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DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR supports call to ban hazardous waste exports

June 9, 2022 3 min read

By: Rjhay E. Laurea

MANILA — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) declared its support for the law of the Basel Ban Amendment which would ban the export of hazardous waste and other trash from developed to developing countries.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampaola said that the Basel Ban Amendment would discuss the illegal traffic of imported hazardous waste into the country.

“In previous years, we have strongly fought against the import of hazardous wastes from countries who regarded our country as their dumpsites. Ratifying the Basel Ban Amendment will protect the Philippines from being a destination of hazardous wastes again,” said Sampaola.

In 2019, DENR via its Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) has successfully coordinated the return of 69 global container units of mixed wastes to Canada, which were illegally imported to the Philippines after being declared as waste for recycling.

The DENR-EMB, in tandem with the Bureau of Customs, had also successfully resettle 6,400 metric tons of mixed wastes in Misamis Oriental to South Korea in 2020.

The Basel Ban Amendment, endorsed by the parties to the Basel Convention, would stop the member states of the European Union, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and Liechtenstein, from exporting hazardous wastes either for recovery, treatment, or disposal to developing countries or countries with economies in transition.

The Philippines is Party to the 1989 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

The treaty was approved by Congress on October 21, 1993, and entered into force on January 19, 1994, but the country has yet to pass the Basel Ban Amendment.

Among the wastes covered in the Ban Amendment include those listed in Annex I, Annex II and Annex VIII (List A) of the Basel Convention such as used lead-acid batteries, electrical and electronic tools and metal-bearing sludges.



Non-OECD countries such as the Philippines are granted to export risky wastes to OECD countries if it has no existing capacity to treat and dispose of the known unsafe waste in an environmentally sound manner.

The DENR-EMB may request to the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Convention that the national version of the Ban Amendment will exempt certain risky wastes such as used lead-acid batteries which are being used by the local recycling industry ai mtvn

DENR sa local chief execs: Waste segregation mula sa 'source' ipatupad



June 10, 2022 @ 6:20 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines- Upang mabigyan ng solusyon ang lumalaking problema sa basura nanawagan ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa mga local chief executives na mahigpit na ipatupad ang “No Segregation, No Collection” policy sa mga lungsod at munisipalidad.

Kaugnay nito hinimok ni DENR Undersecretary for Enforcement, Solid Waste Management, Local Government Units Concerns and Attached Agencies Benny de Leon ang local government units (LGUs) na mahigpit na ipatupad ang Section 24 ng RA 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act na nagsasaad ng mga kinakailangan para sa pag-transport ng solid waste.

“We noted that some residents are practicing waste segregation at source in their homes, but the segregated wastes are mixed by the waste collection crew in dump trucks. This is a clear violation of RA 9003,” sabi ni de Leon.

Samantala ayon kay EMB Director at concurrent Executive Director ng National Solid Waste Management Commission Engr. William P. Cuñado, habang ang karamihan sa mga LGUs ay nagpapatupad ng tamang paraan sa ecological solid waste management (ESWM), naobserbahan pa rin sa isinagawang inspeksiyon ng EMB Regional Offices na ang ibang local solid waste collectors at private haulers ay kumukuha pa rin ng magkakahalang basura.

Sa press release upang mabigyan ito ng solusyon, pinaalalahanan ni Cuñado ang mga lokal na opisyal na maglaan ng hiwalay na truck para sa pagkolekta ng recyclables, biodegradable, residual at hazardous waste upang maiwasan ang kontaminasyon.

Hinikayat din ang local governments na ipatupad ang color coding ng waste bags. Ang Green para sa biodegradable wastes; Blue para sa recyclables; Black para sa non-recyclables; Red para sa household hazardous wastes o special waste; at Yellow para sa household infectious/COVID-19 wastes.

“You are also advised to notify your residents and establishments that no collection will be done if solid wastes are not properly segregated at source. You may assign your City/Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officers to ensure LGU compliance with this provision,” dagdag ni Cuñado.



Maaari namang masampahan ng kasong administratibo ang mga opisyal ng local government at government agencies na hindi nakasunod sa pagpapatupad ng rules and regulations, ayon na rin sa nakasaad sa Section 50 ng RA 9003.

Ang lahat ng EMB Regional Directors ay maglalabas ng Notices of Violations sa mga pasaway na local government units (LGU). Isasampa ang kaso sa Department of the Interior and Local Government at sa Ombudsman kapag ang LGU ay hindi nakatupad sa mga probisyon ng batas. Santi Celario



DENR leads simultaneous tree planting in Zamboanga Peninsula



ZAMBOANGA. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Zamboanga Peninsula leads various stakeholders and individuals simultaneous tree-planting activity Wednesday, June 8, across the region in celebration of Philippine Environment Month and the DENR 35th founding anniversary. A photo handout shows participants of the activity planting trees in one of the designated planting areas in Zamboanga del Norte. (SunStar Zamboanga)

June 10, 2022

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)-Zamboanga Peninsula led various stakeholders and individuals in the region in the nationwide simultaneous tree-planting activity Wednesday, June 8, in celebration of Philippine Environment Month and the DENR 35th founding anniversary.

Rosevirico Tan, DENR-Zamboanga Peninsula information officer, said Friday, June 10, that a total of 26,286 seedlings and propagules of various varieties of indigenous tree and mangrove species were planted by 3,662 individuals in 12 different locations across Zamboanga Peninsula.

The DENR-led activity was joined by 66 various government agencies and private entities.

Tan said a total of 16 varieties were utilized for planting, such as Yakal, White Lauan, Bakan, Red Nato, Narra, Lumbayao, Giant Bamboo, Mangium, Mahogany and mangrove propagules.

Most of these seedlings were propagated at the regional Modernized Mechanized Forest Nursery in Baclay, Tukuran, Zamboanga del Sur, according to Tan.

He said the tree-planting activity is centered on the theme "Aksyon Para sa Natatanging Mundo."

He added that this year's theme is aimed to generate awareness on the importance of trees as well as help mitigate the effects of climate change. **(SunStar Zamboanga)**

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1931671/zamboanga/local-news/denr-leads-simultaneous-tree-planting-in-zamboanga-peninsula>



PENRO-Abra opens Environment Month with 'Community Plant Tree'

Published on: June 10, 2022

By Christian Allister Tubadeza

ABRA –The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) and the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) of Bangued and Lagangilang led the kick-off of the Environment Month celebration this June through seedlings distribution activity dubbed “Community Plant Tree”.

Around 400 grown seedlings of Mahogany, Gmelina and Narra were distributed for free last June 1. The seedlings were provided by CENRO Bangued and Lagangilang from their own nurseries.

Provincial Environment Officer Engr. Marcelo Bumidang said the activity aims to encourage local communities to plant trees to promote in building a greener, healthier and more sustainable environment.

Bumidang said that the seedlings distributed are “fast-growing species” which can be used and harvested by the beneficiaries around 15 years from now.

“Pag naitanim na, madalinglumaki at maka-contribute ito sa problema natin sa climate change and then later on, pwede naman nilang pakinabangan after harvest like for lumbers and other uses,” he informed.

He said they have listed the names of those who got seedlings for their monitoring.

Gudelia Ramos, 69 years-old, she said that the seedlings of gmelina and mahogany will be important in keeping her farm greener.

“Itatanim ko sa maliit na farm ko ito sa Pidigan kasi inaalagaan ko ang kapaligiran niya, at tinataniman ko ng sari-saring mga punong-kahoy,” she said.

PENRO-Abra is also set to lead multiple tree planting activities this month including clean-up drives, run for a cause, environment quiz bee, among others. and others.(JDP/CAGT-PIA CAR, Abra)



LOOK: Maam Gudelia Ramos is among those who got free seedlings during the "Community Plant Tree" distribution of PENRO and CENROs in Abra. (CAGT - PIA CAR, Abra)



Solid waste management remains a concern in Zampan

Published on: June 10, 2022

By Myra Cel Espinosa

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Jun 10 (PIA) – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources 9 (DENR-9) highlights that one major concern in the environment is the solid waste management in Zamboanga Peninsula and all throughout the country.

Roserverico Tan, Chief of Regional Strategic Communication and Initiatives Group of DENR 9, emphasized that issues on solid waste management still persist even after the enactment of RA 9003, “it’s been 22 years and yet until now, we cannot still solve solid waste management issue in the country,” Tan added.

It is pointed out that the Philippines is one of the major source of solid waste in the world. DENR appealed to the people that there should be a major shift in terms of behavior among citizens, saying that “this is not only the problem of [the] government but with everybody.”

The month of June is a celebration of Environment Month, and this year’s theme is “Aksyon Para sa Natatanging Mundo”. DENR-9 encourages the public to be part of the celebration in creating action for the preservation of the planet.

“Our planet is already suffering and it’s only through us to initiate actions for its conservation and protection, because there is no other planet in solar system that can harbor life except planet earth,” Tan emphasized.

To sustain green actions for the protection of the environment, DENR advises to refuse using single use plastic materials like straws, plastics bags and cups. Segregation of waste at home and in establishments is also highly encourage to separate recyclable materials, biodegradable and non-biodegradable.

“Let us make everyday environment day. It really depends on how we act today. What we are doing today should be dedicated for the next generation,” Tan said.

DENR-9 is also capacitating Local Government Units in the region to create the 10-year solid waste management plan which may be able to help improve the problem in 10 years’ time. (RVC/MLE/PIA9-Zamboanga City)

Source: <https://pia.gov.ph/news/2022/06/10/solid-waste-management-remains-a-concern-in-zampan>



DENR CL renews call for proper waste disposal

Published on: June 10, 2022

By Marie Joy Carbungco

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga (PIA) -- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Central Luzon has renewed its call to the public to do their part in the proper disposal and segregation of wastes.

