

# MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY



It is with pride that we present this *DENR Annual Report 2020*, which highlights the many accomplishments that exceeded our year 2020 targets.

Surpassing targets is nothing new to the DENR. But achieving the feat in a year burdened by a pandemic, in addition to a string of disastrous typhoons, was truly extraordinary.

The COVID-19 pandemic early on prompted a freeze on public transportation and restricted the movement of people and goods, significantly slowing down the delivery of most public services, government-wide. But in the face of these and other disruptions, we persisted in performing our mandates, knowing that during this extended crisis, our people's need for the delivery of public services was greater and more urgent.

We made good progress in the multiyear Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program, particularly in the management of solid wastes, the cleanup of the bay and tributary waterbodies, and the delineation and clearing of easement areas. We posted above-target accomplishments in our programs in clean air, clean water, solid waste management, coastal and marine ecosystems management, and the issuance of agricultural land patents. We also recorded very good results in reforestation, forest protection, anti-illegal logging, biodiversity conservation, other areas of land administration and management, geohazards mapping and vulnerability and risk assessment, and other performance areas.

For these accomplishments, I am thankful to the hardworking men and women of the DENR, as well as to our many partners in other national agencies, local government units, the private sector, civil society, nongovernmental organizations, people's organizations, the academe and other sectors, as well as to patrons and partners in the international community.

The credit, as this *Annual Report 2020* generously chronicles in pictures, belongs to all of us. Together, let us commemorate our achievements through this *Annual Report*, and continue our journey to a better environment, richer natural resource, and brighter future.

  
ROY A. CIMATU

## MESSAGE FROM THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR POLICY, PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



As the year 2020 was ending, we declared our firm resolve to do much better in 2021. We felt that the COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from being optimally productive.

While indeed the pandemic hampered us a great deal, we still managed to perform remarkably and post excellent results in our key programs. Even in other programs where our outputs understandably fell short of targets because of impediments beyond our control, our accomplishments were still very respectable. These are illustrated in detail in this *DENR Annual Report 2020*.

What we have accomplished in 2020 despite the pandemic speaks highly of political will, competence in policy-making, planning and implementation, and our capability to mobilize support from domestic and international partners and other stakeholders.

Yes, 2020 was a tough year for us but we were able to deliver superior services, enough to inspire and challenge us to do better this 2021. This *Annual Report* shows the performance areas of excellence that we can build on and those that warrant improvements.

Let us rediscover from this *Annual Report* how hard work, cooperation, and partnerships enable us to accomplish so much in 2020 and use this as a springboard to greater heights as we continue our pursuit of sustainable development.

  
ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES, CESO I