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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Medical waste inaabot ng 1K metric tons kada araw - DENR

By [Angie dela Cruz](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon)
- February 5, 2022 - 12:00am



Ito ang sinabi ni Environment Undersecretary Jonas Leones nang iulat na may kabuuang 1,000 metric tons ng healthcare waste ang nakokolekta kada araw.

Philstar.com / Efigenio Christopher Toledo IV

MANILA, Philippines — Iginiit ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na kailangang higitan ng gobyerno ang pagpapairal sa Solid Waste Management Act partikular ang segregation at pagkolekta ng basura sa bansa.

Ito ang sinabi ni Environment Undersecretary Jonas Leones nang iulat na may kabuuang 1,000 metric tons ng healthcare waste ang nakokolekta kada araw.

Anyang tumaas ang dami ng healthcare waste kada araw sa panahon ng pandemic nang gawing mandatory ang paggamit ng face mask sa bansa.

Sinabi ni Leones na patuloy silang nakikipag-ugnayan sa iba't ibang lokalidad upang maitama ang pagtatapon ng basura.

“What we are doing now to ensure collection is to boost our coordination with local governments, especially with the barangays. We need a stricter implementation of the Solid Waste Management Act, the segregation and collection,” pahayag ni Leones.

Anyang dapat ay ang mga barangay ang kukuha ng healthcare waste mula sa mga bahay na dapat ay naka-segregate na at saka ito dadalhin sa temporary transfer station at saka kukunin ito ng LGUs at ang lokal na pamahalaan ang magdadala sa treatment facility bago dalhin sa final disposal site.

Sa ganitong paraan ay hindi makakaapekto sa kapaligiran at kalusugan ng mga tao ang mga basura.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/metro/2022/02/05/2158697/medical-waste-inaabot-ng-1k-metric-tons-kada-araw-denr/amp/>



1,000 metriko toneladang medical waste nakukolekta kada araw – DENR



February 4, 2022 @ 8:26 AM 21 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tumaas ang naitatalang health care waste kada araw bunsod ng nararansang pandemya ayon sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

“Sa ngayon meron tayong 1,000 metric tons of waste or health care waste kada araw. Napakarami niyan,” ani DENR Undersecretary Jonas Leones base sa datos ng Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) sa Laging Handa.

Sinabi ni Leones na nakikipag-ugnayan na sila sa local government units sa bansa para mapalakas ang pagpapatupad ng Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 o Republic Act (RA) 9003.

“Ang ginagawa natin yung mga barangay sila muna ang magkokolekta at nilalagay muna yan sa temporary transfer station. Dun kinukuha ng ating munisipyo yung mga health care waste na ito para dalhin sa treatment facility to sanitize them, bago siya dalhin sa final disposal sites,” paliwanag pa niya.

Sa ilalim ng RA 9003 saklaw nito ang tamang pagtatapon ng basura, pangungolekta, pagbyahe, treatment, at disposal ng solid waste para maprotektahan ang public health at ang kapaligaran.

“Yung mga personal protective equipment (PPEs) natin, facemasks additional gastusin din sa kanila ito. So when LGUs procure the services of these transporters dapat kasama sa contract nila yung mga protection sa trabaho nila para di sila mainfect,” giit naman ng opisyal. **RNT**

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/1000-metriko-toneladang-medical-waste-nakukolekta-kada-araw-denr/>



Pagpapatupad ng PH solid waste management plans hihigpitan pa ng DENR



February 4, 2022 @ 7:54 AM 22 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Ipinangako ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang tuloy-tuloy at istriktong pagmo-monitor sa tamang waste disposal ng mga Local Government Unit (LGU) sa layuning mabawasan ang polusyon sa bansa.

Ipinangako ni DENR Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Assistant Director Vizminda Osorio na magsasagawa pa ng mga makabagong programa ang kagawaran para mabawasan ang polusyon.

“The EMB will continue to monitor and ensure that local government units (LGUs) will properly rehabilitate the 335 closed dumpsites so that it will not pose a negative impact on public health and the environment,” ani Osorio sa 21st anniversary ng Republic Act (RA) 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 nitong Miyerkoles.

May tema itong: “Fast-tracking the Total Solid Waste Management Solution for a Sustainable-Driven Philippines,” pinagdiwang ng DENR ang anibersaryo ng RA 9003 sa Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center (NAPWC) sa Quezon City.

Dagdag pa ni Osorio, na base sa datos ng EMB data na mula saw along sanitary landfills (SLFs) lang sa bansa noong 2006, ngayon ay mayroon nang 245 SLFs na sineserbisuhan ang nasa 478 LGUs, o kumakatawan sa 29 percent ng mga syudad at munisipalidad sa bansa.

“This year, our country’s total daily waste generation is around 59,846 tons, and 48 percent or 29,868 tons per day are disposed of in these SLFs. Based on our computation, the country still requires



Pagpapatupad ng PH solid waste management plans hihigpitan pa ng DENR

around 2,832 hectares of land or a total of 295 SLFs with a minimum lifespan of nine years to cater to all the residual waste of all our LGUs,” paliwanag ng EMB assistant director.

Para maresolbahan ang isyu sinabi ni Osorio na kumuha na ang EMB ng gma geologist at civil and sanitary engineers apra umasiste sa mga LGU sa paghahanap ng mga akhang lugar para sa SLF. **RNT**



2 rescued dolphins released back into sea in Sultan Kudarat

By Edwin Fernandez February 4, 2022, 2:01 pm



RESCUED DOLPHIN. Veterinarians and environmentalists check on one of the two dolphins that ran aground on the coast of Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat on Thursday. The two injured sea mammals were treated and sent back to the sea on Friday (Jan. 4, 2022). *(Photo courtesy of CENRO-Kalamansig)*

COTABATO CITY – Two wounded sea mammals were safely returned to their natural habitat after environmentalists treated them for their injuries, officials said Friday.

In a statement, Forester Iskak Dipatuan of Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), said the two Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) ran aground along the coast of Barangay Poral in Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat on Thursday.

Dipatuan said his team immediately proceeded to Poral Beach where the injured sea mammals were sighted after Kalamansig Municipal Administrator Soccoro Lanto alerted his office.

CENRO Kalamansig biologist Michael Reglos said one dolphin had injuries while the other was weak due to a small wound.

The municipal agriculture services office, led by veterinarians Rebecca Gorieza and Chris Donguines, and Billy Jul from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), has conducted a physical assessment on the mammals.

They found out that one of the dolphins had injuries in its pectoral fin and while its posterior was infested with parasites. The other has a minor wound in its orifice area.

The dolphins were given antibiotics and vitamins.

“When the two sea mammals showed some signs of recovery and appeared to have recovered, they were freed back to their natural habitat,” Dipatuan said.

Dipatuan said he was glad the people living near the beach and fisherfolk did not harm the dolphins. *(PNA)*

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1167050>



NWRB, HINIKAYAT ANG PUBLIKO NA MAGTIPID SA PAGGAMIT NG TUBIG



February 4, 2022 @ 10:29 AM 19 hours ago

Sa pagpasok ng bagong taon, maigting ang panawagan ni Dr. Seville “Bill” David, Executive Director ng National Water Resources Board, na maging responsible ang bawat isa sa paggamit ng tubig.

Sa aking panayam kay Executive Director David, kanyang ibinahagi na patuloy ang pagbaba ng antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam kung saan nagmumula ang tubig ng Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, at Rizal. Noong Enero 1, nasa 202.8 metro ang lebel ng tubig sa dam; subalit, sa patuloy nitong pagbaba, umabot na lang ito sa 197.06 noong Pebrero 2.