DENR Assistant Regional Director for Management Services Laudemir Salac said that with the accumulation of used face masks and other personal protective equipment which are mostly non-biodegradable during the pandemic, there is really a need to segregate trash.

“Data from the Environmental Management Bureau shows that in the previous year, daily wastes generated nationwide reached about 5.59 million kilos. Of these mixed wastes, about 3.91 million kilos composed of both biodegradable and non-biodegradables; 1.39 million kilos are being disposed; while 279,920 kilos are residual wastes which should be disposed in sanitary landfill areas,” he said.

With this amount of garbage generated daily, Salac stressed the negative impacts it can cause to the environment if these wastes were not properly disposed and segregated.

One of these, he said, is water pollution, which can result if wastes will be dumped in creeks and estuaries and go down to the major river systems like Manila Bay, and ultimately down to the coastal areas.

When this happens, Salac said marine resources will be contaminated and may die. In addition, this can also increase the risk of flooding if drainages get clogged with garbage.

“There is also air pollution in cases of open dumpsite, where wastes just piled up and not segregated. In the process of decomposition of unmanaged waste, it produces methane gas which is one of the greenhouse gases that affects the ozone layer and contributes to global warming. Also, during this process, carbon dioxide is produced which can also contribute to a rise in atmospheric temperature,” he said.

With these negative impacts to the environment, Salac urged the public to start proper waste management and disposal at home.

He said people should be reminded of proper segregation, and the need to intensify recycling.



“We should avoid single-use plastics. We don't want bottled mineral water anymore. We advocate the use of tumblers. We need to beef up our recycling program in the Philippines since it is not yet very efficient. We keep on producing these PET bottles and this one-time use plastics like straws in fast foods that will just accumulate after use. However, we should start using alternatives to those,” he said.

Salac cited the need to reduce, reuse, and recycle by transforming one product into another useful product; and refusing to use Styrofoams, and instead opt for biodegradable containers like those made of starch.

DENR also urged municipal government to establish their own materials recovery facility and create compost pit for fertilizers.

Salac assured that DENR will continue to strengthen public awareness through conduct of dialogues with barangay officials and their counterparts in the local government units to provide technical assistance and monitor their compliance to ecological solid waste management.

“We will also continue with our information, education, and communication program to involve the community to further develop their behavior towards proper waste management,” he said. (CLJD/MJSC-PIA 3)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources Assistant Regional Director for Management Services Laudemir Salac calls the public anew to practice proper waste disposal and segregation at home, citing the negative impact to the environment if wastes were not properly managed. (Marie Joy S. Carbungco/PIA 3)



DENR awards 1,500 land titles in Region 2

By [Leander C. Domingo](#) June 11, 2022

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya: The [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) in Region 2 awarded more than 1,500 land titles to qualified recipients in the [Cagayan Valley](#) region.

[Gwendolyn Bambalan](#), DENR Region 2 director, said the majority of the land titles were already distributed to various stakeholders in Cagayan Valley in celebration of the country's Environment Month and the agency's 35th founding anniversary.

She said the land title distribution is being held under the Handog Titulo program of the DENR under the leadership of acting secretary [Jim Sampulna](#).

"The distribution of land titles is in support of the government's program called 'Pamana sa Mamamayang Pilipino: A Duterte Legacy'," Bambalan said.

Bambalan said more titles will be distributed to qualified recipients in the provinces of Quirino and Nueva Vizcaya on Monday, June 13, and in Cagayan and Isabela provinces on Tuesday, June 14.



DENR boosts rehabilitation, forest conservation

By [Frederick Silverio](#) June 10, 2022



THEY CAN MAKE A TREE, TOO Thousands of employees from various government agencies and volunteers across Central Luzon hold simultaneous rehabilitation and conservation activities to save the region's remaining forestlands and watersheds. Some of them are shown here in Cogonan, Doña Remedios, Bulacan where they planted trees on Wednesday, June 8, 2022. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO: More than 2,000 government employees and volunteers across Central [Luzon](#) on Wednesday embarked on a massive tree-growing activity to heighten rehabilitation and conservation of remaining forest lands and watersheds in the region.

DENR [Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr.](#) said convergence of different national government agencies in this nationwide tree-planting activity illustrated the theme of the Philippine Environment Month that called for a collective and transformative action in protecting and conserving the environment.

"The message we want to demonstrate in this year's observance of the Philippine Environment Month is 'Aksyon para sa Natatanging Mundo,' which embodies our collective effort and shared commitment to nurture our ecological wealth, particularly the 942,387 hectares of forest land areas of Central Luzon," Moreno noted.

Over 17,000 bamboo and native and fruit-bearing shoots were planted in identified Expanded [National Greening Program](#) (ENGP) sites in the region.

The simultaneous tree-growing activities were conducted in the region's areas and forests, covering ENGP sites in Dilasag, [Maria Aurora](#) and Dingalan in Aurora; Limay and Morong in [Bataan](#); Doña Remedios Trinidad and Norzagaray in Bulacan; Carranglan, Gabaldon, [Santa Rosa](#) and Bongabon in Nueva Ecija; Arayat, Pampanga; [San Jose](#), Tarlac; and Subic and Botolan in Zambales.



Dolomite beach muling magbubukas sa June 12

Raya Capulong, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Jun 10 2022 04:58 PM

MANILA — Puspusan na ang paghahanda sa Manila Bay Walk Dolomite Beach, na inaasahang muling magbubukas sa publiko sa June 12, Araw ng Kalayaan.



Pinipinturahan na ang mga bakod, tuloy-tuloy ang paglilinis, at pinapantay at inilalatag nang maayos ang mga buhangin.

Nakahilera na rin ang mga ilalagay na bike rack at bollards.

Kahit nakasara pa at napakainit ng panahon, may ilang mga napunta na nais sanang mamasyal sa loob ng dolomite beach pero hindi sila pinayagan ng mga security guard.

Kaya hanggang selfie at groufie na lang ang nagawa ng mga namasyal.

Magpupulong pa ang mga pulis para plantsahin ang latag ng seguridad at para malaman kung ilan ang ide-deploy nila.

Pero una nang nagpaalala ang Manila Bay Coordinating Office na ang muling pagbubukas ng beach ay para lamang sa pamamasyal, paglalakad at panonood ng sunset at hindi para sa pagligo doon.

Paalala rin ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na sa muling pagbubukas ng dolomite beach ay mahigpit pa ring paiiralin ang health protocols kontra COVID-19.

Mainam na magsuot ng face mask, at hangga't maaari anila ay dapat fully vaccinated na.

Nasa 1,500 hanggang 3,500 na katao ang papayagang makapasok sa tukoy na mga oras sa kahabaan ng 500-meter dolomite beach upang matiyak na masusunod ang minimum health protocols.



Kasabay naman ng pagbubukas ng dolomite beach sa Linggo ang pagpapasinaya ng World War II Heritage Cannon sa Remedios area.

Ang Heritage Cannon ay isa sa mga orihinal na kanyon noong World War II mula sa Fort Drum Island na matatagpuan ngayon sa may bukana ng Manila Bay.



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GMA News 12h · 🌐

Final touches are being done at the Manila Bay Dolomite Beach for its reopening on June 12, 2022, Independence Day.

Beach will be opened at 4:30pm to 6pm this Sunday, after its inauguration. Starting June 13, 2022, it will be opened everyday from 6am-6pm. | via Jonathan Andal, GMA News

RELATED STORY: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/.../manila-bay-dolomite.../story/>



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Balik tayo sa mga balita sa Pilipinas, muling bubuksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach sa Linggo, Araw ng Kalayaan. Ang paalala ng denr sa mga papasyal doon sa ulat on the spot ni Jonathan Andal. Jonathan?

SHOW MORE



Peña: CDs and the environment

ROX PEÑA ESSUE June 10, 2022

FEW days ago, I went to the office of the Commission on Election (COMELEC) to submit my Statement of Contributions and Expenditures (SOCE). All candidates, whether winners or losers, are required to file this SOCE no less than a month after the election. One requirement is to provide a soft copy of all the documents. I submitted mine in a USB flash drive but it was rejected by COMELEC. They said that the soft copy should be in a Compact Disk (CD).

I thought putting the data in a CD was an easy task, but I was wrong. Computer shops don't burn CD's anymore. I went to National Bookstore, Pandayan and Expression bookstores, but they have stopped selling CDs. Luckily, I found a shop at the second floor of the City Mall in Dau that still have this item.

Is this the end of the CD? My laptop doesn't have a CD drive, and new car models do not have CD players. Just like the cassette tape and floppy disk, the CD is on the way to obsolescence. It has been replaced by USB flash drives for data storage. For music, new digital formats like streaming, Bluetooth and MP3 are the norm. As far as solid waste management is concerned, this shift is for the better.

The CD is typically made from a combination of materials which are both non-renewable non-biodegradable. These include components made from aluminum, petroleum dyes, and polycarbonate compounds, which means that it is difficult to dispose of when it is no longer needed. If incinerated, it will release toxic dioxins. In landfills, they will not decompose. It is estimated that it will take over 1 million years for a CD to completely decompose in a landfill. Over time, CDs can release Bisphenol A (BPA), which can cause health implications in humans.

Added to the CD waste are the accessories that come with it. These include the plastic case, booklets, case lining notes, and other printed papers which will also become trash after use. By switching from physical to digital, the amount of solid waste that is disposed is reduced. There will also be less electronic waste. When there are no CD's, there are no CD players to dispose as well.

