

07 December 2022, Wednesday



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



PAGGAMIT NG TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY SA BASURA NAMUMURONG MAISABATAS

PASADO na sa ikalawang pagbasa ng Kamara ang panukalang regulasyon sa paggamit ng treatment technology sa municipal at hazardous wastes.

Ang panukalang Waste Treatment Technology Act (House Bill 6444) ay inaprubahan sa pamamagitan ng voice voting sa sesyon noong Lunes.

Layunin ng panukala na bigyan-diin ang kahalagahan ng pagbabawas at recycling ng mga basura kasabay ng ligtas na paggamit sa mga basura upang maging pinagkukuhanan ng enerhiya.

Ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) at Department of Energy (DOE) ang inatasan na magsuri ng mga state-of-the-art, environmentally-sound at ligtas na teknolohiya sa pagproseso sa basura.

Pinapayagan ng panukala ang mga LGU na magtayo ng waste treatment facility sa bawat rehiyon, probinsya, o magkakasamang LGU alinsunod sa 10-year solid waste management plan ng National Solid Waste Management Commission. **(Billy Begas)**



DENR, Rotary Club of Manila Join Forces to Clean Up Pasig River

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office (DENR-PRCMO) and the Rotary Club of Manila (RCM) have joined forces to clean up the Pasig River. As part of Rotary's supporting the environment initiative, one of Rotary's seven areas of focus, RCM has donated 395 floating trash barriers that will be used to prevent the trash from flowing into the river.

The Pasig River clean-up is a flagship project of the Rotary Club of Manila, and the club is committed to helping PRCMO clean up the Pasig River as part of its more significant effort to improve environmental conditions in the area. The club's donation of 395 heavy-duty floating trash barriers will go a long way in preventing the trash from flowing into the river and polluting it.

In addition to helping keep the river clean, these same trash barriers also act as a life-saving tool. Capt. Lomil Prado, Operations Head of PRCMO, reported that on November 21, an unidentified female was saved from drowning because of the trash barriers. He said the Philippine Coast Guard rescued the individual from drowning near the Intramuros-Binondo Bridge in Pasig River. "She was spotted in the water with a strong current, and the floating trash barriers helped prevent her from drowning," Capt. Prado said.

"We share our deepest gratitude to Rotary Club of Manila President Herminio S. Esguerra for his generous



FLOATING trash barriers

donation of 395 trash barriers that will help the PRCMO intercept wastes and other debris, fight marine pollution, and protect the Pasig River, our country's most vital water resource," said Dr. Joan A. Lagunda, DENR Assistant Secretary for Administration and Legislative Affairs and PRCMO Concurrent Executive Director, in a statement that was also published in PRCMO's Facebook page.

"This is just the beginning of the PRCMO and Rotary Club of Manila's fulfillment of our shared commitment as partners in service to bring our vision for the Pasig River System to abundant fruition!" she added.

Esguerra expressed the club's

commitment to the Pasig River clean-up project. "Our club, which is the first Rotary Club in Asia, is proud to partner with DENR-PRCMO in their efforts to rehabilitate the Pasig River," he said. "Through this program, many communities will benefit from cleaner and safer Pasig River as well as a healthier environment for generations to come."

DENR-PRCMO and the Rotary Club of Manila are confident that by working together, they can help restore Pasig River and make it the vibrant waterway it once was. They are committed to continuing their partnership to bring about positive changes for the environment, the people, and future generations.



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CTALK
CITO BELTRAN

'When is the ribbon cutting?' - PBBM

Just before President Bongbong Marcos got elected president, I wrote an article praising the Laguna Lake Development Authority for undertaking a breakthrough development concept that would add to the energy supply of the Laguna area as well as earn better revenues for LLDA compared to the paltry rentals they collect from polluting fish cages.



