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DENR mulls mining law amendments

THE Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Jonas Leones said the agency is pushing for amendments to the Philippine Mining Act to make it more responsive to the current time.

Leones allayed fears from members of the Philippine Mining Club that such a move will send a confusing signal to the mining sector.

"In fact, all environmental laws need revision. These are laws existing for 20 years already, so there might be a need to revisit the mining laws — not to make it difficult for the mining or investment for the mining sector but basically, we need to identify some other technologies that we can enhance our cooperation in mining areas," he said.

The DENR official added that while the law has many good features, the Mining Act is due for revisiting.

"Whatever the outcome of the revision will also be beneficial to the industry," Leones added.

He assured that the mining industry will be consulted in pushing for the revisions of the Mining Act.

"Whatever changes in the fiscal regime, we will consult with various stakeholders before we propose something to Congress or to the President (Ferdinand Marcos Jr.)," Leones told the Philippine

Mining Club, adding that Environment Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga is fully aware of this matter.

He also agreed with Philippine Mining Club managing partner, lawyer Patricia Bunye, that there is a need to stabilize the policies when it comes to mining.

At the same time, Leones said it is high time the mining industry gives more emphasis on information dissemination so that the people will understand the importance of the sector.

He said the DENR is now preparing the roadmap of the mining, reclamation and the water sectors.

"In this administration, we want to be inclusive, we want to ensure that all sectors will participate in the planning of the roadmap to give them ownership of the plan. It will address the concern that it will not be adopted on the ground," he added.

On the part of the Philippine Mining and Exploration Association President Joey Nelson Ayson said the implementing rules and regulations of the Philippine Mining Act should be amended instead of the law.

Ayson said revising the Mining Act might send the wrong signal and create a new concern.

"The government should relax the rules, especially on exploration," he said. **BELLA CARIASO**



Nograles lauds TUPAD for nat'l greening program

By **RYAN PONCE PACPACO**

RIZAL 4th District Representative Fidel Nograles has lauded the government for tapping beneficiaries of the "Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers" program or TUPAD for the country's national greening program.

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) recently signed a Memo-

randum of Agreement (MOA) to mobilize TUPAD beneficiaries as forest rangers.

"This is an excellent program that not only helps address our shortage of forest workers but also provides our TUPAD beneficiaries with meaningful and noble work that will directly benefit their communities and the whole country," Nograles said.

"The MOA is a creative solution to our need for more forest workers, and hopefully, with this, we can better monitor and protect these areas, especially in the face of continued en-

croachment," Nograles, who chairs the House committee on labor and employment, said.

Under the DOLE-DENR MOA, the TUPAD beneficiaries will serve as forest patrollers.

They are also tasked with seedling production, establishing plantations, and assisting in forest protection activities supporting the greening program.

Nograles also expressed hope that the MOA would be "only the first step in our efforts to revitalize our forests and mitigate the effects of the climate crisis."



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TRAGIC 'PAENG' COMBINATION: HEAVY RAINS, DEFORESTATION

STORY BY THE INQUIRER STAFF

Incessant heavy rains, deforestation and silted rivers that quickly overflowed are likely the reasons for the deadly landslides and floods in many parts of the country even before the storm made landfall. Mayor Lester Sinsuat of Datu Odin Sinsuat town says rebuilding its most devastated barangay must include a massive tree planting program on the mountain towering above the village.

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By the Inquirer Staff
@Team_Inquirer

Disaster officials blamed a tragic combination of continuous rains from the approaching Severe Tropical Storm "Paeng" (international name: Nalgae), deforestation and silted rivers for the floods and landslides that swamped many parts of the country this week.

Rains during this year's rainy season were expected but the storm's severe winds along with the heavy downpours put many provinces at high risk as they became susceptible to landslides and floods, said Assistant Secretary Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro IV, spokesperson for the national disaster management council.

"What is unprecedented is because of the prolonged rains, even without the winds, it was still dangerous because they trigger flash floods and landslides when the soil becomes saturated (with rainwater)," he told the Inquirer on Saturday.