There are technologies which can recycle CD elements into a form of plastic, but the process is said to be costly and not commonplace. It's possible however for CDs to be recycled for use in new products. Specialized electronic recycling companies clean, grind, blend, and compound CD's into a high-quality plastic for a variety of uses, including: automotive industry parts, raw materials to make plastics, office equipment, alarm boxes and panels, street lights, and electrical cable insulation, and even jewel cases.

There are arguments that say CD's are better than streaming in terms of carbon footprint. It is claimed that on a per-unit basis, streaming has a far lower carbon footprint than any physical format. Estimates put the carbon footprint of an hour of media streaming at around 55 grams of CO2 equivalent, while CDs are over three times that. Thus, to minimize energy usage, put your music in local storage devices such as phones and computers which will reduce the need for streaming over distance from remote servers. Remember that digital platforms generate less solid waste, especially plastic.

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1931517/pampanga/opinion/pea-cds-and-the-environment>



Carbon Market soon to manage own garbage

By [Caecent No-ot Magsumbol](#)(The Freeman) - June 11, 2022 - 12:00am

CEBU, Philippines — Proper solid waste management (SWM) and a material recovery facility (MRF) at the Carbon Market soon are expected to help solve the long-time problem of garbage in Cebu City.

With over 50 tons of waste a day from the biggest public market in Cebu, such a move is highly welcomed.

A multi-sectoral people's organization comprised of vendors, karumateros, barangays, and other community members of the Carbon district in Cebu City has joined forces for the implementation of proper SWM in the area.

Members of Lambo Carbon started it by visiting the SWM facility in Subangdaku, Mandaue City, to benchmark its operations, implementation measures, and strategy.

Aside from the site visit is a seminar conducted by Subangdaku's SWM team, headed by its co-chairman Ramonita Manatad.

Subangdaku's SWM has received awards from the national government including the Gawad Pangulo ng Kapaligiran Award with its unique approach to waste management.

Among the key factors that make the barangay different was its waste segregation which is backed up by solid advocacy and an effective information drive.

Lambo Carbon aims to benchmark these practices for the implementation of such to the Carbon community.

The implementation of SWM program is expected to help the Carbon Public Market lessen the amount of waste transported to landfills.

Leading the participants are Pastor Zosimo Potot, Lambo Carbon president and president of the LAVO Seaside Vendors' Association, and other officers.

"Ako malaumon nga ma-implementar na gayud kini nga proyekto para sa Lambo Carbon, labi na nga kinahanglan nato matutukan kung giunsa nato paglabay ug pagdumala ang atong mga basura," Pastor Potot said.

Potot went further saying, this will be a big help for everyone's development.

"Kini makatabang dili lang sa atong mga sunod nga mga henerasyon sa mga mamaligyay sa mercado ug atong mga anak, kun dili kini mamahimong dakong kalamboan sa atong merkado nga mamahimong dakong tabang sa panginabuhian sa tanan," Potot said.

"We support community-led initiatives such as this project by Lambo Carbon which ensures the measures being implemented are led by actual vendors and members of the community," said Lydwena Eco, Cebu2World deputy general manager.

Supporting activities like these is part of the provisions of the Joint Venture Agreement between the Cebu2World Development Inc. (C2W), the company undertaking the modernization of the Carbon district in partnership with the Cebu City government.

"Sustainable waste management is really our commitment to the Cebu City LGU and the Carbon community. We have to attain this hand-in hand with the community. Everyone should be involved in the planning and execution of all the programs," added Eco.



Aside from that, Cebu2World is set to implement a centralized MRF to consolidate waste management, segregation, and recycling efforts in the district.

With an MRF, waste that had to be disposed of in the landfill is expected to have a significant reduction, thus, also saving some funds for the city government. — **GMR (FREEMAN)**



Freedom beckons for PH Eagle rescued in Sarangani

Published June 10, 2022, 3:10 PM
by [Antonio Colina IV](#)

DAVAO CITY – A male Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) will be released back into its home in Sarangani on Monday, June 13, more than a year after it was rescued in Barangay Ticulab, Maitum, Sarangani, Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) Development Program Manager Andi Baldonado said.

In an interview over Davao City Disaster Radio (DCDR 87.5) Wednesday, June 8, Baldonado said that the foundation will work with the local government units and communities in the province to ensure the safety of “Sarangani Eagle” previously named “Salagbanog” as well as the preservation of its species, classified as critically endangered.

The release will culminate the Philippine Eagle Week 2022 celebration from June 6 to 13.

A T’boli farmer found the raptor trapped in thorny rattan vines after hunting a monkey near Salagbanog Falls on Jan. 8, 2021.

The eagle underwent rehabilitation after undergoing a surgery to remove a piece of marble lodged near its right clavicle. The marble might have been used as a bullet by a hunter, according to PEF.

“We will release the Philippine eagle Sarangani, one of those we rescued. It’s deemed fit for release and we have the support of the LGU there and we can finally do this, this coming Monday,” Baldonado said.



Philippine Eagle Foundation to transfer birds to new sanctuary in Davao City

Published June 10, 2022, 2:50 PM

by [Antonio Colina IV](#)



MALLGOERS admire stuffed Philippine Eagle 'Pag-asa' in an exhibit of the Philippine Eagle Foundation at SM Lanang Premier in Davao City which is part of the annual Philippine Eagle Week celebration that aims to strengthen awareness on the conservation of the critically endangered Philippine Eagle. (Keith Baongco)

DAVAO CITY – The Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) will transfer some of its eagles to a new location in Barangay Eden, Toril District here this year as the highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1) or bird flu threatens the critically endangered raptors.

PEF Development Program Manager Andi Baldonado said that the foundation wants to enforce an emergency transfer initially of its three breeding pairs of Philippines Eagles being kept at the center in Barangay Malagos as nearby communities pose risks to the safety of the birds.

The new location in Toril, owned by the city government of Davao, has an estimated area of 50 hectares, more than enough to ensure that there will be “buffer zones” around the facility.

She said that a usufruct will have to be entered into between the PEF and the local government before they can start the construction of the temporary enclosures where the breeding pairs will be housed.

Baldonado said the transfer is necessary to protect them from serious threats, including deadly avian flu, which could potentially wipe out their species.

“Our priority is to transfer first the eagles that are currently breeding. We have two or three – one pair is being introduced. We need to prioritize them so that they can continue to breed,” she said.



Bataan marks World Oceans Day

By [Ernie Esconde](#) June 10, 2022

LIMAY, Bataan: Members of two youth organizations in Bataan on Wednesday launched a coastal clean-up in a village here as part of their commemoration of World Oceans Day. The participants in the clean-up drive in Barangay Lamao are members of the Young Bataeños for Environmental Advocacy Network ([Young BEAN](#)) and Youth for Nationalism and Democracy (YND). The two groups are active in monitoring environmental concerns in the province, such as the "coal-free and nuclear-free Bataan" movements. "The coastal clean-up is part of the continuing efforts of our group to create awareness among the young people and communities to protect the oceans from destruction due to pollution caused by plastics and dirty industries like coal," Young BEAN spokesman [Rochelle Magracia](#) said. YND president [Jeff Reyes](#) called on the government to prioritize the welfare of the oceans rather than the businesses that worsen the destruction of the seas.

Biden urges climate progress as Brazil leader joins Americas summit

Agence France-Presse June 10, 2022 | 8:39am



U.S. President Joe Biden delivers remarks ahead of receiving a third dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine in the South Court Auditorium in the White House September 27, 2021 in Washington, DC.

Anna Moneymaker / Getty Images / AFP

LOS ANGELES, United States — Joe Biden sought Thursday to step up action on climate at an Americas summit with hopes for at least small progress with Brazil, whose far-right leader will hold a potentially tense meeting with the US president.

Some two dozen leaders have descended on Los Angeles for the Summit of the Americas, where Biden urged both governments and the private sector to show that democracy can work.

The summit comes as China makes rapid inroads in Latin America, long viewed by Washington as its turf, although Biden has steered clear of big-dollar pledges and has instead sought cooperation in targeted areas.

"We stand at an inflection point. More is going to change in the next 10 years than has changed in the last 30 years in the world," Biden told business leaders Thursday on the sidelines of the summit.

"I find no reason why the Western Hemisphere over the next 10 years is not developed into the most democratic region in the world," he said.

Biden urged the hemisphere to make efforts on promoting more equitable growth and "kicking our action on climate change into high gear."

Opening the formal talks with leaders, Biden took a veiled swipe at his predecessor Donald Trump, saying that he was offering "proposals that I think are a far cry from what we saw from a previous American administration."

Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris together met with leaders of Caribbean nations that are particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels.

One outlier from the international chorus to battle climate change has been Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, a champion of agribusiness.

As such he has horrified environmentalists, who warn that further erosion of the Amazon rainforest will disrupt a vital natural sink for the planet's carbon emissions.

Ahead of Biden's first meeting with Bolsonaro on Thursday, the White House said Brazil, Colombia and Peru would join a US-backed initiative to explore ways to reduce Amazon deforestation motivated by commodities industries.



The White House also said that Brazil and four other nations were joining a renewable energy initiative launched at last year's UN climate summit in Copenhagen.

In the pact, countries promise to work toward a goal of 70 percent renewables in their energy mix by 2030.

Despite coming under criticism over the Amazon, Brazil -- the sixth most populous nation -- has one of the least carbon-intensive economies for a major economy and already meets the goal on renewables, mostly through hydropower.

The 'Tropical Trump'

The meeting with Bolsonaro could be awkward due to more than climate. Bolsonaro was an ally of Biden's predecessor Donald Trump and has appeared to follow the former president's playbook by alleging that Brazil's October elections are threatened by fraud.