That concept was to lease out some areas of the substantially wide territory of Laguna de Bay for floating solar farms to be put up by local and international private firms that had participated in the bidding process. It was a win-win project for LLDA, Laguna de Bay, the environment and aquatic life in the lake and localized electric power supply for nearby towns or barangays. The bidding process was also so spotless that it was categorized as an exemption to the rule.

Moving forward, during President Bongbong Marcos' recent trip to Singapore, a ceremonial signing reportedly took place between the proponents and representatives of the floating solar farm projects, foreign investors and witnessed by President Bongbong Marcos, DTI Secretary Pascual, etc. Right after the signing ceremony PBBM was quoted as asking, "When is the ribbon cutting?"

It seems that the "winning bidders" are asking the same question.

The LLDA board during the Duterte administration apparently failed or intentionally chose not to announce who the winning companies were. With the arrival of the PBBM administration, the LLDA GM has his hands tied unless his appointment is renewed and Malacañang gives him authority to announce who won in the bidding.

Meanwhile, foreign investors as well as senior managers and company owners have been breathing down the necks of their executives, lawyers and government liaison officers, not understanding why there should be a prolonged delay, given that even the President of the Philippines was asking "When is the ribbon cutting?"

Aside from the usual impression that the PBBM executives have simply been overly cautious and slow, there is now a growing suspicion that a certain energy firm that participated and lost in the bidding may be influencing matters towards a rebidding. Part of the suspicion lies in the silence of certain energy officials concerning the LLDA solar floating farms and renewable energy in general. They are either frustrating the winners into selling out or giving up due to the extraordinary delay and possibility of a rebidding.

One foreign firm has already started to ask their local partners for risk assessments and contingency plans, while another has been so busy knock-knock-knocking at the DENR, LLDA and the Office of the President to get a straight answer because every day of delay has been causing the winning bidders thousands upon thousands of pesos as they start up their teams.

I found out from the grapevine that legal fees alone for incorporating and setting up the global partnerships run anywhere from P30 million to P40 million in lawyer's fees.

Having witnessed the signing ceremony in Singapore, I sincerely hope PBBM does not get invited to an international arbitration court regarding the failure of the LLDA to deliver on what was represented in the ceremonial signing in Singapore and shown all over the country, if not many parts of the region.

A recent survey where respondents indicated that their Quality of Life improved in recent months, in my mind is not economic in nature. Most people associate quality of life with material needs, finances and job security but often forget the simple fact that we should be happy to be alive. We dismiss the value that is in time spent with family, the opportunity to pursue a different career or interest, or trading off wealth for better and deeper relationships and building memories with family.

Considering the severe impact of COVID-19 on human lives and productivity, it's hard to imagine that the traditional quality of life standards (jobs-money-titles) improved during lockdowns or extended quarantines given the loss of life, loss of jobs and depletion of finances and resources. In fact, in the first year of the pandemic, much of the world was wrapped in an oppressive doom and gloom scenario.

Fortunately, people went from hopelessness to survivor mode. Anywhere I go, people talk about how COVID-19 and the harsh extended quarantine periods in the last two years were directly responsible for making them rethink and change their lifestyles, value system and priorities, thereby improving their quality of life. Many people who lost jobs or had diminished incomes and learned to live with less now live simpler and focus on the essentials or what is necessary.

Full circle, they discovered that they did not have to work 24/7 and "be all you can be" as society dictated. Instead they lowered their requirements and found more rest, that they could be productive at home as well as at work. And, if necessary, take pay cuts for less time at an office. Others were simply forced to do something else, to try alternative livelihoods that they always wanted to do but never had the courage to. Flight attendants became delivery service personnel, entrepreneurs became vegetable vendors in private villages, others turned to home delivery of food, etc.

Many people discovered so much wealth in managing their own time, having extra hours by not having to travel or commute to work, being able to spend more time with their family, children or spouse. Quality of life improved not from having more but from having less; less stress, less materialism, less worries.

Perhaps that is the divine blessing, the silver lining behind the COVID-19 pandemic. It corrected our trajectory by changing our priorities.

