

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Ambassador Elizabeth Buensuceso** is currently the Acting Undersecretary (Vice Minister) in the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and Philippine ASEAN SOM Leader. She was the Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Philippines to ASEAN for over six years. She has been with the Philippine Foreign Service for more than forty-one years. She was formerly Ambassador to Norway, with concurrent accreditation to Denmark and Iceland. She was also Ambassador to Laos. In the Home Office, she oversaw Philippine- European relations as Assistant Secretary for European Affairs and had stints at the ASEAN, economic diplomacy and policy (political) offices. She was also the Philippine Representatives to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) from July 2019 to April 2021.

She has a Master of ASEAN Studies degree from the University of the Philippines and a Bachelor of Arts, major in English, *magna cum laude*. She was awarded the Presidential Grand Cross, Gawad Kamanong, rank of Commander in 2017. Ambassador Buensuceso has an adopted daughter, Carina, and two granddaughters, Claire Elise and Angélique Isabelle.