On the eve of his trip, Bolsonaro went further by backing Trump's claims of irregularities in the 2020 US election won by Biden. There has been no evidence of widespread fraud.

Jake Sullivan, Biden's national security advisor, said the president would not shy away from discussing the importance of free elections.

Bolsonaro has trailed in early polls against his likely challenger, former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, a leftist icon who was jailed on controversial corruption charges.

A victory by Lula would mark a further swing to the left in Latin America. Colombia, one of the closest US allies, could see a historic shift on June 19 if there is a victory by leftist Gustavo Petro, who topped the first round of voting.

While promising to work with leaders across ideology, Biden has held firm against inviting the leftist leaders of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela on the grounds that they are autocrats.

His stance led to a boycott of the summit by Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, a crucial partner on addressing rising migration into the United States.

Harris started the week-long summit by announcing commitments of \$1.9 billion by businesses in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in hopes of creating jobs and discouraging migration -- an issue seized upon by Trump's Republican Party.

Also at the summit, the Biden administration announced a plan to help train 500,000 health workers in Latin America and a \$300 million project to improve food security, with Russia's invasion of Ukraine disrupting grain exports.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/climate-and-environment/2022/06/10/2187435/biden-urges-climate-progress-brazil-leader-joins-americas-summit>

Plastic-munching superworms offer hope for recycling

By Tiffanie Turnbull BBC News, Sydney Published 19 hours ago



UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Scientists hope the discovery of a 'superworm' gut enzyme can transform plastic recycling

A species of insect larvae with a taste for plastic could help revolutionise recycling, researchers say.

Australian scientists have found the *Zophobas morio* - commonly known as a superworm - can survive on a diet of polystyrene.

They believe the beetle larvae digest the plastic through a gut enzyme.

That could be significant for advancements in recycling, says one of the study's authors.

"Superworms are like mini recycling plants, shredding the polystyrene with their mouths and then feeding it to the bacteria in their gut," Dr Chris Rinke said.

The University of Queensland team fed three groups of superworms different diets over three weeks. The batch that ate polystyrene even put on weight.

The team found several enzymes in the superworm's gut have the ability to degrade polystyrene and styrene. Both are common in takeaway containers and other items such as insulation and car parts.

But the research is unlikely to lead to massive worm farms that double as recycling plants. Instead, they hope to identify which enzyme is the most effective so it can be reproduced at scale for recycling.

Plastic would then be mechanically shredded, before being treated with the enzyme, said the research published in **Microbial Genomics**.

"The breakdown products from this reaction can then be used by other microbes to create high-value compounds such as bioplastics," Dr Rinke said.

Research has previously shown some types of beetle larvae can consume polystyrene.



But this study takes it a step further, says Australian National University researcher Colin Jackson - who wasn't involved with the study.

"This study goes a long way towards understanding how the bacteria in [the superworms'] gut do this at the molecular level," Professor Jackson **told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.**

"[That's] important for translation and use of this type of approach in recycling."

Internationally, other researchers have had success in using bacteria and fungi to break down plastics.

But some question whether such techniques will ever be commercially viable.

"The scale-up and translation of research like this is always a challenge, which is magnified in the area of plastics by the incredible scale of the problem and the economics in terms of how cheap new plastic is to produce," Professor Jackson said.



Uzbekistan gets funding for forest restoration

By [Xinhua News Agency](#) June 11, 2022

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan: The [World Bank](#) has approved a \$142 million concessional credit for Uzbekistan to support a project to restore degraded forested lands in various regions of the country, and promote Uzbekistan's collaboration with other Central [Asian countries](#) on transboundary landscape restoration, the bank's Tashkent office said Thursday.

The project is part of the Resilient Landscapes in [Central Asia](#) Program that aims to increase resilience to further desertification, landscape degradation and climate change, it said.

The new World Bank-funded project will help implement the Concept for Developing Uzbekistan's Forest System by 2030, adopted by the Uzbek government in October 2020, [Marco Mantovanelli](#), the World Bank country manager for Uzbekistan, said in a statement.

"Through tree-based landscape restoration interventions in the areas with degraded lands, the project will contribute to increased resilience of landscapes, food systems, people and infrastructure, creation of natural resource management-based jobs and small and medium enterprises, and investments in nature-based tourism and protected areas," he said.

The project will be implemented by Uzbekistan's [State Committee](#) on Forestry.

According to the World Bank, Uzbekistan has low forest coverage and over the past 30 years, it has been degraded because of uncontrolled animal husbandry, increasing demand for industrial and fuel wood due to limited energy sources in rural areas, and expansion of irrigated agriculture into forests.

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Harnessing blue economy amid climate threats

INVESTMENT in climate-change mitigation is vital to reduce the destructive impact of extreme weather conditions in the country, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

In a virtual webinar of East Asian Seas' Response, in celebration of World Ocean Day, DENR Director Chief Elenida Basug, Climate Change Service Officer-in-charge, cited a study suggesting the country should implement urgent climate actions to alleviate economic losses.

"Based on a study by the Asian Development Bank, the country is estimated to lose 6 percent of its gross domestic product every year until the year 2100 if it disregards the risk asso-

ciated with climate change," Basug said.

She noted that with climate change mitigation, the average loss may decline to 4 percent.

Destructive weather conditions from 2007 to 2016 alone have left the country with around \$19.16 billion or more than P1 trillion in estimated socio-economic damage due to natural hazards attributed to climate change.

"The center for research on the epidemiology of disasters recorded 187 significant damaging natural disasters in the country from 2007 to 2016, causing the death of 16,262 people, and injury to about 168,114 persons," she said.

Despite these threats, the DENR implied the relevance of advancing the

blue economy or the systems and collaboration seeking to sustain marine conservation.

Basug insisted that marine biodiversity has been an economic asset for the country, mentioning it has contributed to some \$3 billion or more than P158.78 billion value-added from coastal and marine tourism alone, even providing employment to 900,000 workers.

Hence, their call for more sustainable actions and programs that would foster marine biodiversity protection.

For its part, the DENR said it has come up with the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program, which aims "to comprehensively manage, address, and effectively reduce the degradation of the coastal and marine ecosystem".



13K bamboo planted in Region 2

MARKING the celebration of Philippine Environment Month, around 2,500 volunteers in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) planted some 13,266 propagules of bamboo on June 8, 2022.

According to Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 2 office, the propagules that were planted in 40 planting sites totaling 54 hectares (ha) included *bayog*, *kawayan tinik*, *kawayan kiling*, machiku and golden bamboo.

The nationwide celebration of Philippine Environment Month in June has the theme "Aksyon Para sa Natatanging Mundo" and was joined by the Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection, Philippine Coast Guard, local government units (LGUs), Sangguniang Kabataan members, academic institutions, environment ambassadors and other non-

governmental organizations.

Led by the regional and field offices, together with the Environmental Management Bureau and Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the DENR in Region 2, the planting activity along the Cagayan River, lakes and creeks is in support of the Cagayan River Restoration Project under the Build Back Better initiative of the government.

Bambalan said the planting activity aims to stabilize the riverbanks, provide livelihood opportunities in the community and boost the ecotourism program among the LGUs.

She said indigenous tree species such as bitaog, molave, talisay, aluyi and narra were also planted in support of the National Greening Program of the Environment department.

Bambalan also urged participants in the activity in the region to grow and ensure the survival of planted trees.

LEANDER C. DOMINGO



Coca-Cola upscales recycling ecosystem

COCA-COLA Philippines and Plastic Bank aim to collect 10 million post-consumer PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic bottles this year to address the global packaging waste issue and strengthen the recycling ecosystem in the country.

The new goal is double their target in 2021, when 5 million used PET bottles were successfully recycled and diverted from landfills and oceans. The program also aims to improve the lives of partner collectors and junk shops enrolled in the Plastic Bank Ecosystem Impact Program.

Through the Ecosystem Impact Week event, which will run from June 8 to 12, 2022 at Robinsons Place General Trias, Coca-Cola Philippines, Plastic Bank and the local government of General Trias, Cavite aim to educate more Filipinos on the value of collecting and recycling recyclable

plastics. A collection booth has been set up for consumers visiting the mall, where they can bring clean and used recyclable plastic bottles and help give these a second life.

"At Coca-Cola, we recognize that we have a big role to play in helping solve the plastic waste problem," said Tony del Rosario, president of Coca-Cola Philippines and vice president for East Franchise Operations of Coca-Cola Asean and South Pacific. Asean is the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

"With partners like Plastic Bank, the government, nongovernment organizations, civil society, industry and private sectors, we know that a World Without Waste with measurable, positive impact is possible," del Rosario added.

Plastic Bank is a social enterprise that builds collection and recycling

ecosystems in coastal communities by working directly with individuals in the informal waste sector and micro and small enterprises like junk shops. Through the Plastic Bank Ecosystem, collector partners are given access to training, tools and equipment for efficient waste collection, and a source of livelihood. The program also connects collector partners to the market, material recovery facilities or junk shop branches, which buy their collected recyclable materials to ensure the sustainability of the program.

Plastic Bank works with about 500 recycling communities around the world and over 20,000 community members, said Gidget Velez, the organization's chief country development officer.

"By supporting collection communities in coastal areas, we effectively prevent plas-

tic from reaching the oceans. Our partnership with Coca-Cola Philippines has helped us reach critical scale in just two years — from the volume of plastic we collect to the number of lives we directly impact," Velez added.

In 2018, Coca-Cola Co. announced its global goal to help collect and recycle the equivalent of every bottle and can it sell by 2030 to achieve its vision of a World Without Waste.

