



## PLDT Group Represented in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Ethics and Compliance Conference of the Ethics and Compliance Officer Association

*Atty. Elmer Nitura of SMART is elected to the ECOA Board of Directors*

PLDT Group Corporate Governance, represented by Attys. Maussie P. Sinense-Gonzalez and Blue R. Festin of PLDT, and Attys. Elmer D. Nitura and Archilo A. Matugas of SMART Communications, Inc., recently attended the 18th Annual Ethics and Compliance Conference of the Ethics and Compliance Officer Association (ECO) held from September 21-24, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Anaheim, California. PLDT is a sponsoring partner member of the ECOA, the only such company from the Philippines. Last year, Mr. Keith Darcy, ECOA Executive Director, was the PLDT Group's resource person for its board and senior officers corporate governance enhancement sessions.

Based in Waltham, Massachusetts, USA, the ECOA is a member-driven association, exclusively serving individuals responsible for their organization's ethics, compliance, and business conduct programs. Dedicated to building trust and organizational integrity worldwide, the ECOA is the largest group of ethics and compliance practitioners in the world. The ECOA facilitates peer-to-peer learning and helps to foster a global commitment to business ethics and integrity. Over 1,200 ECOA members represent nearly 500 organizations worldwide in over 30 industries. At this year's conference, 521 delegates were in attendance. The PLDT group representatives made the most of the conference by separately attending the 52 concurrent workshops and sessions which featured innovative concepts and best practices from recognized experts in the field of corporate governance, ethics and compliance, including speakers from the U.S. Department of Justice and F.B.I. They likewise gained from interacting and exchanging ideas with their peers from different countries and companies outside of the formal conference activities.



Sharing stories at the pre-conference reception are (from left to right) Elmer Nitura, Mr. Keith T. Darcy, ECOA Executive Director, Blue Festin, Dr. Prakash Sethi, Founder and CEO of the International Center for Corporate Accountability (ICCA) and Archie Matugas.



Mr. Jay C. Mumford (extreme right), Ethics and Compliance Program Director of Accenture and member of the ECOA's Board of Directors, joins (from left) Maussie Sinense – Gonzalez, Elmer Nitura and Blue Festin in one of the plenary sessions at the ECOA conference.

At the general membership meeting of the ECOA's members held simultaneously with the conference, Atty. Elmer Nitura's election as a member of the Board of Directors of the ECOA was formally announced. Atty. Nitura was nominated by Atty. Dzet Rausa-Chan, Chief Governance Officer of the PLDT Group and Sponsoring Partner Representative to the ECOA. Atty. Nitura is the only Asian in the 23 person Board of Directors and joins other respected corporate governance and ethics advocates from companies such as HP, Accenture, Ernst and Young, L'Oréal, Best Buy, Alcatel-Lucent, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Merck & Co., Novartis, AOL, Inc., to name a few. He will begin his three year term on January 1, 2011. Prior to Atty. Nitura, Atty. Rene G. Bañez, former Chief Governance Officer of the PLDT Group and now Head of PLDT's Administration and Materials Management Group (AMMG), was the first Filipino to be elected to the ECOA Board of Directors.