Los Angeles, 01 March 2013 –The Philippine Consulate General led by Consul General Ma. Hellen Barber De La Vega participated in the first Orange County (OC) Global Women’s Conference as Exhibitor and Consul General De La Vega as one of the speakers and panelists.

The Conference, dubbed, “How women change the world; A Conference for every woman”, which was held on 01 March 2013 at Hilton Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, California is the premier event for the development and advancement of women of all ages, ethnicities, cultures and backgrounds in Southern California. Close to 600 women participants were in attendance on this pioneering global women conference in Orange County.

The speakers for the conference including Consul General De La Vega were composed of thirty-two (32) California most accomplished and revered women leaders, among others were, Ms. Susan Samueli, Software Programmer, IBM Corporation; Mexican Consul General, Alejandra Garcia Williams, Ms. Tina Aldatz, a Certified Pedorthist, Ms. Azieh Namdar, a senior writer for HLN and serves as an anchor for CNN International; Ms. Maggie Forster Schmitz, President of the US National Committee for UN Women; Ms. Kay Napier, presently serves as Senior Vice President of McDonald’s and spearheaded the launch of the healthy lifestyles initiative and led marketing efforts designed to appeal to women and families in both the U.S. and Europe.

The keynote speaker of the conference was the California Secretary of State Debra Bowen.

The nine topics were designed to professional, globally-minded women who are continually seeking to enhance their lives through education, networking, career development and exploration and philanthropy. It also included a fashion show showcasing global contemporary designs for OC’s profession, trend-setting women.

Consul General De La Vega was one on the panelists in the topic entitled, “The Global Impact for Women: The Power of Politics”. Panelist shared their insights on the increasing rate of women becoming leaders in the international community and with these roles or positions come the capacity to affect change in a greater global community.
The Philippine Consulate General exhibited Philippine tourist destinations and products display. We also distributed disc on “How to do business in the Philippines”; promotional items on the forthcoming Ambassador/Consuls General/Tourism Director Tour (ACGTDT) and tourism brochures and materials to the participants of the conference. The Philippine booth drew many positive comments from the Conference Participants.

Photo above (L-R): CNN International Asieh Namdar; Consul General Maria Hellen Barber De La Vega; Moderator Lisa Bashor; President of the US National Committee for UN Women Maggie Forster Schmitz; and, Mexican Consul General Alejandra Garcia William.

Photo above (L-R) Vice Consul Mary Joy Ramirez, Ms. Eva Adan, Department of Tourism, Consul General Ma. Hellen Barber De La Vega, Cultural Officer Wilma Bautista; and, Ms. Anna Liza Salvador

Photo shows (L-R) Ms. Eva Adan, Department of Tourism; Cultural Officer Wilma Bautista; Vice Consul Mary Joy Ramirez; CNN Anchor Asieh Namdar; Consul General Ma. Hellen Barber De La Vega; and Ms. Anna Liza Salvador

Photo above (L-R) Ms. Eva Adan, Department of Tourism; Vice Consul Mary Joy Ramirez; participant of Global Women’s Conference; Cultural Officer Wilma Bautista; and, Ms. Anna Liza Salvador

Photo above (L-R) Ms. Eva Adan, Department of Tourism; California Secretary of State Debra Bowen; Cultural Officer Wilma Bautista; and Vice-Consul Mary Joy Ramirez