Coca-Cola Philippines has since invested in community programs and critical infrastructure to make the recycling value chain a reality. PETValue, the first bottle-to-bottle recycling plant in the Philippines located at General Trias, is expected to process 30,000 metric tons (MT) of plastic PET bottles and produce around 16,000 MT of recycled PET resins every year.

EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ



Companies renew ties vs plastic waste

REPUBLIC Cement and personal health and hygiene products company Colgate-Palmolive Philippines renewed their partnership that aims to alleviate the pervasive plastic waste problem in the country.

Colgate-Palmolive Philippines' partnership with Republic Cement is a step toward addressing the plastic waste crisis, which also aligns with the cement firm's commitment to environmental protection and sustainability.

Having worked together since signing the first memorandum of agreement in December 2020, both companies pledged to continue their partnership through ecoloop last March 23 at an event at Republic Cement's Bulacan plant.

"Colgate-Palmolive Philippines is committed to contribute to the betterment of the environment," said Arvind Sachdev, Colgate-Palmolive Philippines president and general manager.

Sachdev and Republic Cement Chief Executive Officer Roman Menz sealed the renewal of its partnership against plastic waste through a ceremonial tree planting activity.

"We are very proud to be part of this system and part of the solution and are happy to have found such a strong partnership with Colgate-Palmolive Philippines," said Menz.

Republic Cement has been at the forefront of innovative waste management for nearly two decades. As the pioneer of co-processing in the Philippines, it has the expertise and equipment for managing pre- and post-consumer waste.

Through ecoloop, the recovery of thermal and mineral properties of qualified waste materials and the manufacture of cement are combined in a single operation.



■ Arvind Sachdev (left), Colgate-Palmolive Philippines president and general manager; and Roman Menz, Republic Cement chief executive officer, renew their respective companies' partnership to combat plastic waste with a tree-planting activity on March 23, 2022 at Republic Cement's Bulacan plant. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This involves using plastic waste as an alternative fuel, thereby also cutting down the reliance on fossil fuels like coal.

Moreover, the co-processing method completely breaks down the organic molecules in the waste materials, thus reducing carbon emissions. Any by-product, such as ash, is fully integrated into the production of clinker, which is a key ingredient of cement. Thus, co-processing completely closes the lifecycle loop of plastic waste, preventing them from being leaked back into the environment in any way, whether through land, water or air.

With a license issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Republic Cement is fully capable and authorized to use and dispose of qualified waste through the co-processing method.



The splendor of Masungi and why it must be saved

First of two parts

ONE beautiful Saturday morning, I took an hour-and-a-half drive from Makati, traversing the winding Marcos Highway to Kilometer 47 at the boundary of Baras and Tanay, two towns in the province of Rizal.

The splendor of the Masungi Georeserve and its 60-million-year-old limestone formations unfolded before my eyes. Unknown to many, this joint project between the government and Blue Star Corp. aimed to develop 30 percent of the area to support the preservation and restoration of the remaining 70 percent as forest spaces.

To continue supporting the sustainability and conservation effort, the Masungi Georeserve Foundation was born in 2015. Two years later, in 2017, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources tasked it to help restore 2,700 hectares (ha) of degraded land within the Marikina Watershed, Kaliwa Watershed and the Masungi Wildlife Sanctuary.

Worldwide deforestation is happening at alarming rates and the Philippines is no exemption. According to Global Forest Watch, the Philippines lost 1.34 million ha of relative tree cover from 2001 to 2021, a 7.2-percent decrease since 2000.

The Masungi Georeserve, managed by accomplished and brave sisters Ann and Billie Dumaliang, employed restoration through reforestation activities as one of the key approaches to bringing life back to the protected area. They mobilize stakeholders such as schools, private companies and socio-civic organizations to participate in the restoration initiatives.

To date, more than 68,000 native trees have been planted



ALL ABOUT
CHOICES

LUDWIG O.
FEDERIGAN

and nurtured in the conservation area. Some of these include White Lauan (*Shorea contorta*), a native premium dipterocarp species from the family *Dipterocarpaceae* and commonly found in semi-lowland evergreen forest; Malaruhat (*Syzygium subcaudatum*), a native evergreen tree species from the family *Myrtaceae* that can grow up to 15 meters (m) high; Salinggogon (*Cratoxylum formosum*), a deciduous tree that can grow up to 45 m in height and known for its elegant pink flowers; and Antipolo (*Artocarpus blancoi*), endemic to the Philippines and locally used for paper and pulp production.

Aside from restoration activities, other critical approaches employed at the Masungi Georeserve include landscape-scale conservation, low-impact design and engineering, a secure conservation model, limited development and geotourism.

Landscape-scale conservation enables Masungi to keep the land that serves as a home to native flora and fauna free from outside threats and dangers. Low-impact design and engineering like light and repurposed materials within the trails, meanwhile, enable balanced interactions between man and nature.

Starting at Silungan and accompanied by park ranger Jolina, Billie, Renz and I marveled at the Discovery Trail, a trek that usually lasts for three to four hours but was shortened during our visit to give us a breathtaking encounter with its beauty. We reached Sapot, the web-style viewing platform

that displays a spectacular view of Laguna de Bay.

Given that the area was previously damaged, adopting a secure conservation model allows the Masungi Georeserve to provide systemic forest protection against unregulated development and activities in conflict with conservation.

The most critical approach is adopting geotourism to continuously, sustainably, and independently fund and operate conservation efforts. Geotourism follows principles to enable the harmonious coexistence of man and nature, including the protection and enhancement of a place's integrity and character; market selectivity and diversity; guest interpretation and satisfaction; and planning and land use for conservation and resources.

Apart from planting and nurturing more than 68,000 native trees, the Masungi Georeserve secured 2,000 ha of land for restoration, engaged over 100 rangers, established 17 ranger stations inside the reforestation area, installed eight checkpoints in critical areas, established 18 kilometers (km) of monitoring trails and engaged more than 200 partners in restoration.

"Masungi Georeserve's holistic approach to dealing with ecosystems degradation led to concrete and cooperative actions for the restoration of forest and wetlands, thus, preserving biodiversity, improving water quality and increasing resilience to climate change for generations to come," said Peter Repinski, interim chief executive officer (CEO) and CEO of Global Water Partnership.

Masungi Georeserve has received global awards. These include Global Water Partnership's Water Changemaker Awards, Vanity Fair Changing Your Mind Travel Awards 2021, WIN WIN Youth Award for Biodiversity Top

5 Global Finalist, United Nations' Young Champions of the Earth's Regional Finalist for 2020, and World Travel and Tourism Council Top 3 Global Finalist on Tourism for Tomorrow Award for Destination Stewardship.

"As a senior climate and biodiversity expert who has worked for decades in the Philippines and many other countries, I have always seen the Masungi Georeserve as a model for climate adaptation and mitigation action and an effective way of protecting and enhancing forests and landscapes. We should have more Masungi Georeserve and expand the current one," said Tony La Vina, a former Environment department undersecretary.

Like any other protected landscape in the country, the Masungi Georeserve is not free from encroachment and destructive activities. In February 2020, a quarry company, Rapid City Realty and Development Corp., fenced out portions of the reforestation site and prevented park rangers from conducting restoration work. Six months later, in July 2020, a professional squatting group — alleging to be part of a fraternity — occupied a portion of the watershed with a mob of about 30 persons coming from Caloocan City.

Part 2 will focus on the challenges faced by Masungi.

The author is the executive director of the Young Environmental Forum and a nonresident fellow of the Stratbase ADR Institute. He completed his climate change and development course at the University of East Anglia and an executive program on sustainability leadership at Yale University. You can email him at ludwig.federigan@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter at @WiggyFederigan.



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PRANGKAHAN

NI PABLO L. HERNANDEZ III

RAKET NG MGA GAMBLING LORDS, NAGSUSULPUTAN NA—Bago bumaba si P-Duterte sa Malacañang ngayong June 30, 2022, unti-unti nang nagsusulputan ang mga ilegal na sugal sa iba't ibang panig ng bansa.

Sana, sa pag-upo ni President-elect Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr. sa Malacañang, kabilang sa ipag-uutos nito sa kapulisan ay ipatigil ang lahat ng uri ng illegal gambling operations para matigil na ang panraraket ng mga ilegalista sa ating mga kababayan, period!

□□□

GAMBLING LORDS, SMUGGLERS, ILLEGAL LOGGERS AT ABUSADONG MINING COMPANY, DAPAT BANGGAIN NI P-BBM

SOCIAL MEDIA, GINAGAMIT NG MGA GAMBLING LORDS PARA RAKETIN ANG MAMAMAYAN—Matapos matigil ang operasyon ng online sabong, ang pumalit naman dito ay ang online sakla, online bingo at online tong-its na nakapambibiktima rin sa ating mga kababayan na nahuhumaling sa mga ganitong uri ng sugal sa social media.

Isa 'yan sa mga patunay na ang social media ay ginagamit na rin sa kasamaan ng mga gambling lords para magkamal ng limpak-limpak na salapi, tsk-~~tsk~~-tsk!

□□□

SANA MATIGIL NA ANG OPERASYON NG

MGA SMUGGLERS SA BUREAU OF CUSTOMS—Sa mga nagdaang pangulo ng bansa, at maging sa panahon ni P-Duterte ay hindi natigil ang operasyon ng mga smuggler sa Bureau of Customs.

Alam naman nila na isa sa mga dahilan kaya hindi nakalilikom ng sapat na koleksiyon ng buwis ang Customs ay dahil sa talamak na smuggling sa Adwana.

Kaya't kung nais ni P-BBM na makakolekta ng tamang buwis sa Customs, ipahuli at ipakulong niya ang lahat ng mga smugglers sa bansa, boom!



