

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SEC FORM 17-C

CURRENT REPORT UNDER SECTION 17 OF THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE AND SRC RULE 17.2(c) THEREUNDER

1. Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
Apr 15, 2019
2. SEC Identification Number
9170
3. BIR Tax Identification No.
040-000-400-016
4. Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter
UNIVERSAL ROBINA CORPORATION
5. Province, country or other jurisdiction of incorporation
Philippines
6. Industry Classification Code(SEC Use Only)
7. Address of principal office
8th Floor, Tera Tower, Bridgetowne, E. Rodriguez, Jr. Avenue (C5 Road), Ugong Norte,
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Postal Code
1110
8. Issuer's telephone number, including area code
(632) 633-7631 to 40
9. Former name or former address, if changed since last report
N/A
10. Securities registered pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of the SRC or Sections 4 and 8 of the RSA

Title of Each Class	Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding and Amount of Debt Outstanding
Common	2,204,161,868
11. Indicate the item numbers reported herein
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Universal Robina Corporation

URC

PSE Disclosure Form 4-31 - Press Release
References: SRC Rule 17 (SEC Form 17-C)
Section 4.4 of the Revised Disclosure Rules

Subject of the Disclosure

Press Release

Background/Description of the Disclosure

Please find attached a press release entitled "FULL YEAR TOPLINE GREW WHILE PROFIT REMAIN CHALLENGED"

Other Relevant Information

N/A

Filed on behalf by:

Name	Rosalinda Rivera
Designation	Corporate Secretary

FULL YEAR TOPLINE GREW WHILE PROFIT REMAIN CHALLENGED

Universal Robina Corporation (URC) posted net sales for the full calendar year 2018 of Php127.8 billion, a 2% increase versus last year driven by its Agro-Industrial & Commodities (AIC) divisions, the recovery in Vietnam, and consistent performance of Australia.

Operating income for the full year, excluding hogs market valuation, declined by 7% amounting to Php13.8 billion as a result of lower sales volumes mainly in coffee and higher selling and distribution expenses in the Philippines. Higher input costs and expenses in the Farm, Feeds and Flour divisions, also affected operating income for the year.

URC Net income amounted to Php9.5 billion, a decline of 15% versus last year due to lower operating income and foreign exchange loss due to the weaker peso. URC's financial position remains to be strong with ending cash balance of Php13.0 billion and a net debt position of Php26.4 billion due to the remaining debt associated with the Oceania acquisitions. Gearing remains low and manageable at 0.48.

SALES PERFORMANCE PER BUSINESS

Branded Consumer Foods (BCF): Sales of domestic and international branded consumer was flat versus last year, amounting to Php101.0 billion. Domestic revenues for the full year declined by 2% amounting to Php58.3 billion as the growth from snackfoods, ready-to-drink beverages and noodles were offset by the volume decline in coffee. In December 2018, URC made deliberate decisions in coffee supply to the trade that dampened performance in the last quarter, in order to prepare for the major coffee launch in January 2019. Internationally, sales grew by 1% amounting to Php43.2 billion, as Vietnam recovery and the sustained momentum of Australia offset restructuring related declines in New Zealand and Myanmar. International operating income delivered strong 19% growth versus last year.

Agro-Industrial & Commodities (AIC): continue to be a relevant and consistent contributor to total URC. Sales amounted to Php 25.2 billion, a 15% increase versus last year, driven by strong performance of all divisions. Agro-Industrial grew by 16%, Flour posted 15% growth, while Sugar & Renewable (SURE) achieved a 15% topline growth. Operating Income from AIC for the full year remains robust contributing Php4.8 billion.

EXECUTION WILL BE KEY IN 2019

Irwin Lee, who became URC President & CEO in the middle of 2018, said during a briefing last February 28 ***“We have set strategies that will pivot the business back to achieving sustainable growth. Executing our transformation programs well will be key to deliver a step change in our performance in 2019 and beyond.”*** Stronger topline growth is expected from the company this year with stronger commercial initiatives and a better macro environment in its home market – Philippines. Lee also stressed that the company will hold or slightly improve margins, reinvesting cost savings and efficiencies into distribution and brand building activities, spearheaded by the recent relaunch of Great Taste White in the Philippines last January 11, 2019.