Many of us had it all wrong. We were going for QUANTITY in Life not QUALITY of Life.

E-mail: utalk2ctalk@gmail.com




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REIMATE OPINION



ULTIMATUM
NI BENNY ANTIPORDA

PANDAY PIRA BUHAYIN

MAALAALA pa ba ninyo, mga Bro, ang sinasabi ng ating kasaysayan na malalaking kanyon ang ginamit ni Rajah Sulayman laban sa mga Kastila na pumasok sa Pasig River para lusubin ang Maynila?

Gawa ang mga kanyon ni Panday Pira na nabuhay mula 1488 hanggang 1576.

Naglaban sina Sulayman at pwersa ng Kastila mula sa Panay sa parte ng San Nicolas, Binondo ngayon noong Mayo 24, 1570 sa bukana ng Pasig River at tinawag itong Unang Giyera sa Maynila.

Pinangunahan nina Marshal Martin de Goiti at Don Juan de Salcedo ang mga Kastila at natalo sina Sulayman na hindi dala ang mga kanyong may habang 17 piye.

Dahil sa takot na reresbak sina Sulayman, nagmadaling umalis ang mga Kastila at bumalik sa Panay noong Abril 20, 1571.

Pagbalik nila sakay ng 27 barko at bangka na may 280 Kastila at 600 na kakamping Bisaya noong Mayo 19, 1571, natatalo muli sina Sulayman at doon na nagtuloy-tuloy ang pananakop ng mga Kastila sa Kamaynilaan, kasama na ang pagtatatag ng Intramuros bilang base ng gobyerno nila.

Habang nagaganap ito, nag-ulat si Adelantado Miguel Lopez de Legaspi kay Haring Felipe sa Espanya ukol sa nasamsam nilang kanyon at doon sinabing mas matibay ang mga kanyon nina Sulayman sa mga kanyon ng kanilang mga barko batay sa pagtesting sa mga ito sa tuloy-tuloy na pagpapaputok.

Kaya naman, nang makapagpermanente na ang mga Kastila sa Maynila, pinahanap nila si Panday Pira sa Pampanga at ginawa nang panday nila ng mga kanyon.

NASAAN ANG MGA LAHI NI PANDAY PIRA?

Ngayon nama'y 2022 at makalipas ng 452 taon mula noong 1570, nasaan na ang mga lahi ni Panday Pira?

Nagtatanong tayo dahil sa ulat ng Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Department of Environment and Natural Resources na sumisirit ang pagmimina sa iron ore at chromite na paggawa ng sari-saring bakal kumpara sa ibang mineral gaya ng ginto at iba pa.

Lumalabas ding ini-export ang malaking bahagi ng produksyon dito, kasama na ang mga pinoproceso sa Pilipinas.

Gawa ng bakal ang mga makina, electric motor at iba pa na mahalagang bahagi ng pundasyon ng industriyalisasyon.

Kung wala tayong makina, electric motor at iba pa, ma-nanatili na lang tayong nag-iimport ng mga ito na gawa mula sa mga inie-export nating minerals na minimina sa ating mga kalupaan at kabundukan.

At ang industriyalisasyon na nais nating itatag at kamtin ay mapupumada lamang.

Tayo'y labis na sumusuporta sa programa ni Pangulong Bongbong Marcos Jr. para sa industriyalisasyon at kakambal nito ang edukasyong nakatuon dito at pananatili ng mga siyentista sa bansa para makatulong.

Sana naman, kung may mga Panday Pira tayo na mai-hahalo sa susunod na mga Panday Pira mula sa mga iskul, dapat silang hanapin para buuing bakal ang mga mineral na-ting pambakal at mag-simulang gagawa ng mga makina, electric motor at iba pa na sariling atin at paunlarin para sa ating industriyalisasyon.

Anomang reklamo o puna, iparating lang sa www.remate.ph o i-text sa 09214303333.



