

AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PH

THE NATIONAL AUTO CLUB



WWW.AAP.ORG.PH

AAP, QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) and the Quezon City Government recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize a partnership aimed at strengthening road safety awareness and education.

The MOU was signed on behalf of the local government on January 23, 2026 at Quezon City Hall by Quezon City Mayor Ma. Joy Belmonte and Education Affairs Unit Officer-in-Charge Maricris Veloso together with AAP Trustee and Treasurer Gus Cosio and AAP CEO Mark Desales. Officials from both institutions witnessed the signing.

The partnership seeks to promote safer roads within Quezon City via a range of road safety initiatives including education-



Quezon City Education Affairs Unit Officer-in-Charge Maricris Veloso, Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte, AAP Treasurer Gus Cosio and AAP CEO Mark Desales signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen road safety campaigns in Quezon City.

al workshops, awareness campaigns, community engagement activities, and collaboration with law enforcement agencies. Under the agreement, AAP will lead the implementation of road safety programs while the Quezon City Government will provide coordination, venue support, and institutional assistance in accordance with existing laws and policies.

A key component of the partnership is the strengthening of AAP's Stay Bright Road Safety Campaign among schools and communities in Quezon City. The campaign delivers interactive road safety workshops and multi-platform awareness activities for students and residents, focusing on pedestrian safety and responsible road behavior. Communi

B3-2

RAISE THE GAME TOYOTA RAIZE



Born to drive your urban cool vibe to lift everyone's spirits. The Toyota Raize, with its striking design and easy to drive platform, helps you raise the bar on every drive.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

1.0 TURBO CVT

PAY LOW P160,350 <small>downpayment</small>	PAY LIGHT P10,651 <small>monthly</small>	SAVINGS P50,000 <small>Cash Discount</small>
---	--	--

To know more about promos of other Toyota models, visit <https://toyota.com.ph/promos/PayLow/February>.
Promo runs from February 9-28, 2026. DTI Fair Trade Permit No. FTEB-248823 Series of 2026.

TRADE-IN REBATE

ONE PRICE
ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Download the MyToyota App for your Toyota needs

*for 2025 Year Model

Vehicle registration: convenience or efficiency?

The recent shift from a three-year to a five-year initial registration for new motor vehicles has been presented as a reform anchored on convenience. On the surface, it appears sensible: spare new car owners from lining up at the Land Transportation Office (LTO) for an additional two years.

But policy must be judged not by appearances — but by outcomes.

The Automobile Association of the Philippines (AAP) did not support the five-year registration framework. Not because we oppose convenience. On the contrary, we support reforms that genuinely reduce friction for motorists. However, this measure does not solve the real problem confronting vehicle owners.

The Real Bottleneck:

The System Itself

The fundamental issue is not how long a brand-new car stays registered.

The real issue is the time, inefficiency, and productivity loss faced by owners of older vehicles who must undergo the full registration cycle annually.

Anyone who has gone through the process understands the reality:

- Emission testing queues
- Engine stenciling
- Multiple windows for verification and payment
- Manual documentation checks

At worst, the process consumes half a working day. Registration is only done on regular weekdays. LTO offices are generally closed on Saturdays. For working Filipinos, this means leaving or sacrificing pro-

ductive hours simply to comply with the law.

Extending new vehicle registration to five years does nothing to fix this inefficiency. It merely delays the inconvenience.

If we are serious about reform, then we must address the root cause: the registration system must become faster, cleaner, and technology-driven.

The Undeclared Financial Impact

There is another dimension seldom discussed.

The additional two years of advance registration will generate over one billion pesos in incremental collections.

That is not a trivial sum. The question is straightforward: Will this additional revenue be earmarked to modernize and streamline the registration system?

If motorists are asked to pay in advance, then government must reciprocate with measurable service improvements — digitized workflows, integrated databases, and faster processing times. Without that commitment, the policy risks being viewed as revenue-driven rather than reform-driven.

Transparency and reinvestment are essential. Collections should upgrade systems — not disappear into unrelated expenditures.

The Insurance Gap

Another concern lies in insurance compliance.

Motor vehicle insurance policies



EYES ON THE ROAD

JOE FERRERIA
AAP President

typically expire after one year. Under a five-year registration system, how does the LTO verify that on the second, third, fourth, and fifth year, the vehicle owner remains properly insured?