The hardest-hit region, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), had been inundated since Monday, according to Undersecretary Raymundo Ferrer, administrator of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).

"What happened was that the hazards from the highlands



INCHING TO SAFETY Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) rescuers and residents use a broken refrigerator as a makeshift boat during a rescue operation following flooding due to Tropical Storm "Paeng" in Hilongos, Leyte province, on Friday. Photo from the PCG. —REUTERS

combined with the large volume of water from the rains since Monday caused landslides in the coastal areas, which were areas that were not previously experiencing floods," said Senior Defense Undersecretary Jose Faustino Jr., officer in charge of the Department of National Defense officer in charge.

Susceptible to slides

Mayor Lester Sinsuat of Datu Odin Sinsuat town, where the devastated village of Kusiong is located, said efforts to rebuild the barangay must include a massive tree planting program on Mt. Minandar that towers above it.

Citing data from the Mines and Geoscience Bureau, Ferrer

said a total of 21,148 barangays from 15 out of the 17 regions of the country were susceptible to floods and landslides.

A total of 64 provinces were within the 850-kilometer diameter of Paeng's rain clouds. Of these, 25 were classified as high risk, or those within the 200-km diameter near the center of the storm.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said on Saturday that 48,808 people from 12,304 families were sheltering in 506 evacuation centers.

Another 12,214 displaced persons, or 2,589 families, are outside evacuation centers.

Paeng also dumped heavy rain over the Western Visayas



TITLE: *Tragic 'Paeng' combination: Heavy Rains, Deforestation* PAGE *2*



10 Gasan as of 7:39 am 10/29/2

A WHIPPING The howling winds of "Paeng" are in full force as the storm blows past Gasan town in Marinduque province on Saturday morning. This screen grab was taken from a handout video released by the Gasan public information office. —REUTERS

region, causing severe floods in Capiz, Antique, Iloilo, Aklan, and Negros Occidental where over 135,000 people were affected.

According to Melissa Baniyas, chief of the operations center of the OCD-Western Visayas, the floodwater level in the region rose very quickly and subsided very slowly.

Undredged rivers

She cited deforestation and undredged rivers as among the reasons for the severe flooding in the region.

Myca Villarimo, who lives near the Panay River in Capiz's Cuartero town, said her family did not opt to seek shelter at one of the evacuation centers as it was hard to leave home without any-

one guarding their belongings.

"We weren't able to prepare well because the floodwater was rising really fast. There was also a brownout and we lived near a river," she told the Inquirer.

Based on reports by local disaster officers, Baniyas said winds, rains and flooding in Aklan and Antique provinces were worse than during Typhoon "Frank" in 2008, one of the strongest to hit the region.

"Some of the municipalities which were not flooded [in 2008] were flooded this time," she said.

Capiz had the most number of flooded areas in the region on Saturday with 79, followed by Antique (23), Aklan (11), Negros Occidental (six), and Iloilo (one).

OCD-6 reported two fatali-

ties who drowned in the flood. One person was also reported missing in Passi City, Iloilo.

Mass evacuations

The Department of Social Welfare and Development reported that 39,217 families composed of 135,025 individuals in 259 villages in Western Visayas were affected by Paeng. At least 4,443 families, or 17,167 individuals, in the region evacuated before Paeng wreaked havoc in the Visayas.

In Eastern Visayas, the storm affected 2,435 families consisting of 10,846 individuals. One 5-year-old boy drowned while swimming in a drainage canal as Paeng dumped heavy rains over Ormoc City, Leyte, on Friday afternoon.

In the town of Bato, Leyte, 23 houses occupied by indigenous Badjao families in Barangay Dolho were washed away by strong rain and winds.

At least 47 families consisting of 121 individuals were moved to an evacuation center.

In Jipapad town, Eastern Samar, floodwaters rose 1.5 meters, local disaster operations officer Vicky Abestros said.

In Calbayog City, Samar, 15 houses located in the coastal village of Bagacay were destroyed.