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Minero nalibing nang buhay sa gumuhong kuweba

PATAY ang isang minero nang makulong at matabunan ng gumuhong kuweba sa bayan ng Pasil, Kalinga, Linggo ng umaga.

Kinilala ni Pasil Police Station (PPS) chief Major Garry Gayamos ang biktima na si Milnar Bag-ayan, ng nasabing bayan.

Sa report, nasa loob ng kuweba ang biktima na matatagpuan sa Barangay Galdang nang bigla itong gumuho 6:01 ng umaga.

Agad na humingi ng tulong ang mga kasamahan nito at ilang oras narekober ang bangkay ng biktima ng emergency response team ng Pasil.

Dinala na ang katawan ng biktima sa kanilang bahay sa Barangay Galdang.



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Climate crisis is here

COMMENTARY

CRISPIN C. MASLOG

An innocuous story in the ocean of online news recently caught my attention. It said that an entire Pacific island nation was considering an unusual backup plan for survival: moving its entire population to another country.

The nation is Kiribati, thousands of miles northeast of Papua New Guinea in the south Pacific. Kiribati President Anote Tong told media that his Cabinet, fearing climate change could wipe out their archipelago, had approved a plan to buy nearly 6,000 acres on Fiji's main island, Viti Levu.

Some or all of Kiribati's population of 103,000 could move there when their islands are submerged—in a matter of decades, according to current forecasts. The nation straddles the equator near the International Date Line, and many of its coral atolls rise just a few feet above sea level.

For the Kiribati people, moving won't be a matter of choice but of survival, said Tong. Seawater is contaminating underground freshwater resources more often, while rainfall, storm, and tidal patterns are changing.

Other unusual options that Kiribati is considering to mitigate the impact of climate change include shoring up some islands with sea walls and even building a floating island, much like a giant oil platform anchored to an atoll.

Gloomy forecasts. Kiribati's plight dramatizes a growing climate change crisis in

the island nations of the Pacific and other archipelagos of the world. According to United Nations (UN) forecasts, Kiribati and neighboring Tuvalu, as well as the Marshall Islands, may be completely inundated by the rising waters of the Pacific by 2050.

And a new report by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology on climate change in the Pacific Ocean says the region is getting hotter, sea levels are rising, rainfall is changing, and equatorial winds have weakened. And cyclone intensity is likely going to be greater.

To their credit, the Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs) have pledged to make a token financial contribution toward global efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

But global climate change will occur regardless of future emissions, and adapting to the changes will be vital—and urgent for PICTs, where impacts are expected to be intense.

Funding for adaptation. The costs of responding to climate change can be astronomical. Although accurate estimates have not been finalized, they could easily amount

to billions of dollars. Where will the money come from? There is a range of funding sources available to support climate change adaptation initiatives in the region, from foundations and philanthropists to public donations.

Funds administered by the UN Global Environment Facility include the GEF-Pacific Alliance for Sustainability Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund. Funds from these facilities are in excess of \$21 billion, but they are not exclusively for the Pacific.

There is also the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, which is part of the Strategic Climate Fund, a multidonor trust fund with resources of \$975 million.

But regardless of where the money comes from, it will not be enough. These island states need to set priorities. And the challenge is to implement them effectively and to take a long-term view on planning for adaptation and resource management.

The clock is ticking for these Pacific island countries as they face their uncertain future. The world must rally to their side because their entire cultures, their way of life, and their lives are at stake.

Crispin C. Maslog is a science columnist of SciDev.Net. He is a former journalist with the Agence France-Presse and science journalism professor at Silliman University and UP Los Baños.



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We must avoid 'irreversible' damage with new nature deal — UN

By MARION THIBAUT

MONTREAL, Canada (AFP) — With high-stakes biodiversity talks kicking off in Montreal this week, a top UN official is urging bold action to avoid “irreversible” damage to the planet’s precious ecosystems and species.