Registration and insurance are closely linked for public safety. A vehicle on the road without active insurance exposes not only the owner but the public to risk.

If registration becomes decoupled from annual compliance verification, enforcement weakens. Policy must ensure that convenience does not erode accountability.

Embracing Technology: The Only Real Reform

The future of registration should not revolve around how many years we postpone physical appearance at an office.

The real reform question is this:

Can we register our vehicles with-

out physically going to the LTO?

The answer, in 2026, should be Yes.

- Technology already exists to support
- Online submission and validation of documents
- Integrated insurance verification systems
- Automated emission testing uploads directly to LTO servers
- Digital payments via secure government platforms
- Appointment-based scheduling to eliminate walk-in congestion
- QR-coded digital registration certificates
- RFID-based vehicle identification tied to national databases

Emission centers can transmit results electronically in real time. Insurance companies can integrate policy validation APIs directly into the LTO database. Payment gateways can eliminate manual cashier queues.

Engine stenciling — a procedure rooted in decades-old anti-counterfeiting safeguards — can be replaced or supplemented with digital vehicle identification systems linked to manufacturer data and chassis number scanning technology.

These are not futuristic concepts. They are operational in many jurisdictions worldwide.

If motorists can renew passports online, file taxes electronically, and transact banking services in minutes, there is no compelling reason why vehicle registration must remain largely manual.

Reform Must Be Systemic

The five-year registration policy addresses frequency. It does not address efficiency. Convenience must be systemic — not selective.

The real reform agenda should include:

1. Full digital registration workflow
2. Integrated insurance and emission verification
3. Weekend or extended-hour operations
4. Clear reinvestment of registration collections into modernization
5. Measurable service-level targets for processing time

Motorists do not ask for special treatment. They ask for a system that respects their time.

A Balanced Way Forward

AAP believes that modernization must be deliberate, transparent, and technology-led.

If the objective is genuine convenience, then let us use the additional revenues generated to build a registration system that is:

- Fully digital
- Efficient
- Accountable
- Transparent
- Accessible beyond regular weekday hours

The Filipino motorist deserves no less. Extending registration to five years may reduce one visit. Modernizing the system will restore half a day of productivity to millions.

That is the reform worth pursuing.

AAP, QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY



(L-R) AAP Advocacy AVP Cyrrhila Reyes, AAP CFO Jonna Sanchez, AAP CEO Mark Desales, Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte, AAP Treasurer Gus Cosio, AAP Legal Counsel Nilo Aguba and AAP Chief of Staff Pol Infante after the MOU signing.



The Lagro Elementary School in Quezon City was where the AAP Advocacy Team conducted its first Stay Bright road safety session of the year.

FROM B3-1 ry-based programs that encourage residents to serve as road safety ambassadors are promoted. To date, more than 19,000 students and over 400 community participants have been engaged in the Stay Bright Road Safety Campaign.

Aside from these activities, the MOU allows for coordination in identifying road hazards, including areas with inadequate lighting and traffic signages, to support evidence-based road safety interventions. The possible establishment of a road safety park in the city will be discussed.

"This partnership reflects our shared commitment to making Quezon City's roads safer for motorists, pedestrians, and the community at large," Cosio said. "Through education, awareness, and collaboration, we aim to cultivate responsible road behavior and contribute to

safer urban mobility."

The MOU will be effective for a period of one year from the date of signing and may be extended by mutual agreement of both parties.

In addition to this major milestone, the advocacy department started the year with its Stay Bright program in Lagro Elementary School, and at the Greater Lagro barangay hall, welcoming the new year by continuing its mission to promote safer streets in schools and in local communities.

Be part of AAP Advocacy's road safety initiatives. Learn more and sign up to volunteer by visiting the official AAP Advocacy Facebook page at @aaproadsafety.



Participants from Barangay Greater Lagro showed great enthusiasm in joining the road safety Stay Bright program, helping set the tone for a year of meaningful community engagement.

AAP RENEWS CONTRACT WITH UAAGI



The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), continues its mission to better serve the motoring public through its partnerships. On September 19, 2025, AAP renewed its Corporate Membership contract with United Asia Automotive Group Inc. (UAAGI), distributor of the automotive brands Jetour, Lynk & Co., BAIC, and Foton.

