

OPEN FORUM

Participant: Prof. Pawid, do you imply that with the creation of Region XIII for the Mountain Provinces you will be able to solve the Chico Project problems?

Prof. Pawid: You seem to see a dichotomy between the specific area and the national point of view. I tried to discuss, within the limited time and resources available to me, the possibility of Region XIII within the national context. I said that hopefully, if a regional entity, whether it be Region I, II, III, etc. is made a viable system by which people may articulate and participate in government then perhaps the regional set-up may serve as a channel to solve the problem of several societies within one national context.

Participant: So you're saying that the creation of Region XIII does not provide any viable mechanism to solve the problems. But should there be a viable mechanism within the Region could the problem be solved?

Prof. Pawid: Provided the Region as Region XIII is in much the same position as all the other regions in the Philippines I don't see why it cannot be a viable instrument by which to solve the problems. However, on the socio-cultural basis there is a very distinct reason why all the four Mountain Provinces should be blocked together instead of separated in two different regions.