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THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



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CLEANING WATERWAYS
— Personnel from the Riverwaste Clearing Operation Group (RCOG) manually clean a creek in Philcoa, Quezon City, on Friday, June 10, 2022. The clearing operation is one of the government's preventive measures to avert flooding during the rainy season. (Mark Balmores)



No short cuts

Every incoming administration of this country has the power and the responsibility to review each and every contract entered into by the previous administration to determine not only if these have followed the prescribed rules, but also to see if public interest will be served by their execution and if public funds will not be wasted.

One such contract involves the provision of information and communications technology systems allowing mobile and online betting for lotto, digit, and small-town lottery or STL games of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO).

HIDDEN AGENDA



**MARY ANN
LL. REYES**

According to court records, PCSO chairman Anselmo Pinili signed on April 12, 2021 a P5.8-billion contract for the installation and operation of a mobile and online betting system for the said lottery games by a Filipino-Chinese gaming technology joint venture.

But the PCSO board of directors had reportedly been warned by the agency's legal department against the implementation of the integrated sales agency agreement with SmartInfo-China LotSynergy due to serious legal and technical issues.

According to *mobilotto.com.ph*, SmartInfo Philippines is the holder of letters patent from the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines for its mobile online betting system and method, which is the heart and core of PCSO's nationwide online mobile terminal project. The company is also a smart card solutions provider and has government military projects, telecommunications, supply of smart cards and solutions, e-pass, government security projects, among others.

It is likewise the strategic partner of Datatrail Corp. for the alien certificate of registration identity card project of the Bureau of Immigration, which automated the process of alien registration and was awarded original proponent status by the Laguna Lake Development Authority for the LLDA permitting, monitoring and enforcement system automation project.

China LotSynergy, meanwhile, is the biggest lotto company in China offering lottery equipment, systems, games, solutions, among others. It is said to be the leading manufacturer of video lottery terminals and is the exclusive business partner of Global Fun Ghana for Ghana's national lottery business, the exclusive provider for both the sports and welfare lottery market in Cambodia, to name a few.

Unfortunately, while they appear to be legitimate and reputable companies, issues have been raised against its contract with PCSO, including its failure to follow to procedures laid out for public-private partnership (PPP) projects, such as evaluation and approval by the National Economic and Development Authority Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) and the NEDA board.

For public-private partnerships between government agencies and private sector proponents with project cost of more than P300 million, they need to secure as a general rule approval by NEDA, whether such project is solicited or unsolicited, as provided for under the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) law.

Even the Office of the President, through Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, in a memorandum last June 14, 2021, said that while the PCSO had the authority to determine the systems or platforms it will adopt, the agency has to secure a favorable finding from the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel or OGCC especially on a number of technical and operational expertise as well as financial discretion issues.



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The OGCC, in a letter dated July 13, 2021, meanwhile said that it defers to the PCSO management and board of directors' discretion to check on these issues, which the OGCC had raised in three separate opinions given by the latter.

PCSO officers have said that an earlier award to the joint venture of Pacific Online Systems Corp., Philippine Gaming Management Corp. and US-based International Lottery and Totalizator Systems, Inc. of a P5.8-billion Philippine lottery system contract already included a component for the installation of mobile lotto betting systems.

This would render the system of SmartInfo and China LotSynergy redundant, they pointed out.

Among those pushing for the contract's implementation are Pinili, who reportedly will be named acting general manager because Royina Garma has already been removed from office recently, and PCSO director Ramon "Ike" Seneres, who is the chairperson of the agency's oversight committee on product development and marketing management on business proposals.

Meanwhile, the career and professional assistant general managers are said to be rallying against the implementation of the contract because they might be the ones left to clean up the mess just in case Pinili is replaced by the incoming Marcos administration.

As political appointees, members of the PCSO's board of directors, including Pinili, are coterminous with the Duterte administration. They are expected to tender their courtesy resignations to give the new administration a free hand in naming its new team for PCSO.

The outgoing president himself dismissed the appointees of his predecessor in PCSO to rid the agency of corruption.

The unincorporated joint venture of SmartInfo and China LotSynergy actually went to court at the Mandaluyong RTC Branch presided by Judge Rizalina Capco-Umali to compel the PCSO to implement the controversial contract.

The petition for mandamus and writ of preliminary mandatory/prohibitory injunction and/or temporary restraining order specifically sought to compel then GM Garma and the PCSO to issue the necessary notices, orders, papers to allow the JV to implement the integrated sales agency agreement (ISAA) relative to the nationwide online mobile terminal project executed between petitioners and the PCSO and to prevent Garma and the PCSO from altering, amending, cancelling, revoking or terminating the said ISAA.

But Judge Umali, in a hearing on the petition, reportedly gave SmartInfo, which was in a rush obviously due to the change of administration after noon of June 30 this year, a choice of either to wait for her to come back from her leave which will last for several weeks or to transfer the case to the Mandaluyong RTC executive judge.

However, acting Mandaluyong RTC executive judge Ofelia Calo also declined to take on the case from on-leave Judge Capco-Umali. Instead Calo gave the case to Capco-Umali's pairing judge, Aileen Saquing-Agacita of Mandaluyong RTC Branch 213. The latter, a former Valenzuela City prosecutor, was just recently appointed to her post.

Failure to comply with government rules on the approval of projects and contracts can subject the public officials and personnel concerned to administrative and criminal penalties, due to violation of anti-graft laws, among others.

Whoever will take over PCSO will have to review this contract carefully, regardless of the outcome of the court case.

For comments, e-mail at mareyes@philstarmedia.com



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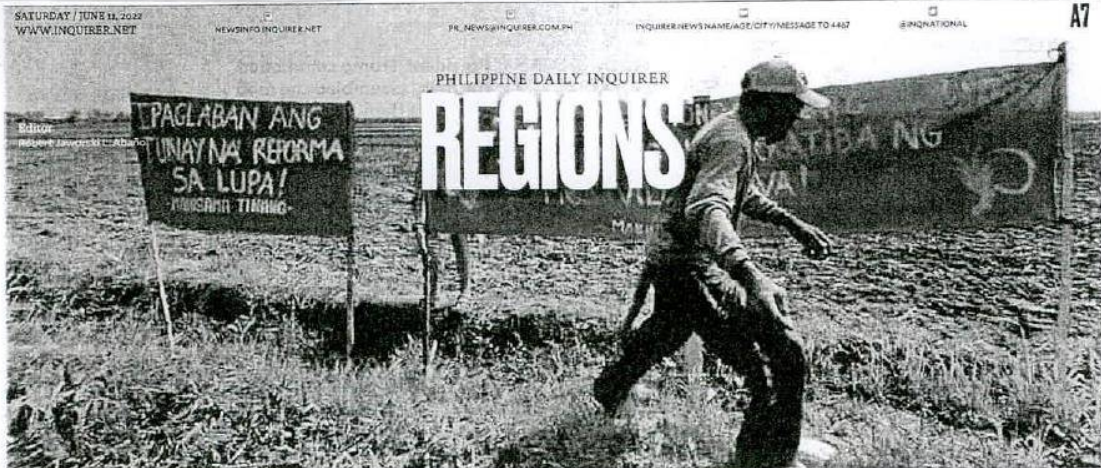
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URGENT CALL Streamers put up by members of the farmers' group Makisama Tinang in a disputed property in Concepcion, Tarlac, call on authorities to recognize their rights and implement a genuine agrarian reform. —PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLAC PROVINCIAL POLICE OFFICE

Raps filed vs 83 farmers, supporters nabbed over Tarlac land dispute

Case proceeds after breakdown of talks with cooperative tilling disputed sugarcane plantation

**By Tonette Orejas
and Jun Malig**
@InqNational

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—At least 83 of the 91 agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) and peasant advocates taken by the police and detained in Concepcion town, Tarlac province, on Thursday would face charges after a cooperative backed out of a compromise agreement to settle the destruction of sugarcane planted in the disputed land.

The Central Luzon police identified the arrested farmers as Felino Cunanan Jr., 63, Chino Cunanan, 34, Abigail Bucad, 36, and Sonny Dimarucut, 45, all residents of Tinang village; Sonny Magcalas, 58, a resident of Sto. Niño village in Concepcion; and Pia Montalban, 39, and Alvin Dimarucut, 36, both residents of Tarlac City.

The Tarlac police identified the arrested four Americans as Krystiana Swain, Emily Butler, Nishant Carr and Keidan Oguri, and the Chilean as Christopher Silva San Martin.

Foreigners had 'no idea'

However, Tarlac Provincial Prosecutor's Office officer in charge Mila Mae Montefalco-Ikeshita issued a resolution past 5 p.m. on Friday dismissing charges against the five foreigners and three others—Tamel Basar Karam, Pauline Fernandez and Jeremiah Flores.

Montefalco-Ikeshita said the eight had joined the group "without any idea of what's going to happen, as they were mere tourists and bonafide observers."

She ordered the Concepcion police to release the eight arrested persons from custody.

The provincial prosecutor

said there was probable cause to hold the 83 other accused for the crime of illegal assembly and malicious mischief. She said P120,000 worth of crops had been damaged due to the "malicious destruction of the plants."

No compromise

At 4 p.m. on Friday, leaders of the Tinang Samahang Nayon Multi-Purpose Cooperative (TSNMPC) informed Acting Provincial Prosecutor Mila Montefalco of their plan to withdraw from a settlement, according to lawyer Joebert Pahilga, the counsel sent by the National Union of Peoples' Lawyers (NUPL) and agrarian center Sentra to represent the farmers.

In that deal, the TSNMPC demanded P200,000 as compensation for the sugarcane that were supposedly dam-



Raps filed vs 83 farmers, supporters nabbed over Tarlac land dispute

aged by Makisama Tinang (MT) members in a "bungkalan" (co-operative planting) on Thursday.

