# MEDIA RELEASE

**November 19, 2026**

## Metro Retail sustains growth momentum through September 2026

19 November 2026, Manila, Philippines – Metro Retail Stores Group, Inc. (MRSGI) sustained its growth trajectory in the first nine months of 2026, posting consolidated net income of PhP281.3 million or 31.9% higher than last year, despite a challenging macroeconomic environment.

For the nine-month period, net sales rose 1.9% year-on-year to PhP29.25 billion, anchored by a 1.4% increase in same-store sales and resilient demand for essentials. By segment, food retail sales grew 2.7%, while general merchandise held steady. In the third quarter, net sales were flat reflecting subdued consumer demand amid persistent cost-of-living pressures and cautious discretionary spending.

Earnings growth was driven by improved gross margins and operating efficiencies. Blended gross margin widened to 22.4% in 9M 2026 from 21.7% a year earlier, lifting margin by 5.1% to PhP6.54 billion due to improved sales mix despite pricing pressures.

Meanwhile, operating expenses were kept manageable at 5.3% year-on-year increase to PhP6.38 billion, despite cost pressures from higher global oil prices, peso depreciation, and weather-related supply chain disruptions. To mitigate rising operating costs, the Company continued its energy cost optimization through solar expansion and strategic energy procurement initiatives, alongside broader efforts to enhance operational efficiency and productivity.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) expanded 6.7% year-on-year to PhP1.64 billion, underscoring the Company's ability to convert top-line resilience into sustainable operational cash flows.

"Our steady performance through the first nine months of 2026 reflects the fundamental strength of our business and our execution discipline in navigating macroeconomic headwinds and shifting consumer spending," said President & COO Joselito Orense. "As households remain cautious heading into the holiday quarter, Metro Retail is dedicated to bringing essential goods closer to local communities, delivering compelling value to Filipino families, and elevating the shopping experience across our network."

MRSGI continues to deepen its regional footprint in the Visayas, supported by the signing of a strategic partnership with the City Government of Ormoc to develop a planned three-story retail hub and the launch of the first *Mareng EMS (Enterprising Metro Suki) Caravan* connecting sari-sari store owners, resellers, and business partners.

Parallel to network expansion, the Company continues to invest in elevating retail experiences through renovations and refresh of its stores. In Q3, MRSGI also launched its home private label Metro Living, a one-stop shop for homeowners.

MRSGI's operational execution and governance standards also earned external recognition during the period. The Institute of Corporate Directors conferred the Golden Arrow Award on MRSGI for the third consecutive year for upholding high standards of corporate governance. In addition, MRSGI was also named to the Fortune Southeast Asia 500 list of the region's largest companies by revenue for the third straight year.

*To date, Metro Retail operates a total of 84 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.*

###