Editor's Notes

This last quarter issue of the PJPA is dedicated to the crisis of the environment. The crisis has not only expanded into global proportion but has also affected all dimensions of human condition — physical, biological, economic, and behavioral. Being so, responses to the crisis must have creative consideration of its multidimensional nature. The four articles presented here illustrate such responses.

The first article, "Planning and Development of Prewar Manila: Historical Glimpses of Philippine City Planning" written by Romeo B. Ocampo, presents the history behind the physical setup of the city of Manila. He delves into the past planning practices from pre-Spanish times to the Commonwealth and immediate period. The author hopes that the reflections on the past could serve as a guide to contemporary planners in charting the future of Manila.

Environmental legislations are vividly outlined in the second article written by Beta P. Balagot entitled "Implications of Environmental Legislations to Development Sectors." The author reviews the nature of the government's concern for the environment as reflected in the policies promulgated from the Spanish period to the present and the administrative machinery implementing such policies. She posits that for the government to respond effectively to the ongoing environmental crisis, there is a need to integrate environmental considerations in all governmental programs.

The rehabilitation, conservation, and protection of upland resources is the concern of the next article by Salve B. Borlagdan entitled "The Cebu Social Forestry Pilot Project: A Case Study on Upland Development." She documents the experiences of one of the pilot projects of the Upland Development Program implemented in the context of the DENR Integrated Social Forestry Program. The experience shows the strategies which aim at protecting and managing the upland resources and at the same time address the problems of poverty.

The article by Romeo B. Trono describes the government's urgent response to conserve and manage the remaining marine turtle resources of the country. Entitled "Management and Conservation Program of a Protected Wildlife Species: The Case of Marine Turtles in the Philippines," the article primarily discusses the three major activities implemented by the Pawikan Conservation Project: resource management and protection, research and investigation, and information and services extension. The article defines the capability of the government to undertake these activities and the problems encountered in the process.