

**Biographical Note**  
**Jose Victor V. Chan-Gonzaga**  
**DFA Assistant Secretary for American Affairs**

Jose Victor Villarino Chan-Gonzaga is a career member of the Philippine Foreign Service holding the rank of Chief of Mission II.

He was formerly Consul General of the Philippine Embassy in Washington D.C., from January 2020 to June 2021, after serving as Minister for Economic Affairs from January 2015 to December 2019. He was Executive Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs- Office of Legal Affairs in Manila from April 2013 to January 2015.

He headed the Philippine Permanent Mission to the World Trade Organization in Geneva as *Charge d'Affaires ad interim* from 27 May 2011 until 26 July 2012. He had previously been First Secretary at the same Mission from December 2004 to December 2010, before returning to Manila in early 2011.

Before being assigned to the WTO Mission, he was director for social development matters at the Office of United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO) of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and had earlier also served as director for human rights and humanitarian affairs, director for trade, economic and finance matters, and concurrently legal officer in UNIO.

Mr. Chan-Gonzaga went to Columbia University as a Fulbright Scholar and a Bretzfelder International Law Fellow and, in 2003, earned his masters degree in law, graduating with the Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar Award and with a Certificate of Merit in International and Comparative Law from the Columbia University Parker School of International and Comparative Law.

Mr. Chan-Gonzaga joined the foreign service in 1997 after earning a *Juris Doctor* degree from the Ateneo de Manila School of Law, and was admitted to the Philippine Bar the following year. He earned his bachelor's degree from the Ateneo de Manila University (1993) in interdisciplinary studies with specialization in political science and socio-anthropology. ###