

June 5, 2023

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC Headquarters, 7907 Makati Avenue, Salcedo Village, Bel-Air, Makati City

ATTENTION : **DIR. VICENTE GRACIANO P. FELIZMENIO, JR.** 

Markets and Securities Regulation Department

via PSE EDGE

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

3rd Floor, Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City

ATTENTION : MS. ALEXANDRA D. TOM WONG

Officer-in-Charge, Disclosure Department

via electronic mail

PHILIPPINE DEALING & EXCHANGE CORP.

Market Regulatory Services Group 29<sup>th</sup> Floor BDO Equitable Tower 8751 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

ATTENTION : ATTY. MARIE ROSE M. MAGALLEN-LIRIO

Head - Issuer Compliance and Disclosures Department

Gentlemen:

Attached is the Press Release of Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc. filed in compliance with the Securities Regulation Code, its 2015 Implementing Rules and Regulations, the Revised Disclosure Rules of the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), and the Issuer Disclosure Operating Guidelines of the Philippine Dealing Exchange Corp. (PDEx).

Kindly acknowledge receipt hereof.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

ABOITIZ EQUITY VENTURES INC.

By:

SAMMY DAVE A. SANTOS
Assistant Corporate Secretary

### **COVER SHEET**

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### **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

### SEC FORM 17-C

## CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE (SRC) AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

1.	June 5, 2023			
	Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)			
2.	SEC Identification Number: <u>CEO2536</u>	3. BI	R TIN: <u>003-828-269-V</u>	
4.	ABOITIZ EQUITY VENTURES INC.			
	Exact name of registrant as specified in its charte	er		
5.		6.		
	Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation		Industry Classification	Code
7.	32 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Mo	etro	Manila, Philippines	1634
	Address of principal office			Postal Code
8.	(02) 8 886-2800 Registrant's telephone number, including area co	ode		
9.	N/A			
	Former name or former address, if changed since	e last	report	
10.	Securities registered pursuant to Sections 4 and 8	8 of t	he RSA	
	Title of Each Class	Οι	Number of Shares of ststanding and Amount	
	Common Stock P1 Par Value			5,630,225,457
	Amount of Debt Outstanding (As of March 31, 2	2023)		<del>P</del> 372,946,436,000.00
11.	Indicate the item numbers reported herein: 9			

Item 9: Other Events

Please see attached press release.

### SIGNATURE (S)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Regulation Code, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ABOITIZ EQUITY VENTURES INC.

Ву:

Sammy Dave A Santos

Assistant Corporate Secretary

Date: <u>June 5, 2023</u>



# PRESS RELEASE 05 June 2023

# Aboitiz Group joins global efforts to #BeatPlasticPollution on World Environment Day 2023



On June 5, the United Nations' (UN) World Environment Day, the Aboitiz Group proudly demonstrates its commitment to global sustainability efforts by highlighting its groundbreaking innovations in the fight against plastic pollution. With this year's theme of #BeatPlasticPollution, the Aboitiz Group supports effective action and a transition towards a circular economy to address global environmental challenges. According to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), by shifting to a circular economy, the inflow of plastics into the ocean can decrease by more than 80 percent by 2040, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent, and even generate 700,000 job opportunities.

The Group aims to accelerate progress and inspire others to take bold steps in combating plastic pollution. At the heart of the Aboitiz Group's operations lies the OneNewAboitiz Sustainability

Synergy, guiding the Group toward innovative practices and technologies. The Aboitiz Group's sustainability achievements work towards the worldwide sustainable development agenda, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By pushing the boundaries of innovation, the Aboitiz Group tackles pollution challenges with effective solutions. Through these dedicated initiatives and actions, the Aboitiz Group demonstrates its unwavering commitment to sustainable development and actively contributes to the attainment of several SDGs. These include SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 15 (Life on Land). The Group's efforts specifically focus on promoting responsible consumption and production, taking action against climate change, safeguarding marine ecosystems, and preserving terrestrial biodiversity.