Much of Earth’s nature has already been damaged by humans, threatening our finite sources of food, water, medicine, and leaving over a million species at risk of extinction.

Nearly 200 countries will try to hammer out a new global framework to protect nature at the COP15 talks opening Wednesday in Montreal, including a cornerstone 30 by 30 proposal to protect 30 percent of Earth’s land and oceans by 2030.

Ahead of the talks, AFP spoke to Elizabeth Mrema, the head of the UN’s Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), who called for the talks to be a “Paris moment” for nature, referring to the landmark 2015 agreement to limit global warming.

The interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.

What do you want to achieve at COP15?

“For the Paris agreement to succeed, biodiversity also has to succeed. For climate to succeed, nature has to succeed, and that’s why we have to deal with them together.

“We need to do something. We are already late. At least the scientists are telling us it’s not too late, but we are about to reach the tipping points.

“If action is not taken now, then we’ll be at the tipping points and the situation will be irreversible.”

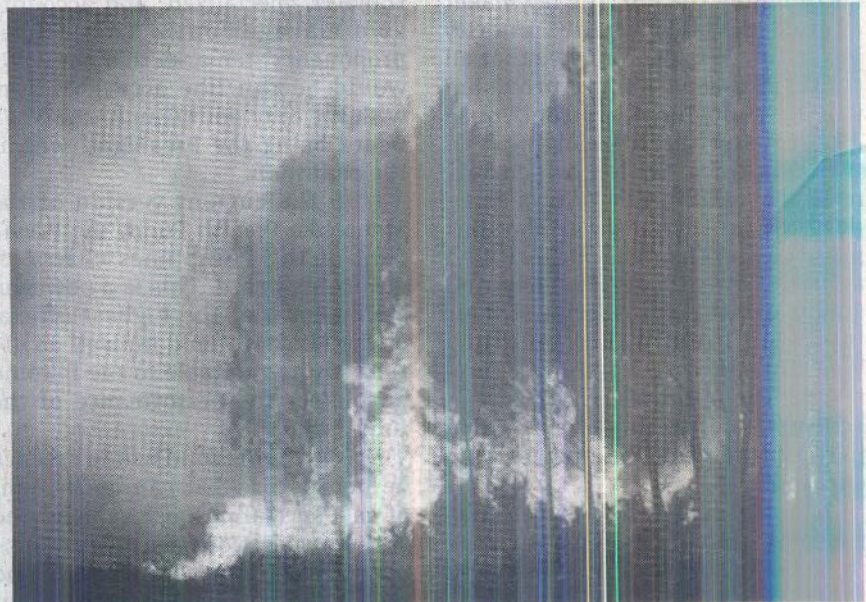
How can we make sure this biodiversity deal doesn’t fail like the last one did?

“We’ve learned the lessons to ensure that the future will be different.

“The first thing many countries did was to review, update or develop their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

“(Previously) biodiversity targets did not include a monitoring accountability mechanism to be able to measure progress.

“This time, the framework will



AFP FILE PHOTO

be adopted together with a mechanism, or a framework, on review, reporting, monitoring, accountability.”

What are the most difficult targets yet to be negotiated?

“One is the finance question. A number of countries wanted to be assured there will be adequate financial resources for implementation.

“Some countries (are) even calling for the establishment of a biodiversity fund for that purpose... learning from the recent climate and other processes we can easily tell these might be rather difficult discussions.

“Another issue is what is called Digital Sequencing Information for genetic resources.

“This genetic information is particularly (used) by the bioscience researchers (and) pharmaceutical industry for the production or development of medicines and vaccines, including Covid-19, and the producers of this genetic information are majority in the developing countries.

“The issue is, if they provide access to this information, what are they getting in return?”

How important are issues like finance and the 30 x 30 target?

“We need to look at all the 22 targets, the entire framework in totality. If we are talking of not leaving anyone behind, then we cannot

pick and choose. All targets are key.

