

# PRESS RELEASE

## Department of Foreign Affairs

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### AMBASSADOR ALBERT PROMOTES TOURISM AND INVESTMENT IN GERMANY AT BERLIN AIR SHOW

21 June 2006 — Philippine Ambassador to Berlin, Germany Delia Domingo Albert reported to the Department of Foreign Affairs that the lone Philippine exhibitor at the recent International Aerospace Exhibition and Conferences (ILA) held in Berlin gave the Embassy the opportunity to promote tourism and investment opportunities.

Ambassador Domingo-Albert explained that the ILA is the world's largest aerospace show, with 1,014 exhibitors from 42 countries attracting more than 250,000 visitors.



The Ambassador inspected the Philippine exhibit, a Dornier Do-24 ATT with the Philippine flag prominently displayed atop the aircraft that was prominently parked next to the new Airbus A380, on view to the public for the first time.

Ambassador Domingo-Albert (2<sup>nd</sup> L) meets Captain Iren Dornier (center), the lone Philippine exhibitor at the ILA in Berlin. With the Ambassador and Captain Dornier are SEAir Sales Manager Shiela Cabi-ao (1<sup>st</sup> L), and Consular Assistants Rosalie R. Evangelista and Vincent Soriano (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> L).

At the Philippine display, Ambassador Domingo-Albert met the plane owner, Captain Iren Dornier, who explained that the aircraft is the only remaining Dornier amphibian aircraft in commercial operation in the world.

The Ambassador said that Captain Dornier is the founder of South East Asian Airlines (SEAir), which was established at the Clark Special Economic Zone in 1994. The Captain is the grandson of German aviation pioneer Prof. Dr. Claude Dornier, whose DORNIER Wal that made its maiden flight in 1922 was the most successful seaplane in the 1920s and 30s.

Captain Dornier informed the Ambassador that he decided to fly the Philippine flag as recognition of the success being enjoyed by SEAir in the Philippines and to attract Germans to visit and invest in tourism projects in the Philippines. Captain Iren also used the Dornier Do-24 ATT on his "Flight of Dreams," a one-year journey which took him on a world tour that included the Philippines.

The Captain and Ambassador Domingo-Albert likewise discussed ways to promote Philippine tourism in Germany.

Captain Dornier said that SEAir currently operates services to Boracay and Northern Palawan, and has recently inaugurated a regular flight between Manila and Baler. The Captain has likewise opened a resort in Palawan – Club Noah Isabelle – and continues to invest in the tourism infrastructure sector in the Philippines. He said that SEAir is also involved in UNICEF-supported programs, raising US\$ 61,000 recently for a Philippine UNICEF child education, protection and awareness program.

The Ambassador reported that Captain Dornier's company in Germany – the Dornier Technologie Aviation Engineering Company primarily involved in design and development – is cooperating with Airbus Industrie, Ricaro Airbus, Liebhenn and other renowned European aerospace companies.

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