Dahil dito, nagpahayag ng pagkabahala si Senador Grace Poe hinggil sa posibleng kakulangan sa tubig o water shortage na mararanasan ng mga umaasa sa Angat Dam.

Ayon kay Dr. David, ang pag-angat o pagbaba ng lebel ng tubig ay depende sa pagdating ng ulan.

Noong 2021, umabot lang sa 15 bagyo ang pumasok sa Philippine Area of Responsibility, kumpara sa average na 19 hanggang 20 bagyo noong mga nakaraang taon.

Sa kabila ng La Niña forecast ng **Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)** para sa 2021, hindi umabot ang mga pag-ulan sa watersheds ng Angat Dam kung saan naroon ang mga water reservoir.

Maging ang pinakahuli at napakalakas na bagyong si Odette (TS Rai) ay tumama sa Visayas at Mindanao, dahilan para hindi makapag-recharge ang mga reservoir sa Angat Dam.

Dagdag niya, kailangang paigtingin ang tamang pamamahala o water management sa Angat Dam, upang pagdating ng summer o tag-araw, may karampatang suplay ng tubig sa Metro Manila at



NWRB, HINIKAYAT ANG PUBLIKO NA MAGTIPID SA PAGGAMIT NG TUBIG

mabigyan din ng sapat na tubig-irigasyon ang mga magsasaka sa Bulacan at Pampanga, sa pamamagitan ng National Irrigation Administration.

Inaasahang magtatapos ang pag-iral ng malamig na hangin sa huling bahagi ng Pebrero, lalo na't papalapit na ang Ash Wednesday (March 2), mararamdaman na natin ang init ng panahon.



BOC-MICP, ESS-EPCD seize smuggled chainsaws

[February 3, 2022](#) min read

MANILA — The Bureau of Customs, through the operations of the Enforcement and Security Service-Environmental Protection and Compliance Division (ESS-EPCD) of the Manila International Container Port (MICP), seized 667 cartons of smuggled chainsaws containing a total of 1,034 units.

This was during the conduct of physical examination dated 13 January 2022 at the MICP Designated Examination Area (DEA).

In relation thereto, the said shipment of 1x40' container from China was consigned to JJJJ Enterprises.

It was revealed that no importation permit from Forest Management Bureau-Department of Environment and Natural Resources (FMB-DENR) was secured, with an estimated value amounting to Php 1,010,127.00.



The physical examination was conducted by the designated customs examiner together with the representatives from the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS), ESS, and ESS-EPCD.

A Warrant of Seizure and Detention has been issued against the subject shipment in violation of Section 1113 "Property Subject to Seizure and Forfeiture" in relation to Section 1401 "Unlawful Importation and Exportation" under Republic Act No. 10863 or The Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and the DENR Administrative Order No. 2003-24 "Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A No. 9175 (Chainsaw Act of 2002)."

(Kiara Lauren Ibanez/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/ai/mtvn)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/100064206931542/posts/311441031006126/?app=fbl>



No to imported trash: Pro-env't groups urge Duterte to ratify agreement vs foreign waste dumping

Published February 4, 2022, 1:48 PM

by [Faith Argosino](#)

Environmental groups EcoWaste Coalition (EWC) and Greenpeace Southeast Asia-Philippines (Greenpeace) have urged President Duterte to rush the government's ratification of the Basel Convention Ban Amendment which seeks to prohibit foreign waste dumping in the country.



(Photo from EcoWaste Coalition)

In a joint statement, the groups said that Duterte should prioritize the ratification of the agreement before the end of his six-year term on June 30.

“President Duterte should not miss the opportunity of leaving a lasting legacy by decisively fixing glaring policy gaps to protect our people and the environment from the relentless threats of exploitative and unjust trade in hazardous waste and other wastes,” ECW National Coordinator Aileen Lucero said on Thursday, Feb. 3.

Lucero further said that ratifying the Basel Convention Ban Amendment and enforcing the total ban on foreign waste imports will uphold environmental justice and human rights.

On the other hand, Greenpeace Zero Waste Campaigner Marian Ledesma said that the move would prevent the entry of hazardous wastes from 38 Organisations for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations.

“This is also a chance for the Philippine government to show strong leadership alongside other Asian nations who have closed their borders on imported waste and respond to Global South countries’ exploitation in the waste trade,” she said.



No to imported trash: Pro-env't groups urge Duterte to ratify agreement vs foreign waste dumping

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB) has already conducted several consultations from 2019 to 2020 on the proposed amendments of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) 2013-22 or Revised Procedures and Standards on the Management of Hazardous Wastes.

“After review of the EMB Policy Technical Working Group, this will be forwarded to the DENR for final review and endorsement to the DENR Secretary. We hope that the amended DAO will be approved this year,” EMB Director William Cuñado told the EcoWaste in September 2021.



Duterte urged to ratify ban on hazardous waste exports



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Environmental health and justice groups on Thursday urged President Duterte to rush the ratification of the Basel Convention Ban Amendment that seeks to protect the Philippines from the dumping of hazardous waste by richer nations.

Adopted by the parties to the Basel Convention in 1995 and which finally entered into force in 2019, the Ban Amendment prohibits the export of hazardous wastes for recycling or disposal from rich countries to developing countries like the Philippines.

“PRRD [Duterte] should not miss the opportunity of leaving a lasting legacy by decisively fixing glaring policy gaps to protect our people and the environment from the relentless threats of exploitative and unjust trade in hazardous waste and other wastes,” said Aileen Lucero, National Coordinator, EcoWaste Coalition said in a news statement.

“With the clock counting down, we appeal to the President and his Cabinet to hurry the ratification of the Basel Convention Ban Amendment and enforce a complementary total ban on foreign waste imports to uphold environmental justice and human rights. If not now, when?” she added.

“In the final months of his presidency, President Duterte can demonstrate his commitment to protecting Filipinos and our environment by securing the Philippines’ ratification of the Basel Ban Amendment. This move will prevent the entry of hazardous wastes from 38 OECD [Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development] nations, some of which have been sending to the Philippines for years,” said Marian Ledesma, Zero Waste Campaigner, Greenpeace Southeast Asia-Philippines.

“This is also a chance for the Philippine government to show strong leadership alongside other Asian nations who have closed their borders on imported waste and to respond to the exploitation of Global South countries in the waste trade,” she added.

The groups noted that despite falling victim to foreign waste dumping incidents, including high profile scandals involving contaminated plastic wastes from Canada and South Korea, the Philippines has yet to ratify the Ban Amendment and prohibit waste imports.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB), for its part, told the EcoWaste Coalition that it has initiated the conduct of the cost-benefit study for the Philippine ratification of the Basel Ban Amendment.

“The study has shown the overall beneficial impact of the Ban Amendment in the Philippines, where the long-term financial, environmental, and social benefits outweigh the short-term costs,” EMD Director William Cuñado was quoted as telling the group in a letter.

Cuñado also said that DENR is “getting the requisite Certificates of Concurrence from the different stakeholders to facilitate the ratification process.”

“We’re keeping our fingers crossed that President Duterte will ratify the Basel Convention Ban Amendment and have it immediately transmitted for Senate concurrence,” the EcoWaste Coalition and Greenpeace said.



