefront of the Philippines' delegation are **Atty. Kristine Sison**, from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), and **Engr. Gretchen Fontejon-Enarle**, of the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), representing the local chemical industry. Their insights contribute significantly to the multifaceted discussions aimed at harmonizing policies, enhancing environmental protection, and promoting innovation and sustainable growth within the region.

Taking place on February 26, 2025, the Meeting is a testament to the shared commitment of APEC members to the evolving global landscape of chemical governance. Through collaborative efforts, the APEC Chemical Dialogue envisions a future where economic prosperity and environmental stewardship coexist, fostering a safer and more interconnected chemical industry across the Asia-Pacific.

