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**Metro Retail posts 5.4% sales growth in Q1 2026;
net income surges on improved margins**

14 May 2026, Manila, Philippines – Metro Retail Stores Group, Inc. (MRSGI) delivered a robust start to 2026, reporting a consolidated net income after tax of PhP25.8 million for the first quarter – a significant 92.5% increase over the same period last year. This earnings surge was supported by consolidated net sales of PhP9.38 billion, representing a 5.4% year-on-year growth.

All major segments saw gains reflecting steady demand across core categories, with food retail remaining the primary driver (+6.3%), followed by general merchandise (+2.5%). Same-store sales also recorded steady growth of 2.9%.

Gross margin improved to 21.7% from 21.3% in the same period last year, driven by favorable category mix and stronger performance in the food retail segment.

Operating expenses increased by 6.6% to PhP2.15 billion, mainly attributed to costs related to store expansion, network scaling, and the continued ramp-up of newly opened and renovated stores. As a result, EBITDA rose 14.9% to PhP474.7 million.

MRSGI continues to enhance its in-store ecosystem through strategic partnerships. During the period, the Company launched the pilot rollout of Generika Drugstore within select Metro Retail locations, further strengthening its strategy of integrating essential services into its retail network. The first two pilot stores are in Ayala Feliz and Tagaytay, while MRSGI plans to open a dozen more by the end of the year.

“MRSGI delivered a steady start to 2026, supported by continued sales growth and improved margins across our core categories,” said Joselito G. Orense, President and COO. “During the quarter, we continued to strengthen our network in key growth areas, while managing costs and improving operational efficiency. These results reflect the sustained efforts of our teams on the ground as we build scale and expand our reach nationwide.”

To date, Metro Retail operates a total of 81 branches across Luzon and the Visayas under the formats Metro Supermarket, Metro Department Store, Super Metro Hypermarket, Metro Value Mart, and Metro Home Improvement and Lifestyle. In line with its commitment to sustainable growth and strong corporate governance, MRSGI continues to expand its retail network.

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