Duterte urged to ratify ban on hazardous waste exports

The EMB also informed the EcoWaste Coalition that it has already conducted several public consultations (held in 2019 and 2020) on the proposed amendments to DAO 2013-22 (Revised Procedures and Standards on the Management of Hazardous Wastes), including amendments to Chapter 10 on the “Import of Recyclable Materials Containing Hazardous Substances and Export of Hazardous Wastes.

“After review of the EMB Policy Technical Working Group, this will be forwarded to the DENR for final review and endorsement to the DENR Secretary. We hope that the amended DAO will be approved this year (2021),” Cuñado said.

However, the DENR has yet to promulgate the amended regulation as of to date, the groups noted. 30



Tone-toneladang hazardous medical waste sa Quezon Medical Center, ibabiyaha na sa Bulacan

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Feb 04 2022 03:32 PM

Envirocare: problema sa budget ang dahilan bakit kami tumigil maghakot

QUEZON - Tuloy-tuloy nitong Biyernes ang paghahakot ng tone-toneladang hazardous medical waste na 3 buwan nang nakatambak sa Quezon Medical Center (QMC) sa Lucena City, para madala sa isang treatment facility sa Bulacan.

Ito ay matapos dumating nitong Huwebes ang truck ng Envirocare Management Precision Incorporated, ang kompanyang nakakontrata sa ospital para maghakot ng basura.

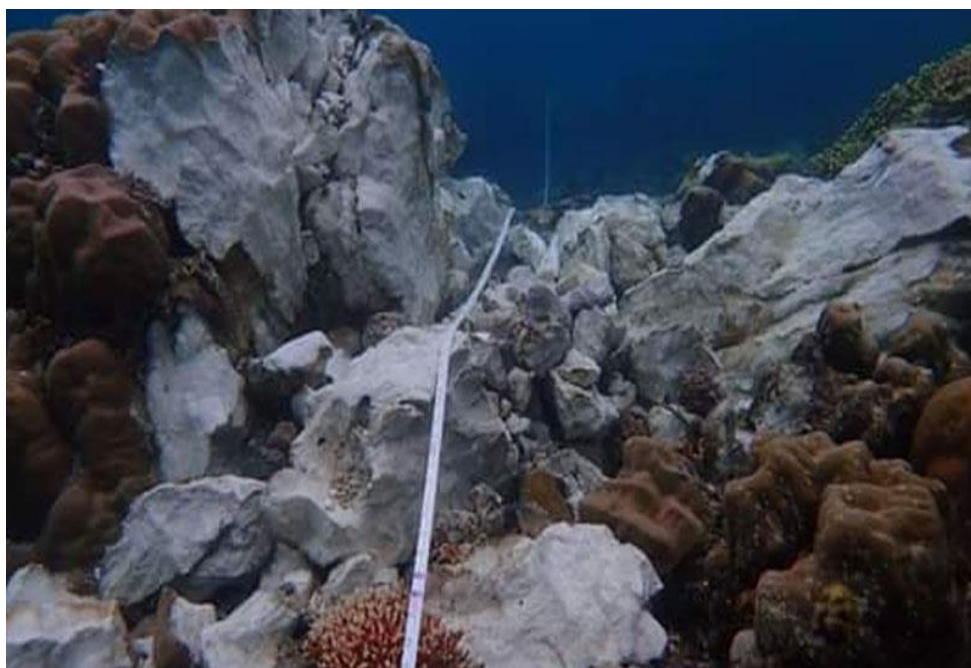
Nasa 100 toneladang hazardous medical waste ang nahakot ng kumpanya.

Inilalagay muna sa mga drum ang mga hazardous waste at sinelyuhan ito.

Pero sa dami ng mga hazardous waste, kinulang na ng drum ang Quezon Medical Center at wala nang mabilhan ng drum.



Coral reefs mawawasak pa rin kahit may Paris Agreement



February 4, 2022 @ 11:01 AM 19 hours ago

MANIALA, Philippines – Posibleng masira ang mga coral reef na nagsisilbing tirahan ng sangkapat ng marine wildlife at pinagkukunan ng kabuhayan ng mahigit kalahating bilyong mga tao sa kabila ng mga hakbang na ginagawa ng mga bansang lumagda sa 2015 Paris Agreement para malimitahan ang global warming.

Ayon kay Adele Dixon, researcher sa University of Leeds' School of Biology, dahil sa climate change, mahihirapang maka-recover ang mahigit 99% ng mga coral reefs sa buong mundo mula sa mas madalas na marine heat waves.

“The stark reality is that there is no safe limit of global warming for coral reefs,” ani Dixon.

“1.5C is still too much warming for the ecosystems on the frontline of climate change.”

“Our work shows that corals worldwide will be even more at risk from climate change than we thought,” babala pa ng researcher.

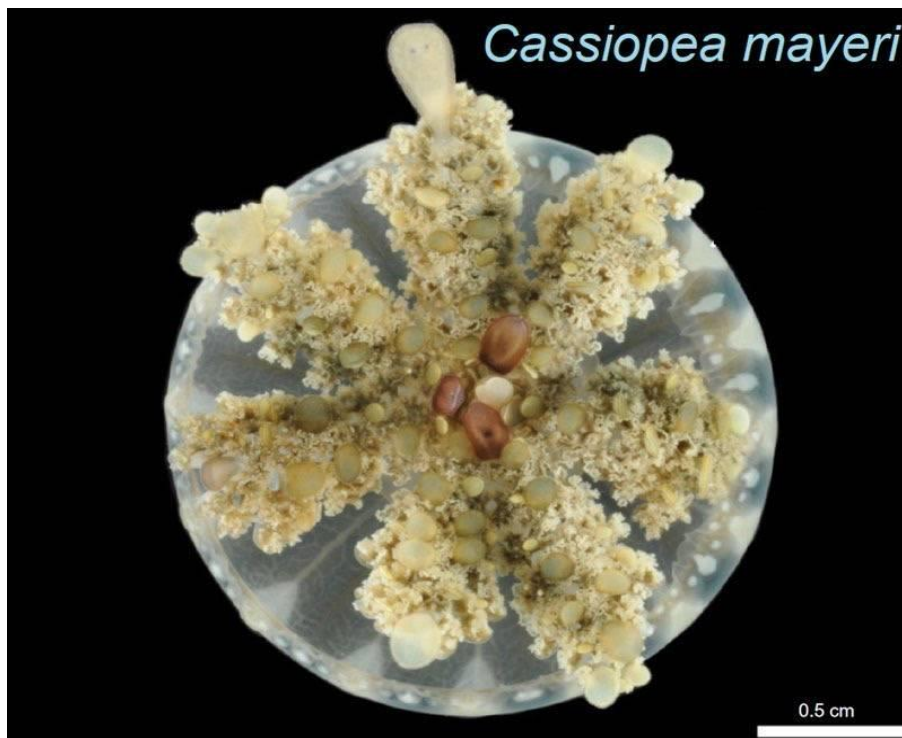
Noong 2018, nagbigay ng prediksiyon ang IPCC na 70 hanggang 90 porsiyento ng mga corals ang mawawala kapag umabot sa threshold na 1.5 degrees Celcius ang init sa mundo at 99% kung tataas pa ng 2C ang temperatura.