The MT members and their supporters were clearing a portion of a 200-hectare property in Barangay Tinang when they were apprehended by policemen.

In 1998, the land was obtained by 246 ARBs through a Certificate of Land Ownership Award (Cloa) issued by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to them. The Dominican friars gave up the land in support of the government's agrarian reform.

The DAR reevaluated the ARBs in May after the TSNMPC, which claimed right over the land, sought to annul the Cloa.

Mayor-elect Noel Villanueva and his relatives are majority owners of TSNMPC, accord-

ing to Securities and Exchange Commission documents submitted to the DAR.

Bail

As the deal on the release of the 91 arrested ARBs and their supporters fell through, they would have to pay P36,000 each as bail to regain their freedom, NUPL lawyer Jo Clemente said in a phone interview.

TSNMPC did not drop the complaints for destruction of property, malicious mischief and obstruction of justice.

Lawyers for the TSNMPC did not say why the cooperative's leaders backed out of the settlement.

The arrests were made just a day before the 34th anniversary of the enactment of Republic Act No. 6657, or the law that implemented the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Agreement starting in 1988.

Police Col. Erwin Sanque, Tarlac police director, said the 91 people were subjected to inquest proceedings at noon on Friday.

He said those facing charges of malicious mischief and illegal assembly aside from the farmers and the foreigners were some 30 students from different universities in Central Luzon, Baguio City and Manila.

Denisse Macalino, one of the detained students, failed to attend their graduation rites at Holy Angel University in Angeles City, Pampanga province.

In a video posted by alternative news organization AlterMidya, Macalino, a campus journalist, said she was hoping she would be released from jail soon, along with the 90 others.

Also charged were nine researchers for master's and doctoral degrees, and 40 members of farmers' groups "who refused to divulge their identities." INQ



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149 VOLCANIC QUAKES IN PAST 24 HOURS

ANOTHER BULUSAN ERUPTION FEARED; SEVERAL FAMILIES AGAIN FLEE HOMES

By Ma. April Mier-Manjares
and Michael B. Jaucian
@InqNational

LEGAZPI CITY—Just two days after they returned home, some residents living near Mount Bulusan in Sorsogon province were again evacuated on Friday due to a looming second eruption of the volcano after authorities observed an increase in seismic activity in the area just five days after it erupted on June 5.

On Thursday night, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said the increase in activity started from 5 a.m. to 11:20 p.m., and at least 45 volcanic earthquakes, including two low-frequency volcanic earthquakes, were recorded by the Bulusan Volcano Network.

"Most of these (activities) were weak and shallow events, but may indicate that a phreatic eruption could possibly occur within the next few hours," Phivolcs said in an advisory.

Increased seismicity

In its 5 a.m. bulletin, Phivolcs said a total of 149 volcanic earthquakes in the past 24 hours were recorded, much higher than the five volcanic earthquakes re-

corded on Thursday.

"At alert level 1, phreatic eruptions are possible. The increased seismicity involves small events but may indicate an increased possibility of a phreatic eruption," Science Undersecretary Renato Solidum, head of Phivolcs, told the Inquirer in a private chat message on Friday.

Salvador Mendoza, spokesperson for the provincial government, said at least 19 elderly residents and 14 children from Barangay Puting Sapa in Juban town were evacuated to the Tughan evacuation center at the town center on Friday.

He said rescue teams and vehicles were on standby for the possible evacuation of other residents in the towns of Juban, Irosin and Bulusan.

"We also prepared the social welfare and health offices for relief goods and medical needs of the residents," Mendoza said in a phone interview.

Canceled activities

The provincial disaster risk reduction and management office (PDRRMO) in Sorsogon canceled on Friday all the activities within the 5- to 6-kilometer danger zone due to the increased possibility of another eruption of Mt. Bulusan.



DISRUPTION Residents of ashfall-hit Barangay Puting Sapa in Juban, Sorsogon, are forced to leave their community again on Friday after government volcanologists observed increased seismic activities on Mt. Bulusan. —PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SORSOGON PROVINCIAL INFORMATION OFFICE

In a memorandum, Raden Dimaano, head of PDRRMO, said the cancellation of activities also included areas in the 2-km extended permanent danger zone.

Classes on Friday were suspended indefinitely in at least 25 schools located within the permanent danger zone, said Jose Doncillo, the schools division superintendent in Sorsogon.

"The cancellation is for the safety and protection of students and teachers since we were advised by the disaster officials about the abnormal status of Mt. Bulusan," Doncillo told the Inquirer by phone.

He said schools were being prepared as temporary evacuation centers should the need arise.

More than 400 residents of Puting Sapa were sent home on Wednesday after the clear-

ing of ash spewed by the volcano in the phreatic eruption on June 5.

Animals, too

Leo Tabing, the municipal agriculturist of Juban, said farmers were also advised to harvest their vegetables and prepare their animals for possible evacuation.

"It would be better if they could harvest early to save the vegetables, while animals could be prepared in case of evacuation," he said.

During the June 5 eruption, at least 30 farm animals in the villages of Puting Sapa ang Buraburan were also evacuated.

Tabing said they were preparing the dairy farm in Sorsogon City to house other animals.

At least P1,813,650 worth of crops were damaged due to the ashfall in various towns in the province. **INQ**



PH tells China to withdraw over 100 vessels from Julian Felipe Reef

By BETHEENA V. UNITE

The Philippines is protesting the return of over 100 Chinese vessels "illegally operating" in and around Julian Felipe Reef on April 4, barely a year after the same swarming incident

took place.

This was disclosed by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) on Thursday night, June 9.

In its diplomatic protest, the Philippines called on China to "immediately withdraw all of its vessels" from Philippine

maritime zones.

It pointed out that the "persistent swarming" of Chinese vessels is contrary to international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the final

►8

PH tells China to withdraw over 100 vessels from Julian Felipe Reef ◀

and binding 2016 Arbitral Award that favored the Philippines.

"It is also a violation of China's commitments under the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, in particular, the exercise of self-restraint pursuant to Paragraph 5 thereof," the DFA said.

The Philippines further told China to comply with its obligations under international law, cease and desist from displaying illegal and irresponsible behavior, and avoid further escalating tensions at sea and immediately withdraw all of its vessels from Philippine maritime zones.

It also conveyed regrets over the violation committed by China as the incident happened days before

the telesummit between President Duterte and Chinese President Xi Jinping on April 8.

In that April 8 meeting, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to solve issues of mutual concern through peaceful dialogue and exercise restraint in any and all endeavors relating to the South China Sea.

Julian Felipe Reef is a low-tide elevation within the territorial sea of relevant high tide features in the Kalayaan Island Group, including Chigua Reef, over which the Philippines has sovereignty.

"The lingering unauthorized presence of Chinese fishing and maritime vessels is not only illegal, but is also a source of instability in

the region," the DFA said.

The DFA said 210 Chinese vessels "swarmed" around Julian Felipe Reef from March 7 last year, lingering in the area for weeks.

China said the vessels were fishing boats sheltering from bad weather, but the Philippines rejected the explanation, saying there was no storm in the area at the time.

Since 2016, the DFA has lodged over 300 diplomatic protests against China. It recently protested the alleged harassment of a research ship in the South China Sea and the unilateral fishing ban enforced by China in the South China Sea, covering the West Philippine Sea. (With a report from AFP)



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Diplomatic protests against China sea aggression to continue - Carlos

By HELEN FLORES

The Marcos administration will continue to file diplomatic protests against China's aggressive acts in Philippine waters, incoming national security adviser Clarita Carlos said yesterday.

"We will continue to file diplomatic protests. Never mind that we are filing 10,000 of them because if you don't, that means we acquiesce to the situation on the ground," Carlos said in a televised public briefing.

Carlos, however, said the country should also continue bilateral and multilateral talks with China and other claimant-countries in the South and East China Sea.

"Because it's not only China who is laying claims to the contested South and East China Sea," she said. "Let's just continue to talk because the alternative is something unacceptable to all of us."

Apart from China and the Philippines, the other South China Sea claimants are Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam.

The Philippines has filed another diplomatic protest against China over the return of its vessels in the waters in and around Julian Felipe Reef last April 4.

Julian Felipe Reef is a low-tide elevation within the territorial sea of relevant high-tide features in the Kalayaan Island Group, including Chigua Reef, over which the Philippines has sovereignty.

"The lingering unauthorized presence of Chinese fishing and maritime vessels is not only illegal, but also a source of instability in the region," the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said in a statement on Thursday.

The DFA said the Philippines

"regrets" Beijing's violation of international law days before the successful telesummit between President Duterte and Chinese President Xi Jinping on April 8, where the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to solve issues of mutual concern through peaceful dialogue and exercise restraint in any and all endeavors relating to the South China Sea.

It said the persistent swarming of Chinese vessels is contrary to international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the final and binding 2016 Arbitral Award.

It is also a violation of China's commitments under the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea.

The July 12, 2016 ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague affirmed the Philippines' exclusive economic zone in the West Philippine Sea and nullified China's claims over almost the entire South China Sea.

Beijing continues to ignore the arbitral award.

The DFA has filed several diplomatic protests against China over its vessels' illegal presence in the West Philippine Sea.

Relationship 'developing'

President-elect Ferdinand Marcos Jr. said he sees the country's relationship with China further developing under his administration, though he vowed to continue President Duterte's "independent foreign policy."

Speaking at the event in Manila yesterday for the celebration of the 47th anniversary of Philippine-

China relations, Marcos said that aside from pursuing government-to-government and public-private partnerships, he intends to pursue a "people-to-people" approach to further deepen the relationships of the two countries and to iron out any difficulties and differences.

