

**Remarks of Ambassador ENDO Kazuya at A 70 Year Opus: Celebrating
Philippines-Japan Friendship in Concert**
24 June 2026 at The Theater at Solaire, Parañaque City

Magandang gabi po sa inyong lahat. Good evening, everyone.

I am grateful to see so many friends of music this evening.

It is my great privilege to welcome you to “A 70 Year Opus: Celebrating Philippines-Japan Friendship in Concert.”

With this concert, we pay tribute to a truly special and significant year.

2026 marks the 70th anniversary of Japan-Philippines Friendship: a storied partnership built on mutual trust, respect, and a shared vision for peace and prosperity.

Seven decades have seen our two nations grow closer and closer through intimate exchanges.

Years of colorful connections have inspired our anniversary theme: Weaving the Future Together: Peace, Prosperity, Possibilities.

Of all the ties that bind us, culture has perhaps woven our most enduring threads. Music connects, endures, and transcends languages and distance. Classical music, in particular, best captures our friendship’s enduring spirit.

Tonight, we give our friendship form through the works of Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, whose timeless compositions have moved generations.

The New Japan Philharmonic orchestra, joined by two towering talents from Japan: conductor Mr. Tetsuji HONNA and violinist Ms. Mayuko KAMIO, will bring you fine music delivered by the finest hands.

It is said that the greatest composers never truly leave us, but live on in every performance of their work. Tonight, I hope our friendship captures some of that immortality.

Let me end my remark by extending my most profound appreciation to all the people who have made this commemorative concert possible, all the sponsors, performers, and organizers.

Maraming salamat sa inyong pagdalo and *Arigatou gozaimasu!*