Mula 2009 hanggang 2018, 14% na ng mga coral reef sa buong mundo ang binura ng global warming na sinamahan pa ng polusyon. **RNT**



New jellyfish species discovered in PH

Published February 4, 2022, 2:33 PM
by [Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz](#)



Cassiopea mayeri (Florida Museum of Natural History)

An international team of scientists that includes Filipino marine biologists and taxonomists has discovered a new endemic species of jellyfish from the Philippine waters.

Filipino scientists Dr. Sheldon Rey Boco of the Philippine Jellyfish Stings Project and is currently based at Griffith University in Australia and Mr. Serafin Geson III of the University of San Carlos in Cebu were part of the team of scientists that discovered the jellyfish species named *Cassiopea mayeri*.

The study, which was led by Dr. Edgar Gamero-Mora, a Doctor of Philosophy student at the University of São Paulo in Brazil, was conducted from 2016 to 2021.

“This discovery shows the importance of identifying and recording the identity, biology, and distribution of organisms in the midst of biodiversity crisis, characterized by significant loss of planetary life,” Boco said in an e-mail to the Manila Bulletin.

“As living beings, they have implications in the cycle of nutrients and energy and their relationships to other organisms—as prey, predator or symbiotic interactor—in marine ecosystems. The jellyfish have implications on tourism, coastal recreation, and fisheries since they are stingers, but can be mild—that can affect how humans behave towards marine environment like when catching fish or other seafood in the presence of the jellyfish,” he explained.

“The discovery also implies the large diversity of jellyfish in Indo-Pacific and the Philippines, which is considered the epicenter of marine biodiversity, exhibiting the highest species richness of marine life. The new species and other marine life in the Philippines form the natural heritage of the country,” he added.



New jellyfish species discovered in PH

Boco also noted that the discovery of *Cassiopea mayeri* “highlights the contribution of Filipino scientists, despite being situated in a developing country, in global cutting-edge science that uses state-of-the-art technology.”

The description of *Cassiopea mayeri* was published in the high impact journal *Invertebrate Systematics*.

“The new gelatinous species belong to a group of jellyfish that carry mild venom and can release mucus with stinging cells that carry venom into the water which induces the characteristic itchy water that beach bathers and fishers describe when this jellyfish is around,” Boco said.

Apart from the discovery of *Cassiopea mayeri*, the team of scientists revived a species from its classification and is now called *Cassiopea culionensis*, named after Culion Bay, Palawan where it was originally found.

“The jellyfish with the name *Cassiopea culionensis* was formerly called *C. polypoides* var. *culionensis* and *C. andromeda*, which are now synonyms under *C. culionensis*. Synonyms are former names and identities of a species, thus they are not valid scientific names,” Boco pointed out.

Boco said both *C. mayeri* and *C. culionensis* occur in the waters of Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu, and Palawan, while *C. mayeri* species were recorded in the waters of Calatagan, Batangas and Olongapo City.

The scientists who led the study were from Instituto de Biociências, Universidade de São Paulo, The Philippine Jellyfish Stings Project, Griffith University in Australia, University of San Carlos Cebu, National Systematics Laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Museum of Natural History, and Smithsonian Institution.

“Our collaboration indicates the ability of Filipinos to get involved in cutting edge or international science and our strong contribution to taxonomy and marine/ocean science,” Boco said.

Philippine farmers fear crop, river contamination as mining moratorium is lifted

With the government overturning a 2017 ban on open-pit mining in December, the farming community of Narra, Palawan fears that the return of nickel ore extraction will ravage the environment and their crops.



Farmer Melchor Ortiz is among the hundreds of farmers opposing the resurgence of nickel laterite ore mining that once destroyed their farmlands in Narra town. Image: Keith Anthony Fabro

By [Keith Anthony Fabro](#)
8 minute read Feb. 4, 2022

Farmer Melchor Ortiz waited for three months before harvesting 43 sacks of rice from his one-hectare patch of farmland in January. But the wrinkled lip of 63-year-old Ortiz was drooping slightly, his grey brows furrowed, as he stood in the vast rice field facing the mining-scarred mountain in the western Philippines province of Palawan.

It has been more than a decade since lateritic soil coming from the Narra Nickel Mines and Development Corporation site [contaminated farmlands](#) in Calategas, a village in Narra town, the province's rice granary.

"Our yields have never been the same," he told Eco-Business. Before the company started the mining the area in 2006, he used to harvest at least 100 rice sacks every cropping season. "We're not earning enough—the harvest is now always a failure."

Source: <https://www.eco-business.com/news/philippine-farmers-fear-crop-river-contamination-as-mining-moratorium-is-lifted/>

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

After years of largely neglecting the buildup of plastic waste in Earth's environment, the UN Environment Assembly will meet this month in the hopes of drafting the first international treaty controlling global plastics pollution.



A littered beach in Bali, Indonesia, which is the second-largest contributor to marine plastic pollution after China. Image: [Lawrence Hislop, Grid Arendal, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#) via Flickr

By Charles Pekow, [Mongabay.com](#)
11 minute read Feb. 4, 2022

At the end of February, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) will tackle a challenging task: the creation of a landmark treaty to control plastic pollution worldwide. While most nations have agreed to participate, the scope and timing of such an agreement aren't settled, with many countries, environmental NGOs, and the plastics industry expressing widely different ideas as to what should be included.

But with media images rife of the [Great Pacific Garbage Patch](#), and of the world's [most remote seaside beaches](#) drowning in waste, just about everyone agrees it's time to act: "The ever-increasing growth in the amount of plastics produced has led to a significant plastic waste generation [problem] that has outpaced society's ability to manage it effectively," a UN [baseline report](#) warned in 2020.

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

Tallying all sources, “Worldwide, at least 8.8 million metric tonnes of plastic waste enter the world’s oceans each year — the equivalent of dumping a garbage truck of plastic into the sea every minute,” concluded a key [report](#) by the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) released in December. In 2016, the US generated more plastic waste than any other country, exceeding that of all European Union (EU) member states combined, the report stated.

The US Congress commissioned that NAS study, which suggested that the United States establish a national strategy to cope with plastic waste by the end of 2022, with an assessment of progress by the end of 2025. The US currently lags behind the EU and Canada in setting plastic environmental guidelines, acknowledges Margaret Spring, who chaired the academy committee that produced the report. China banned plastic waste imports in 2018 and set a plan to phase out certain plastics by 2025.

While the NAS study relied on US federal data to reach its conclusions and focused on oceans, its experts agree that the plastics problem extends well beyond Earth’s seas, and that any initiative aimed at controlling plastic waste must be based on a global methodology and cooperation in order to succeed.

Figures differ as to which nations pollute the most with plastics, depending on whether production or use is counted, or whether the EU is considered as one entity. China, for instance, accounts for about 30 per cent of plastic production, but only about 20 per cent of global use. Globally, most plastics are manufactured and used in China, Western Europe and the US

“This [NAS] report synthesizes what knowledgeable people already knew,” Spring said. She added: “What haven’t been set [to date] are global goals,” something that a UN plastics treaty should address.

A runaway plastics crisis

Estimates vary, but [UN figures](#) assert that humanity uses 500 billion plastic bags and 17 million plastic oil barrels annually. Some 13 million metric tonnes of plastic wind up in the oceans every year, and plastic kills 100,000 marine animals annually.

[Another UN report](#), released in October, warned that “plastic production has risen exponentially in the last decades. It now amounts to some 400 million tonnes per year. Yet only an estimated 12 per cent of plastics produced have been incinerated and only an estimated 9 per cent have been recycled. The remainder has either been disposed of in landfills or released into the environment, including the oceans. Without meaningful action, flows of plastic waste into aquatic ecosystems are expected to nearly triple from around 11 million tonnes in 2016 to around 29 million tonnes in 2040.”