Through the AAP Corporate Membership, units sold under UAAGI are bundled with a Regular AAP Membership, which includes 2 free emergency roadside service (ERS) in-

terventions. This benefit does not include Foton 6-wheeler trucks.

In photo from left: AAP ERS and Autocare Services Head Raymond Mendoza, AAP Membership Head Melvin Pingal, AAP Chief Operating Officer Malcolm Pausanos, UAAGI VP for Customer Service Division Lito Landicho, UAAGI General Manager for Foton Business Levy Santos, and UAAGI Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Executive Lym Buena.

Access @aaphilippines for more information.

AAP JOINS FIA REGION II CLUBS TO CHAMPION 5I FRAMEWORK

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), together with AA Vietnam and AA Thailand, participated in the first phase of the 5i Training. The Foundations of the 5i Framework, a two-day online program for Master Trainers held on February 5 - 6, 2026.

Developed by Dr. Bella Dinh-Zarr with Mavis Johnson and Kelvin Roberts, the Five "I" Framework is the first user-friendly, prevention-focused crash investigation model rooted in aviation and disaster investigation principles. Rather than assigning blame, it shifts the focus toward understanding crashes in order to prevent future tragedies.

The framework is anchored on five guiding principles: Immediate, In-Depth, Impartial, Independent, and Injury Prevention. During the training, participants gained an overview of international standards in crash investigation, including systematic evidence gathering, multidisciplinary analysis, scientific reconstruction, and independent oversight. These elements demonstrate how properly conducted investigations can move beyond blame and serve as powerful tools for meaningful road safety reform.

The training featured global experts from the U.S.



AAP President and FIA Region II President Joe Ferreria with Dr. Bella Dinh-Zarr welcomed club representatives and transportation experts from the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam as they began their journey to become Master Trainers of the 5i Framework, which aims to strengthen regional efforts toward safer roads for all.



Engr. Aileen U. Mappala of the University of the Philippines-National Center for Transportation Studies (rightmost) discussed the Safe Systems Approach with Dr. Ma s-Ake Belin (leftmost) the Global Lead, Decade of Action for Road Safety of the World Health Organization,



PNP-HPG Police Senior Master Sergeant Christopher Jayway presented the current crash investigation system implemented by the Highway Patrol Group.

National Transportation Safety Board, the Centre for Automotive Safety Research in Australia, International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP), and the World Health Organization. Discussions explored how countries can move from evidence to action, align investigations with the Safe System Approach, and build institutional support for prevention-focused strategies.

AAP brought together key road safety stakeholders including the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Philippine National Police-Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG), the Land Transportation Office (LTO), the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and the University of the Philippines National

Center for Transportation Studies (UP NCTS) to participate in the 5i Framework program and train as Master Trainers, strengthening the country's capacity for prevention-focused road crash investigation.

During the discussions, the Philippines demonstrated how the 5i initiative aligns with and reinforces the PNP-HPG's ongoing efforts to enhance investigative procedures and apply systems thinking in crash analysis.

Following the completion of Phase 1, the program now advances to the next stage, where each club will engage in dedicated sessions with their master trainers and the framework proponents to tailor the 5i model to their country's specific needs and realities.

ALL-NEW MITSUBISHI

DESTINATOR

7-SEATER SUV

DESTINED FOR MORE

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

SPACIOUS 7-SEATER CABIN

MITSUBISHI CONNECT FOR U.S.

PANORAMIC SUNROOF FOR U.S.

HIGH GROUND CLEARANCE WITH 5 DRIVE MODES For G1 and G.S

1.5L TURBOCHARGED GASOLINE ENGINE

MITSUBISHI MOTORS
Drive your Ambition

ASC REF. NO. MQ125PC10826M

AAP and FIVA Strengthen Partnership to Protect Philippines' Automotive Heritage

On December 12, 2025, the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), represented by Atty. Robby Consunji, met with Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens (FIVA) Ambassador for South and East Asia Masaki Shimizu to discuss key initiatives supporting the restoration and preservation of vintage vehicles.