"I see the future of China and the Philippines developing in many ways that maybe we do not see now. I will encourage our relationship to not only be in the very strict and formal senses of business," Marcos said, describing China as "our strongest partner."

"But I've learned a term in one of the conferences I was invited to in China, and it is a good term because it presents for us another opportunity to grow closer. And that term that I learned from the Chinese is people-to-people," he said. "And I think that is another place, another area, another direction that we can explore to strengthen the foundations of our partnership and friendship so that we move forward together into the future."

"The difficulties and the differences we may have will be helped in every way as long as we continue trying, we continue to communicate and continue to be forthright in the interests of each of our countries," Marcos added.

Marcos was a keynote speaker during the Award for Promoting Philippines-China Understanding (APPCU) ceremony organized by the Association for Philippines-China Understanding.

The APCU inducted Marcos' mother, former first lady Imelda Marcos, in its hall of fame "for remarkable contributions in promoting friendship between China and the Philippines."

- With Elizabeth Marcelo



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
REGION IV - CALABARZON
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office - Cavite

NOTICE OF LEASE ON PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the DENR-Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) at Trece Martires City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 am) on 15 August 2022 for the lease of Industrial-Commercial (mixed used) purposes of the tract of foreshore/offshore land herein below described:

Location	:	Barangay Calibuyo, Tanza, Cavite
Description	:	Miscellaneous land covered by approved plan MLC-042120-09-D
Total Area	:	50,033 square meters
Approved Value Of the Foreshore land	:	Php 4,750.00 per square meters or Php7,129,702.50 for the whole tract
Value of Existing Improvements	:	Php 1,034,912,155.00
Annual Rental	:	Php 17,478,824.05 (3% value of the land & 1% of improvement)
Applied By	:	F & E DE CASTRO CORPORATION REP BY MR. FREDERICK A. DE CASTRO MLC-042120-09 & MLC-042120-09-A

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed and/or existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) month's rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise, such bid as raised shall and be accepted. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Trece Martires City, June 3, 2022.

JANUEL PERAS
OIC-PENR Officer



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD
EDSA, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant

Case No. 22-3320

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Crown Tower University Belt Condominium, Barangay 396, Sampaloc, Manila, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	P423.00	86.60	88.20	95.30	102.90	111.10
¾"	P677.00	138.60	141.20	152.50	164.60	177.80
1"	P1,353.50	277.20	282.40	305.00	329.30	355.60
1 ½"	P3,384.00	692.90	705.90	762.60	823.20	888.90

Residential and Commercial

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40m3
½"	P423.00	86.60	88.20	95.30	102.90	111.10
¾"	P677.00	138.60	141.20	152.50	164.60	177.80
1"	P1,353.50	277.20	282.40	305.00	329.30	355.60

Commercial and Industrial

Pipe Size	0-15 m3 (min.)	16-30 m3	31-500 m3	501-1000 m3	Over 1000 m3
½"	P1,897.50	136.70	159.40	187.20	187.20
¾"	P3,034.50	218.80	255.10	299.50	299.50
1"	P6,070.50	437.60	510.20	598.90	598.90
1 ½"	P15,175.50	1,094.00	1,275.50	1,467.40	1,497.40
2"	P37,941.00	2,734.90	3,188.60	3,743.40	3,743.40
3"	P68,293.50	4,922.90	5,739.60	6,738.10	6,738.10
4"	P136,585.50	9,845.70	11,479.10	13,476.30	13,476.30

Bulk

Pipe Size	Per cu. m.
1"	P 541.50

Others

Pipe Size	Per cu. m.
¾"	P 270.70

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **27 June 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o'clock** in the morning at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least **fifteen (15) days** prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in **Metro Manila** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 9th day of May 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

DR. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III
Executive Director

Affected Parties:

The Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod
Sampaloc, Manila

The Barangay Chairmen
Barangay 396, Sampaloc Manila

The Homeowners Assn. President
Crown Tower University Belt Condominium
Barangay 396, Sampaloc, Manila

The Administrator
Metropolitan Waterworks & Sewerage System
MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road
Balara, Quezon City



PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant.

Case No. 22-3341

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within the municipality of Sto. Tomas, province of Batangas, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40 m3
½"	P94.00	19.00	28.20	39.20	47.00	47.00
¾"	P150.50	30.40	45.10	62.70	75.20	75.20
1"	P300.50	60.80	90.10	125.40	150.30	150.30
1 ½"	P751.50	152.00	225.30	313.40	375.80	375.80

Residential and Commercial

Pipe Size	0-5 m3 (min)	6-10 m3	11-20 m3	21-30 m3	31-40 m3	Over 40m3
½"	P 94.00	19.00	28.20	39.20	47.00	47.00
¾"	P150.50	30.40	45.10	62.70	75.20	75.20
1"	P300.50	60.80	90.10	125.40	150.30	150.30

Commercial and Industrial

Pipe Size	0-15 m3 (min.)	16-30 m3	31-500 m3	501-1000 m3	Over 1000 m3
½"	P705.00	62.70	78.40	101.90	101.90
¾"	P1,128.00	100.30	125.40	163.10	163.10
1"	P2,254.50	200.60	250.90	326.10	326.10
1 ½"	P5,637.00	501.50	627.10	815.30	815.30
2"	P14,092.50	1,253.70	1,567.80	2,038.30	2,038.30
3"	P25,366.50	2,256.60	2,822.10	3,669.00	3,669.00
4"	P50,733.00	4,513.20	5,644.20	7,338.00	7,338.00

Bulk

Pipe Size	Per cu. m.
1"	P 120.30

Others

Pipe Size	Per cu. m.
¾"	P 60.10

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **27 June 2022**. The hearing will start at **9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City, at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the province of **Batangas** and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of their right to be heard. The Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 26th day of May 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

DR. SEVILLO D. DAVID, Jr., CESO III
Executive Director

Affected Parties:

The Secretary
Sangguniang Bayan
Sto. Tomas, Batangas

The Barangay Chairmen
All the Affected Barangays within
Sto. Tomas, Batangas

The General Manager
Sto. Tomas Water District
Sto. Tomas, Batangas 4234

11 JUNE 2022, SATURDAY



DENR

NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Not yet time to drop face masks – DILG, DOH

[Romina Cabrera](#) - The Philippine Star June 11, 2022 | 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The mandatory wearing of face masks in public places will continue to be implemented nationwide.

Interior Secretary Eduardo Año stressed this yesterday in reaction to an executive order issued by Cebu Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia, which makes the wearing of face masks optional in outdoor settings in the province.

”This department does not recognize the executive order issued by Cebu Gov. Gwen Garcia because we have IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases) guidelines approved by the President. The Philippine National Police (PNP) will continue to confront, apprehend and arrest if necessary all violators of IATF guidelines and minimum public health standards in the province of Cebu,” Año said in a statement.

He said President Duterte ordered the wearing of face masks except under circumstances defined by the IATF, such as when eating or during certain well-ventilated sports and activities.

The President had earlier said he would retain the face mask requirement until the end of his term on June 30.

Año reminded local government units that the pandemic is not yet over, and that vulnerable persons can still catch the virus.

Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said the Department of Health (DOH) was not consulted by the Cebu provincial government when it relaxed the requirement on wearing of face masks.

”Let us take it slowly and we will ultimately reach the new normal with no more restrictions. But for now, we should continue to wear our masks,” she said, adding that masks would also protect against monkeypox.

Acting presidential spokesman Martin Andanar declined to comment on Garcia’s EO, saying Malacañang defers to the DOH.

In a press conference, Garcia said the Department of the Interior and Local Government should have ordered the arrest of those who did not wear face masks during political rallies leading to the May 9 elections.

”The public is sick and tired of this face mask, especially when it’s unreasonable when wearing it in wide open and ventilated areas,” she said.

Garcia said she would invoke Section 105 of the Local Government Code, which defines the extent to which the national government can intervene in local governance during a public health crisis.

She defended her EO, saying it does not scrap the wearing of face masks.

”We are not saying do not use face masks. It’s optional. Those who would wish to breathe in pure oxygen, the more beneficial sea air, then please, let’s not bring the wearing of face masks to ridiculous levels,” she said. – **Sheila Crisostomo, Helen Flores, The Freeman**

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2022/06/11/2187515/not-yet-time-drop-face-masks-dilg-doh>



Over 420K get 2nd Covid-19 booster shot

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor [June 10, 2022, 4:45 pm](#)



(File photo)

MANILA – Over 425,000 individuals have received their second booster shot of the Covid-19 vaccine, a health official said Friday.

Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said almost 14.5 million individuals have an up-to-date vaccination or have received their first booster shot while 69.7 million are fully vaccinated as of June 9.

“We have already almost 9.4 million fully inoculated adolescents along with more than three million children fully vaccinated,” she said in an online media forum.

The country has seen a slight increase in cases for the week of June 2 to 8 at 197 which is 9 percent higher than the 180 cases logged in the previous week.

Vergeire said the slight increase “is not observed to be sustained” but the national positivity rate increased to 1.3 percent.

“Nationally, we’re remaining under low-risk classification with positive one-week and two-week growth rates since May 25. Despite increase in cases, the daily attack rate remains at less than one case per 100,000 population,” she said.

Currently, the national hospital admissions are on a plateau with a slight increase of 268 admissions or six percent -- from 4,820 to 5,080.

The total bed utilization slightly increased by one percent while the intensive care unit utilization is at a plateau at 16 percent and low-risk classification. **(PNA)**

11 JUNE 2022, SATURDAY



NEWS ALERTS

VLOGS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



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