According to a 2019 report from the [Center for International Environmental Law](#), all this plastic is also contributing heavily to climate change. “At current levels, greenhouse gas emissions from the plastic lifecycle threaten the ability of the global community to keep global temperature rise below 1.5°C [2.7°F]. With the petrochemical and plastic industries planning a massive expansion in production, the problem is on track to get much worse,” says the report.

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

Nations aside, it's hard to know which of the world's companies generate the most discarded plastic. Break Free from Plastic (BFFP), an NGO and self-described "global movement envisioning a future free from plastic pollution," releases an [annual estimate](#) based on pieces of trash volunteers collect that can be identified with a specific company. By that measure, junk food packaging is a huge part of the problem, with top polluters at last count being Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Unilever, Nestlé, and Proctor & Gamble.

But the BFFP estimate — even though it accounts for brand-name trash in 45 countries — is clearly just that, as it only tallies identifiable garbage that can be found, not what ends up in landfills, incinerators, or bodies of water, such as monofilament and bits of fishing nets. Nor do the rankings consider plastic manufacturers. (*Full disclosure: This story's author holds retirement account stock in the Coca-Cola Company.*)

Discarded plastic, ranging from food containers to fishing gear, is washing up on shores around the globe, getting eaten by marine life, interfering with navigation, and dissolving into microplastic waste that works its way up the food chain and even [into the atmosphere](#) where it may be [influencing climate change](#).

"Plastic pollution can now be found everywhere, from the remote shores of the Arctic to the deepest parts of the ocean. Up to 12 million tonnes of plastic leak into the marine environment annually, harming biodiversity and posing a threat to food security, sustainability and human health," the Environmental Investigation Agency [reported](#) in 2020.

A UN Environment Programme (UNEP) [report](#) issued last October cited the urgent need for a waste treaty. "Plastics are the largest, most harmful and most persistent fraction of marine litter, accounting for at least 85 per cent of total marine waste," it noted, adding that, "while we have the know-how [to dispose of plastics properly], we need the political will and urgent action by government to tackle the mounting crisis."

Challenging negotiations ahead

The UNEA, founded in 2014, meets biennially in Nairobi, Kenya. At previous UNEA assemblies, delegates debated the need for an international plastics agreement but couldn't agree on a way forward. But international momentum got a big boost in 2019 when the Nordic Council — an association of parliaments from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland, an autonomous region in Finland — called for creating such [an agreement](#).

As a result, featured prominently on the docket for this year's assembly, slated to run from Feb. 28 to March 2, is the development of a framework for the world's first ever plastics treaty. The assembly will focus especially on what should be included — and not included.

Past negotiated UN environmental treaties cover everything from transboundary air pollution to international transport of hazardous waste ([including plastics](#)) and industrial accidents — but they may not provide much groundwork for the plastics treaty process. "None of the existing treaties, each of which has its own specific focus, is a suitable basis for the comprehensive discussions which

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

are necessary to contain and combat the plastic soup,” according to the [Plastic Soup Foundation](#), an Amsterdam-based NGO dedicated to keeping the world’s waters free of plastic.

The UNEA will be considering two [competing drafts](#) to arrive at a framework. A more comprehensive one, sponsored by Rwanda and Peru, would try to cope with plastics pollution worldwide from production to disposal. The other, sponsored by Japan, focuses narrowly on oceans and end-of-use.

As representatives of the world’s nations gather this month, plastic manufacturers and oil companies (which provide the petroleum-based raw materials to make plastics), will be taking an interest and want to participate in hopes of influencing outcomes.

The plastics industry seems willing to support an accord — so long as it doesn’t interfere too much with business. The Washington, D.C.-based Plastics Industry Association gave Mongabay a statement reading in part: “We support international cooperation to eliminate plastic leakage into the environment. We encourage solutions that are flexible and relevant to regional context and treat the plastics industry as experts and partners. We caution against heavy-handed restrictions that impede the ability of materials to flow around the world, especially in a time of stressed supply chains. Furthermore, we believe that production or consumption limits on plastics is the wrong approach and would encourage the use of products that are inferior from a performance or sustainability profile and result in major economic harm globally.”

Joshua Baca, vice president of plastics for the American Chemistry Council (ACC), a lobbying group that represents plastic manufacturers, also provided Mongabay with a statement, writing that “ACC fully supports the negotiation of a treaty to eliminate plastic waste and accelerate the transition to a more circular economy.” Last September, ACC, along with the International Council of Chemical Associations and the World Plastics Council, agreed on a series of principles for an agreement, including national “flexibility and support” to meet individual nations’ needs, improve “access to waste collection,” and innovate design and recycling.

ACC got part of its wish in December 2020 when the US Congress passed the [Save Our Seas Act 2.0](#), a follow-up on legislation passed in 2018 to protect oceans from plastic waste. Corporations didn’t oppose the bill and President Donald Trump signed it, as it didn’t regulate industry but merely called for more government-sponsored research into recycling, reuse, and making less hazardous products. (Not surprisingly, industry was glad to let the government pay for research rather than spend its own money for that purpose.)

Congress, meanwhile, has not acted on the [Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act](#) introduced in the current and previous legislative sessions. That bill would put limits on single-use plastic production and add requirements for reuse and recycling.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) suggested in 2020 that a “UN treaty on plastic pollution would benefit businesses as well as the environment. It can create a level playing field across the plastic value chain,” largely by standardizing compliance costs and activities, the [NGO suggested](#).

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

The parties prepare

The European Union and 48 countries signed on to an agreement at a ministerial conference last September endorsing the need for a plastics control treaty, stating: “no country can adequately address the various aspects of this challenge alone; hence there is a need to commit to establishing a balanced framework for international cooperation that includes coordinated actions to address the negative impacts of plastic along its life cycle, [and] taking into account local and national circumstances as well as specific needs of developing countries.” At last count, 81 nations have signed on including the U.K. and all EU members, but not the US or China. And according to the [WWF Global Plastic Navigator](#), 161 countries have expressed interest.

Though the US hasn’t signed this UN document, the administration of President Joe Biden has agreed to participate in the treaty creation, reversing the Trump administration’s position. (Before the change in presidents, the US, one of the biggest plastics polluters, was one of the few countries to actively oppose regulation, which helped set back the international negotiating process.)

One reason for Biden’s delayed signature, and the administration’s failure as of mid-January 2022 to articulate a global plastics control policy: it’s complicated. Twelve federal agencies play a role in determining the US position, ranging from the State Department to the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The State Department said in a statement to Mongabay that it “is premature to discuss” matters such as the US position on enforcement, or the degree to which an accord should focus on ocean or all plastic pollution. But the statement indicated the US wants some flexibility, saying “We need to be innovative and account for different national circumstances” and “ensure that countries most in need have the financial resources to implement potential solutions.”

The State Department says it is reviewing NAS findings and recommendations, while also indicating that it wants the agreement to consider all aspects of the plastic lifecycle, noting that it wants countries to consider “circular economy approaches that reduce the lifecycle impacts of plastic” and that some nations “may include restrictions on plastic production and consumption.”

In a [January blog post](#), Monica Medina, assistant secretary for the department’s Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, listed her four priorities for that bureau, including “seeking global solutions to address the onslaught of plastic pollution that spills into our waterways and oceans and harms biodiversity.”