Consunji, AAP Trustee and Chairperson for Government Relations and Travel, also serves as a Titular Member of the International Historic Commission of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA). Building on AAP's official membership in FIVA in 2024, the meeting reinforced AAP's commitment to strengthen local car culture and advance vehicle preservation efforts by aligning with international standards and leveraging FIVA's global network and expertise. The partnership supports knowledge-sharing, technical



AAP MEETS WITH FIVA AMBASSADOR FOR ASIA MASAKI SHIMIZU The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP), represented by Board of Trustees Atty. Robby Consunji and Executive Assistant Patricia Bonilla, held a breakfast meeting when FIVA (Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens) Ambassador for Asia Masaki Shimizu visited Manila recently. AAP is the national authority in the Philippines for FIVA, a NGO partner of UNESCO that protects, preserves and promotes historic vehicles (over 30 years old) and their culture. Through the AAP, Filipino owners of historic, classic or vintage vehicles can obtain FIVA ID Cards which authenticate the vehicles. **IN PHOTO (l. to r.)** Patricia Bonilla, Alvin Uy, Rene Nunez, Robby Consunji, FIVA Ambassador for Asia Masaki Shimizu, Sophie de los Santos, Alex Isip, Andy Nocum, and Apa Ongpin.

guidance, and broader advocacy for heritage vehicle restoration, including education, community engagement, and responsible enjoyment of vehicles over 30 years old.

Central to the discussion

was the ongoing restoration of the historic presidential parade vehicle—the Land Rover Series III Parade Vehicle, fondly known as the "White Carabao." Participants outlined persistent

challenges, particularly the time-consuming processes slowing progress, and underscored the broader value of preserving historic vehicles as tangible links to Philippine history and identity.

AAP and FIVA issued a call to action to preserve and restore vintage vehicles, especially those with historical and cultural significance. Restoration work should remain period-cor-

rect and avoid "resto-mod" alterations, while raising the bar on workmanship and investment. The endeavor also includes organizing vintage vehicle motor sport events, reviving the Carnet de Passage system, and establishing a Philippine Heritage Vehicle Museum. Ambassador Shimizu reiterated FIVA's support for the historic vehicle movement, including heritage motor sport, in the Philippines.

AAP and FIVA pledged to deepen collaboration in promoting and safeguarding the Philippines' automotive heritage, and to strengthen engagement with government agencies and the local automotive industry to help drive the successful restoration of vintage vehicles nationwide. In line with these initiatives, AAP will soon launch a vintage car membership program to further engage enthusiasts, collectors, and restorers.

AAP CLUB NEWS



AAP GRAND PRIZE WINNER DRIVES HOME BRAND NEW CAR FROM AAP TOWER

AAP member Jan Christian Lopez and his fiancée went to the AAP Tower last December to claim the AAP Limited Edition Toyota Hilux Conquest that was the grand prize of the AAP 94th Anniversary Grand Raffle, 2nd leg.

SUZUKI
By Your Side

THE ALL-NEW
FRONX
(HYBRID) VIBE DIFFERENT

SUZUKI Safety Support
Proactive safety technology

UP TO 27.99 kWh/Li

HEAD-UP DISPLAY (HUD)

DUAL SENSORS BASED SUPPLEMENTARY CAMERA

LANE KEEP ASSIST

360-DEGREE VIEW CAMERA

HEAVY DUTY AIRBAGS (DRIVER AIRBAG, FRONT PASSENGER AIRBAG, CURTAIN AIRBAGS)

SUZUKI FRONX TESTED BY THE JNCAP
★★★★★
ASIAN N-CAP

DRIVE PROTECTED WITH A 5-STAR SAFETY RATING.

TOP 10 ELECTRIC HYBRID VEHICLES

PREMIUM WITH AON

BYD	SEALION 6	25,342
TESLA	MODEL 3	39,479
TOYOTA	YARIS CROSS	26,273
TOYOTA	ZENIX	31,426
TESLA	MODEL Y	42,484
BYD	ATTO	26,093
HYUNDAI	IONIQ 5	57,643
BYD	EMAX 7	28,347
NISSAN	KICKS	22,202
VINFAST	VF3	16,251

GET A QUOTE NOW!

f @aap.insurance.main

whatsapp insurance@aap.org.ph

www.aap.org.ph