



## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Inauguration of the Philippine Honorary Consulate in Ticino**

**Lugano - Margherita Maffeis took her oath of office as the new honorary consul of the Philippines in Ticino, last Wednesday 12 September 2018, at the Philippine Embassy in Berne.**

Present at the ceremony was the Philippine Ambassador to Switzerland, Denis Yap Lepatan, who congratulated Ms. Maffeis on her appointment and expressed full confidence on the qualifications of the honorary consul to fulfill her new position. Margherita Maffeis has been working since very young, managing and promoting a variety of cultural projects, literary awards and big charity awards. She is an advocate of the rights of women and is passionate about intergenerational projects. Since 2009 she has been managing the marketing and communication agency “MaffeisNetwork SA” in Lugano, and in 2011, she founded the non-profit association Culture Ticino Network in Lugano, which she manages to the present and through which she started a few years ago to support humanitarian projects in the Philippines. Furthermore, she is Director of a Swiss foundation with headquarters in Ticino that help young people find apprenticeships through a coaching and educational program.

In response to the Ambassador, Ms. Maffeis expressed her gratitude and said: *“It was an honor for me to accept such a prestigious position and I wish that from now on, I will have more opportunities to give the needed help to this country and community which is close to me.”*

The Honorary Consulate of the Philippines in Ticino, located in Lugano at via Cortivallo 3a, is now officially open to the public. Appointments may be made by phone from Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 12:00 and from 14:00 to 17:00. The Consulates website ([www.philconsulateticino.ch](http://www.philconsulateticino.ch)) will soon be open while the Facebook page (@ConsolateFilippineTi) is already available where all official announcements are posted.

The public inauguration will take place on the occasion of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Peace Forum on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2018, during the special event dedicated to Peace and the Philippines. The event is organized by the Culture Ticino Network Association and will start at 5:00 pm at Suitenhotel Parco Paradiso during which Swiss and international guests and authorities will deliver speeches. This will be followed by a Charity Gala Dinner where distinguished guests and the Ambassador of the Philippines will participate. The program will include entertainment, speeches on the theme of peace and fund-raising to support projects of the Association that will be presented during the dinner. The Association has been committed for years to promote the culture of peace and it actively work through solidarity project both in Ticino and the Philippines.

**For further information** about the reservation for the Inauguration and the Gala Dinner, please call from 9:30 to 12:00 and from 14:00 to 17:00.