Many international environmental groups are pushing hard for a tough US stance. “We’ve been convincing hundreds of governments, corporations, NGOs and other stakeholders to try to move the conversation forward,” said John Hocevar, oceans campaign director at [Greenpeace USA](#). “We’ve also been putting a little bit of public pressure on the Biden Administration to get it to campaign about the global threat.

As world goes under plastic waste, UN to hammer out global treaty

“We need corporations to take responsibility for what they sell and produce and [make] a shift away from single use plastic and a move to reuse,” Hocevar said. “Governments have not done their job to regulate corporations.”

Whatever the UNEA decides in the coming months, “one good thing about the treaty is that it’s a wake-up call for corporations and governments. They all can see the change that is coming. It should prompt them to start taking action now. There’s no reason to wait until we have a treaty adopted to begin working on solutions,” Hocevar said.

Hard work ahead

What can we expect of the upcoming UN session? What comes after? The immediate goal will be the formation of an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop a treaty draft.

“I am confident that member states will decide on the path forward that makes a real difference,” UNEP executive director Inger Andersen said in a statement to Mongabay. The goal, she says, is to finalise the treaty language at the next UNEA general session in 2024. “This would make for a highly ambitious timeframe, reflecting member states’ understanding of the urgency to make progress on this critical environmental challenge.”

Andersen says member states will still need to hash out the degree to which the treaty will focus on oceans or worldwide dumping and how to finance the agreement. But she contends it will need to cover the entire plastic lifecycle “from production through disposal and reduction of the leakage of existing plastic currently in the global ecosystem.”

Asked about the risk that nations may underestimate their disposal, she replied, “This is an important issue for member states to deliberate further on.” Nations have expressed “reporting fatigue” on other multilateral environmental agreements, “and this is something we do need to seriously keep in mind as we assess the optimum review process.”

Existing international agreements can provide some guidance on matters of enforcement and reporting. But the accord should emphasise convincing nations that their best interests revolve around “a new global plastics circular economy” and switch the emphasis “from enforcement to creating an enabling environment where it is in everyone’s interests to implement the agreement,” Andersen said.

The US and other countries seem intent on the need to act fast and decisively. The State Department, writing to Mongabay, said: “This is an urgent issue that needs urgent attention. We cannot spend years negotiating. We support establishing an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee at UNEA 5.2 [the upcoming February-March meeting], and concluding the negotiations by 2024, which may be in line with the yet to be scheduled [UNEA 6](#) target in both current proposed [Japan and Peru/Rwanda] resolutions.” Time is of the essence, as the tide of global plastics pollution rises ever higher.

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EU is sabotaging global climate efforts

February 5, 2022

A PROPOSED change in what can be classified as "green energy" by the [European Union](#) will have disastrous consequences for global climate efforts, if its greed-driven leadership is not stopped soon.

On New Year's Eve, the [European Commission](#) (EC) quietly distributed a draft proposal to EU member states to classify gas- and nuclear-powered electricity generation as "green energy options" eligible for investment incentives. The underhanded timing of the proposal's release over a holiday weekend was likely intentional, as the new "taxonomy" would almost completely undo what tenuous progress was made at last year's COP26 climate summit. The EC seemed to realize that proposing environmental destruction as a matter of continental policy would not be popular with the public, and so distributed the draft at a time when public attention would be elsewhere.

The public has since caught up, however. The proposed changes have been met with bitter protests, and for good reason. The new rules would effectively derail what has been fairly rapid progress in transitioning to renewable energy across [Europe](#) and completely end any hope of the EU collectively achieving its emissions reduction commitments by 2030. As the EU has until now aggressively marketed itself as the benchmark for climate mitigation action as far as energy is concerned, its latest move will likely encourage other countries to similarly roll back their own efforts.

Under the proposal, which would go into effect in 2023 if approved by a majority of EU member states, permits for new nuclear plants could continue to be issued until 2045, while permits for work needed to extend the life of existing nuclear plants could be issued until 2040. For gas plants, the proposal establishes a deadline of 2031 for new construction permits, and makes the non-binding stipulation that carbon emission limits should be set "well below" those of comparable coal plants.

The reasoning behind the proposed changes is that they would help lower-income countries transition from coal power to eventually sustainable sources. The proposal, however, represents a significant step backward from what the EU has already achieved.

Under its current commitment, the EU would have to reduce emissions from gas power plants by 32 to 37 percent by 2030, along with replacing coal plants, in order to meet its target. Increasing gas power obviously will not accomplish that.

Nuclear power is likewise not emissions-free, although it is certainly a far cleaner option. CO₂ emissions from operations in most modern nuclear plants (those with either advanced reactors or the even newer third-generation EPR pressurized water reactors) range from 18.2 to 24.4 grams of CO₂ per kilowatt-hour (gCO₂/kWh). When related emissions from fuel processing and construction are factored in, the emissions increase to 40 to 116 gCO₂/kWh.

The bigger problem with nuclear power, as critics (most notably the Austrian government) have pointed out, is that the new rules would contravene existing EU legal definitions. Under the current taxonomy, investments and activities can only be described as "sustainable" if they both contribute to climate objectives and do no significant harm to other environmental objectives, including circular economy, biodiversity and pollution reduction objectives. Nuclear [waste management](#) technology has not yet developed to the point where it satisfactorily meets the second requirement, and so has not been considered "green" energy in the EU, at least until now.



EU is sabotaging global climate efforts

The draft proposal will be put to a vote of all the EU member states sometime in April. EC President [Ursula von der Leyen](#), French President [Emmanuel Macron](#) and German Chancellor [Olaf Scholz](#) are intensely lobbying for a "yes" vote, as are the French nuclear industry and the Europe-wide oil industry. If they are successful, the direct consequence will be an almost certain end to any hopes of curbing global temperature increase; Europe is one of the world's biggest emitters, but it will scale back its efforts to cut emissions. Indirectly, the new, "dirtier" rules in Europe will make it more difficult for developing countries to insist on policies favoring green energy solutions.

It is beyond disappointing that the EU would even consider ruining its credibility and global leadership with such a proposal. We condemn it, and urge EU members to reject it.



BIDA might not be best for Boracay development, presidential bets say

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#) (Philstar.com)
- February 4, 2022 - 6:04pm



This February 2021 photo shows tourists in Boracay.

MANILA, Philippines — Will presidential aspirants approve the creation of a state corporation that will manage Boracay Island, a proposal that was criticized by local officials, non-governmental organizations and religious groups?

Majority of the candidates who attended the "Panata sa Bayan: The KBP Presidential Forum" on Friday opposed the creation of the Boracay Island Development Authority (BIDA).

President Rodrigo Duterte, whom the candidates wish to succeed, called on Congress in 2020 to pass a measure creating BIDA, which aims to ensure the development of the famous destination and sustain the gains from its earlier rehabilitation.

In August 2021, the House of Representatives approved the bill creating a development body in Boracay.

The bill will have to be filed again when the 19th Congress convenes in July.

Only Sen. Panfilo Lacson said he will sign a bill creating BIDA into law if he wins in the May elections.

"Magkaroon tayo ng tourism estate mentality kung saan makapag-attract at ma-develop 'yung tourism, especially 'yung Boracay," he said.

(We should have a tourism estate mentality to attract tourists and develop tourism, especially Boracay.)