### **Reimagine Seaweed**

As the Group undergoes its Great Transformation to become the Philippines' first Techglomerate, it is taking an innovative approach to #BeatPlasticPollution, reimagining the world in terms of possibilities and opportunities. With the growing interest in using seaweed as an alternative to single-use plastic, leaders within the Aboitiz Group are working on the Reimagine Seaweed initiative, set to transform the seaweed industry of the Philippines. The initiative is holistically designed to create a sustainable and profitable seaweed industry that provides livelihoods to farmers, promotes biodiversity, reduces plastic pollution, and mitigates the effects of climate change.

According to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the Philippines is the fourth-largest producer of seaweed globally, supporting 1.4 million seaweed farmers. Under Reimagine Seaweed's three-pronged strategy, seaweed farmers are taught better farming techniques and are introduced to green technology that will expand their product range to potentially include bioplastics, protein powder, cosmetics, and health supplements. Within the next five years, the Aboitiz Group and the Reimagine Seaweed team aim to reduce single-use plastics in the region through the production of biodegradable and compostable packaging made from seaweed.

This game-changing initiative is making progress towards improving the lives of seaweed farmers, bringing world-class green technology to the local industry, and eliminating single-use plastics in Asia and beyond. By leveraging a renewed entrepreneurial mindset and the latest technologies, the Aboitiz Group tackles global challenges with innovative approaches that advance the business and communities they serve. On the road to ending plastic toxicity, they are also opening up an ocean of opportunity with Reimagine Seaweed.

### **Plastic Neutrality**

Republic Cement, a CRH-Aboitiz company, pioneered the use of alternative fuels through coprocessing in the Philippines. The process involves the reuse and recovery of thermal and mineral properties of qualified waste materials as alternative fuels, allowing Republic Cement to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and minimize environmental impact. The firm uses residual plastic waste, including rejected plastic bottles, styrofoam, tarps, single-use plastic containers and utensils, sachets, shopping packages, and other soft plastics, as alternative fuels.

In August 2022, Republic Cement achieved a significant milestone in becoming plastic-neutral. Through its resource recovery group, **ecoloop**, the company collected and co-processed an equivalent volume of residual plastic waste used in the packaging and transporting of its cement products. By integrating plastic waste into the cement manufacturing process, Republic Cement successfully offset its plastic packaging footprint for 2020 to 2022, equivalent to co-processing over 890 dump trucks filled with plastic waste.

Republic Cement also supports numerous manufacturers to reach their plastic neutrality goals and be more responsible corporate citizens and stewards of the environment.

### **Upcycled Plastic**

City Savings Bank (CitySavings), the thrift bank subsidiary of the Aboitiz-led Union Bank of the Philippines (UnionBank), partnered with Envirotech Waste Recycling, Inc. (Envirotech) to upcycle plastic waste into classroom essentials: school chairs. In support of the Department of Education (DepEd) *Matatag* agenda to supplement basic education facilities and services, CitySavings donated 50 plastic chairs made of upcycled waste plastic to Kapitan Tomas Monteverde Sr. Central Elementary School in Davao City and Tunasan National High School in Muntinlupa City.

Furthermore, the construction arm of the Group, Aboitiz Construction, has been implementing its policy against single-use plastics across all projects and facilities since last year. The implementation resulted in a 14.60% reduction of plastic wastes from 2022 to 2023. Also, this initiative is anchored to the firm's compliance to ISO 14001: 2015 (Environmental Management System) and to its future plan of standardizing materials recovery facilities on all sites.

### **About Aboitiz Equity Ventures**

Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. (AEV) is the public holding company of the Aboitiz Group with major investments in power, banking and financial services, food, infrastructure, land, and data science and artificial intelligence. Today, AEV is recognized as one of the best-managed companies in the Philippines and the region, consistently cited for its commitment to good corporate governance and corporate social responsibility. With five generations of Aboitiz Group business success behind it, AEV continues to drive change for a better world by advancing business and communities.

The Aboitiz Group is a member of the Global Compact Network Philippines Board of Trustees and helps champion the Philippines' sustainability initiatives on an international level through policies, advocacies, and initiatives that align with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). The company has also launched its #OneAboitizSustainability Framework which aims to transform its life-essential businesses into having improved sustainable practices and a positive impact on the environment and society.

To know more about the #OneAboitizSustainability programs, please visit <a href="https://sustainability.aboitiz.com/">https://sustainability.aboitiz.com/</a>.

For further queries on this Press Release, please contact:

#### LLOYD REVILLA

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