“What is important is a framework being adopted. We all have an interest to ensure it is implemented to avoid getting back to where we are coming from.

“That is (most) important, especially bearing in mind the results and difficult reports and the gloomy, grim figures and statistics we are getting that the loss of biodiversity has reached unprecedented rates in the history of humankind.

“The current war is not helping, the food crisis is not helping, the energy prices are not helping.”

What role is business playing in shaping the negotiations?

“I’m proud of them. They have never been as engaged as we’ve seen in this process.

“If the World Economic Forum tells us 50 percent of the global GDP is moderately or highly dependent on nature... which means (its loss is) a business risk.

“If they are not part of the framework, their businesses will also suffer. When we talk of food systems, it’s all private sector. Agricultural production is the private sector, the food chain is the private sector. The fashion industry is the private sector. So there is economic case — business as usual can no longer continue.

“They are on board. They are putting pressure also for governments to take those strict measures.”



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1116
Tel.Nos. (632) 8539-4378
Website: www.emb.gov.ph Email: recordsco@emb.gov.ph



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) of the proposed 1400 MW PAKIL PUMPED-STORAGE HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT of the AHUNAN POWER INC. located in BARANGAYS BANO, BURGOS, RIZAL AND TAFT, MUNICIPALITY OF PAKIL, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the proposed 14000 MW PAKIL PUMPED-STORAGE HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT to attend the Public Hearing on:

Date	Time	Venue
15 December 2022 (Thursday)	8:00 AM Registration starts at 7:30a.m.	Gymnasium of Alcantara College Inc., Pakil, Laguna

The Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the review of the EIS of the aforementioned project by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information:

Project Name	1400 MW Pakil Pumped-Storage Hydroelectric Power Project
Project Location	Barangays Bano, Burgos, Rizal, and Taft, Municipality of Pakil, Province of Laguna
Project Capacity	1,400 MW
Proponent	Ahunan Power Inc. (API)

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in these Public Hearings should preferably confirm their attendance/participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper to the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD) of this Office through mail or through email at eia@emb.gov.ph, at least three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EIS and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable at our website: www.eia.emb.gov.ph (kindly access the Notice of Public Hearing/ Consultation link found in our website) while copies will be available in the following offices:

- EMB CALABARZON**
6th Floor 1515 DENR By the Bay Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila
Tel No. (02) 8536-9784
- Pakil Municipal Hall**
Municipality of Pakil, Province of Laguna

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 8539-4378 loc. 116 through the project casehandlers Engr. Dexter Tabada and Ms. Leonil Gargar.



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY
www.namria.gov.ph

INVITATION TO BID

The National Mapping And Resource Information Authority, Bids and Awards Committee (NAMRIA BAC) invites interested bidders for the following project:

1. UPGRADING OF NAMRIA PAGENet: ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO (2) ACTIVE GEODETIC STATIONS (ROOF-BASED)

Approved Budget for the Contract – Php 12,000,000.00

The bidding schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Issuance of Bidding Documents: | Starting December 7, 2022 |
| 2. Pre-Bid Conference: | 10:30AM December 15, 2022
NAMRIA Boardroom/Lecture Hall
Fort A. Bonifacio, Taguig City |
| 3. Deadline of Submission and Opening of Bids: | 10:30AM, December 27, 2022
NAMRIA Boardroom/Lecture Hall
Fort A. Bonifacio, Taguig City |

The NAMRIA BAC reserves the right to cancel the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid most advantageous to the government.

[Signature]
Dir. **FUEL M. BELEN**
Chairman, B A C

NAMRIA OFFICES:
1. 127011 Avenida, Fort Bonifacio, 1634 Taguig City, PH ☎ (632) 8810-4821 to 43
2. 421 Baranca St., San Nicolas, 1016 Manila, PH ☎ (632) 8741-3494 to 98



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P.S. December 7 & 14, 2022