BIDA might not be best for Boracay development, presidential bets say

No need for a new body

Sen. Manny Pacquiao questioned the need for a state corporation that will manage the tourist destination, citing the work already being done by the Department of Tourism and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Instead, the DOT and the local government should work together for the development of the island, the boxer-turned-politician said

Manila Mayor Francisco “Isko Moreno” Domagoso also said there is no need to create another agency.

“Let us not fix something that is not destroyed... The national government should support the local government in that area,” he said.

Listen to affected communities

Vice President Leni Robredo said no to the creation of a new body.

“I won’t sign it. While I agree that it is important to fix Boracay through a tourism authority, I do not agree that the stakeholders, the LGUs are losing their voice,” Robredo said.

Labor leader Leody de Guzman, for his part, said the participation of the community in the development of Boracay must be ensured.

05 FEBRUARY 2022, Saturday



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Philippines logs 8,564 new COVID-19 cases

(Philstar.com)

- February 4, 2022 - 4:31pm



People cross a street at a popular shopping center in Manila on February 4, 2022, after authorities issued relaxation of Covid-19 rules.

AFP/Ted Aljibe

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines on Friday registered 8,564 new COVID-19 cases, the fourth consecutive day the daily tally fell below 10,000.

Friday's tally brought the total number of COVID-19 infections to 3,594,002. Of the figure, 151,389 were active cases.

According to the Department of Health, 77% of the newly-reported cases occurred from January 22 to February 4. The regions with the highest number of additional infections during that period were Metro Manila (907), Western Visayas (782) and Davao region (753).

The country's death toll rose by 46 to 54,214, while recoveries increased by 10,474 to 3,388,399.

The agency said that 24.3% of 37,932 samples on February 2 tested positive for COVID-19, way above the five-percent threshold set by the World Health Organization.

Six testing laboratories did not submit data to the agency.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/02/04/2158565/philippines-logs-8564-new-covid-19-cases/amp/>



10K new Covid-19 recoveries, active cases down to 151K

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz February 4, 2022, 6:05 pm



(Infographic courtesy of DOH)

MANILA – The Philippines recorded 10,474 new recoveries from coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) on Friday, bringing total recoveries to 3,388,399 or 94.3 percent of all confirmed cases in the country.

In its 4 p.m. Covid-19 bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) reported 8,564 new cases, a slight increase from Thursday’s 8,702.

The new cases brought the number of active infections to 151,389 out of a total of 3,594,002 infections since the start of the pandemic in March 2020.

Of these active cases, 139,940 have mild symptoms, followed by the asymptomatic at 6,522, those with moderate symptoms at 3,107, those with severe symptoms at 1,500, and those in critical condition at 320.

There were 46 new deaths recorded, lower than Thursday’s 71, bringing the country’s total Covid-19 fatalities to 54,214 or 1.51 percent of all confirmed cases.

Based on the latest testing data, there were 37,932 Covid-19 tests administered on Wednesday with a positivity rate of 24.3 percent.

To date, there are 3,800 beds at intensive care units (ICU) in the country at 44 percent occupancy, 20,800 isolation beds at 42 percent occupancy, 15,600 ward beds at 42 percent occupancy, and 22 percent of 3,100 ventilators are currently in use.

In the National Capital Region alone, there are 1,300 ICU beds at 38 percent occupancy, 4,700 isolation beds at 32 percent occupancy, 4,300 ward beds at 35 percent occupancy, and 21 percent of 1,000 ventilators are in use. (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/i167102>



Gov't preparing for endemic Covid-19 scenario in PH

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz February 4, 2022, 5:28 pm



(File photo)

MANILA – Government officials on Friday laid out new plans for the country's transition to a 'new normal' and the possible shift from a pandemic to endemic approach to coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

In a virtual press briefing in Malacañang, acting presidential spokesperson and Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles said the government is currently formulating the National Action Plan (NAP) Phase V that would include shifts in protocols and policies on how the country would deal with Covid-19.

He noted that the alert level system and minimum health protocols will likely stay in the near future and vaccination will continue to ensure the protection of the public against Covid-19.

National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) Undersecretary Rosemarie Edillon said the NAP Phase 5 will have the "same organization, organization structure" as the government's previous NAP and is meant to guide the country into the transition to the new normal.

"Ang gusto kasi namin is ma-empower iyong bawat Filipino, bawat mamamayan natin kung paano ang pagbasa nitong mga information na 'to at paano sila dapat—how they will act accordingly para magtuluy-tuloy na talaga itong ating, as you say, iyong pagbalik natin sa new normal (What we want is to empower every Filipino on how to read this information and how to act accordingly during the transition to the new normal)," Edillon said.

Department of Health (DOH) Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, meanwhile, said the country is now transitioning to the NAP Phase V that will prepare the country to cope with the possibility of Covid-19 being endemic in the country.

She explained that an endemic state is when cases of a disease are "stable," "constant," or "predictable" but it does not equate to a milder form of the disease.



Gov't preparing for endemic Covid-19 scenario in PH

“There is that equilibrium between the level of transmission and the level of immunity of an area. So, having said that, ibig sabihin po ng endemic state natin, best example iyong atin pong sakit na tigdas (What endemic state means, its best example is the measles),” Vergeire said.

She said Filipino children are regularly vaccinated against measles until the country reaches a point where only a few cases of the disease occur, but outbreaks still do happen when the immunity of a portion of the population begins to wane.

“With the NAP Phase 5, we are now transitioning. Pini-prepare na po natin iyong ating sistema para pagdating po nung point na talaga ang state is endemic na (We are preparing our system so that when the time comes that we’re at an endemic state), we will be able to cope and we are resilient and we are prepared,” Vergeire said.

Earlier, the government has allowed the entry of foreign nationals into the country for business and tourism purposes as the Covid-19 situation in the country and the international stage continues to improve.

To date, Metro Manila, Batanes, Bulacan, Cavite, Biliran, Southern Leyte, and Basilan have been put under Alert Level 2 as the number of new and active cases continues to drop as well as a declining number of hospitalized individuals due to Covid-19. *(PNA)*



EDITORIAL - 'Worst is over': pero 'wag munang magsaya

Pang-masa

February 5, 2022 | 12:00am



DAGSAAN na naman ang mga tao sa mall, Divisoria, palengke, mga pasyalan at marami na ring kumakain sa mga restaurant. Balik na rin sa 50 percent ang mga pinapayagang magsimba. May mga magkakaibigang nagkita-kita na at nagkakasayahan. May mga nagtitipun-tipon nang magkakamag-anak. May mga nagka-karaoke na rin at pasa-pasa sa mikropono. May mga nag-iinuman ng alak sa kalye na ang gamit ay iisang baso na pinaiikot.

Mula nang ibalik ang Alert Level 2 noong Pebrero 1, marami ang animo'y "pinakawalang baka" at sabik na lumabas. Mula nang ibaba ang Alert Level 3 noong Disyembre 15, 2021 dahil sa pagtaas ng COVID cases na halos mahigit 30,000, bawat araw, marami ang napigilang lumabas. Nakadagdag din sa takot ang banta ni President Duterte na hihigpitan ang paglabas ng mga hindi bakunado. Ipinatupad din ang "no vax, no ride". Kaya mistulang nakulong ang mga tao mula nang dumami ang kaso noong Disyembre. Mas lalong dumami ang kaso noong unang linggo ng Enero na umabot sa 37,154. Hanggang sa bumaba ang kaso ng huling linggo ng Enero. Kahapon, naitala ng Department of Health (DOH) ang 8,564 kaso.

Sabi ng OCTA Research Group, "worst is over". Bumaba na raw ang kaso ng COVID sa buong bansa particular sa Metro Manila. Sabi ni OCTA Research Fellow Guido David, naniniwala siyang mawawala na ngayong 2022 ang pandemya. Sinabi rin ni David na sa Pebrero 14 (Valentines Day) ay 500 na lamang ang kaso ng COVID.



EDITORIAL - 'Worst is over': pero 'wag munang magsaya

Posibleng mangyari ito. Marami nang nagkatotoo sa sinabi ng OCTA. Ganunman, hindi pa rin dapat magdiwang at magsaya. Dapat hinay-hinay pa rin at sundin ang health protocols hangga't hindi lubusang nawawala ang COVID. Hindi dapat sayangin ang ginawang pag-iingat sa nakaraan. Bumabalik ang sakit kaya nararapat na mag-ingat.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pang-masa/punto-mo/2022/02/05/2158667/editorial-worst-over-pero-wag-munang-magsaya>



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**Covid-19
Situation and Response**



DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 692

PEBRERO 4, 2022

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

4.2%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO
151,389

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

94.3%

TOTAL NG GUMALING
3,388,399

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

1.51%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY
54,214

MGA BAGONG KASO **8,564**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **10,474**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **46**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,594,002**

MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING PEBRERO 2
DATOS NGAYONG PEBRERO 4
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG PEBRERO 2

24.3%

PORSYENTO NG MGA
NAGPOSITIBO

37,932

BILANG NG
TINEST

HALOS
96.7%
ANG MILD AT
ASYMPTOMATIC
NA KASO!

**SANITIZE ANG
KAMAY AT IWASAN
ANG KULOB NA LUGAR**

KABUANG PILIPINAS
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

KALAGAYAN NG MGA
AKTIBONG KASO

ICU BEDS (3.8K TOTAL BEDS)	44% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (20.8K TOTAL BEDS)	42% Utilized
WARD BEDS (15.6K TOTAL BEDS)	42% Utilized
VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	22% Utilized

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)	38% Utilized
ISOLATION BEDS (4.7K TOTAL BEDS)	32% Utilized
WARD BEDS (4.3K TOTAL BEDS)	35% Utilized
VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)	21% Utilized

6,522 Asymptomatic
139,940 Mild
3,107 Moderate
1,500 Severe
320 Critical

DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

For health concerns and emergencies, you may access here the DOH hospital hotlines across the country:

bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines

DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

• 1555 • 0915-777-7777
• 02-886-505-00 • 0919-977-3333

bit.ly/OHCCHotline

DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine

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seeyoudoc.com
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KonsultaMD
konsulta.md
KonsultaMD

CloudPx
cloudpx.ph/

Telimed and Medgate
medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase

MedCheck
medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/SeeYouDoc

TelAventusMD
TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph
TelAventusMD

HealthNow
healthnow.ph/
help@healthnow.ph
HealthNow



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App
o gamitin ang WEBAPP
at pumunta sa Staysafe.ph



Walang internet or load?
Report via SMS

2158-5779 (for Globe users)
225-655-779 (for other users)



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?
I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH
KONTRACOVDPH: kontracovid.ph

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

[OfficialDOHgov](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov)

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[\(02\) 894-COVID / 1555](tel:(02)894-COVID)

05 FEBRUARY 2022, Saturday



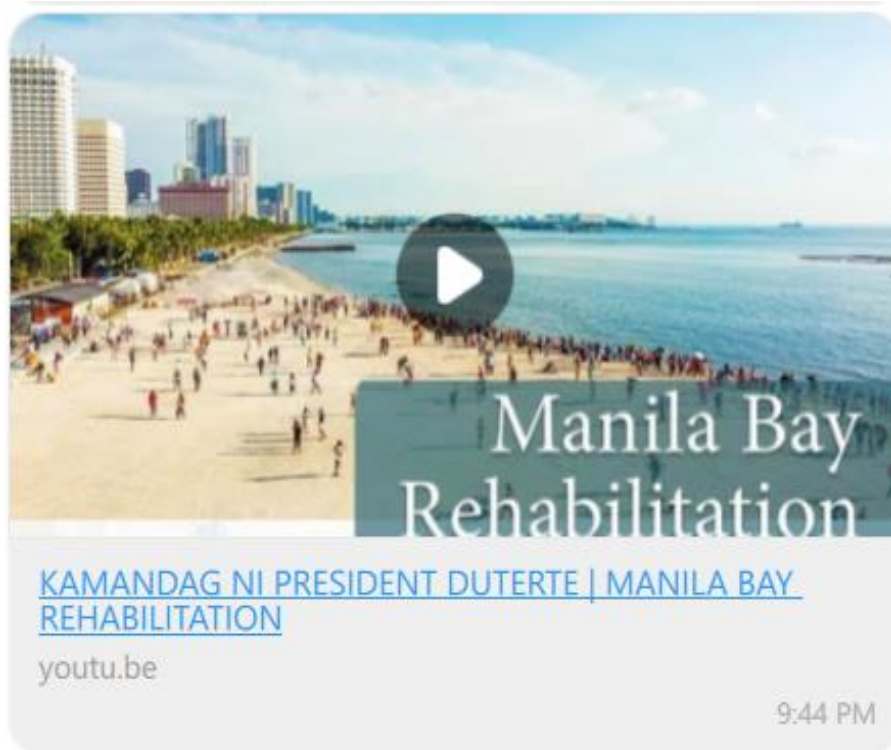
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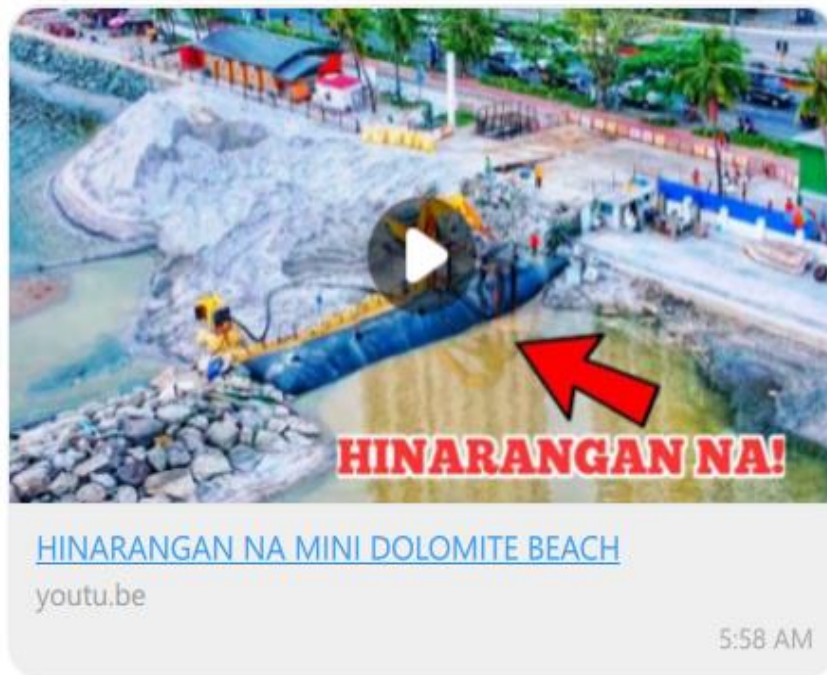
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