Power has yet to be restored in Northern Samar and in some parts of Eastern Samar, Samar, Southern Leyte and Leyte, according to the National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP).

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water level rose to 2.5 meters.

But Clifford Peñamante, an official of the municipal disaster management office, said that 6.40-meter level was "still manageable" because of the dredging in critical parts of the river over the past four months to prevent the river from overflowing.

Still, at least 77 individuals from 24 families living along the river's banks were evacuated, he said.

In Nov. 29, 2004, at the height of heavy rains brought by three successive typhoons, the Agos River, which originates from the Sierra Madre mountain range, overflowed. It inundated Infanta and General Nakar with raging muddy floodwater bringing with

it huge logs and other forest debris crashing down from the mountains.

More than 900 people died in Infanta and several hundreds in General Nakar, including more than 100 members of the Agta tribe.

Quezon, Bicol

In Quezon, 7,810 families (26,789 individuals) from 235 barangays were temporarily sheltered in 324 evacuation centers in various parts of the province, said the provincial social welfare office.

After hitting land in Catanduanes, Paeng made a second landfall in Caramoan town in Camarines Sur province at 1:40 a.m. It was followed by another

In Catanduanes, where Paeng first made landfall at 1:10 a.m. on Saturday, some 3,681 families or 14,701 individuals from 11 towns were evacuated.

In Quezon province, officials of General Nakar town anxiously monitored the water level of the Agos River that was rising at an alarming rate since Friday night.

The water level reached the 6.40-meter mark, bringing back the memory of a November 2004 flood that killed hundreds.

Local officials had earlier directed that residents along the river be evacuated if the



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Deforestation

landfall in Buenavista town in Quezon at 6 a.m. and a fourth landfall in Santa Cruz town in Marinduque province, according to the state weather bureau.

In the Bicol region, at least 15,426 families or 72,089 individuals had to stay in evacuation centers and private houses, said Gremil Alexis Naz, spokesperson for OCD-Bicol.

But by noon, 6,052 families or 24,123 individuals evacuated in Albay province were ordered to decamp by Gov. Noel Rosal when the weather improved.

A power outage remained in Camarines Sur, Catanduanes and Albay.

Canceled flights

At least 35 domestic flights

in various airports in the Bicol region were canceled while 2,426 passengers, 783 rolling cargoes and 60 fishing vessels were also stranded in various seaports after trips were cancelled.

Floods also hit several villages in Puerto Princesa City and Cuyo town in Palawan, forcing the evacuation of 395 individuals, officials said.

Officials said 227 passengers, including 13 infants, were stranded in the resort town of Coron town after the Coast Guard suspended all sea travel at noon on Friday.

In Calapan City in Oriental Mindoro province, 92 rolling cargoes and private vehicles were stranded with 236 passen-

gers at the holding area in Nautical Highway in Barangays Sta. Isabel and Bayanan, disaster officials said on Saturday.

The overflow bridges of Baculod, Cabagan-Santo Tomas, Santa Maria-Cabagan, and Cabiseria 8 in Isabela were flooded due to the swelling Cagayan and Pinacanauan rivers on Saturday.

In Isabela, the Burgos-Ilagan road in Burgos town was also temporarily closed as heavy rains flooded the area.

—REPORTS FROM DEXTER CABALZA, JOEY GABIETA, ADOR VINCENT MAYOL, DELFIN T. MALLARI JR., MA. APRIL MIER-MANJARES, MICHAEL B. JAUCIAN, VILLAMOR VISAYA JR., MAYDA NARITO LAGRAN, MADONNA T. VIROLA AND GERALD TICKE INQ



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BBM mulls calamity state

BY MICHELLE GULLANG
AND LADE KABAGANI

A state of calamity that will last for a year has been considered in areas battered by typhoon "Paeng," particularly in the Bicol region and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, as President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.

expressed dismay over the unusually high death toll.

The President said he believes authorities could have done better to prevent the unusually high number of deaths due to typhoon "Paeng."

On Saturday afternoon, the President remotely presided over the situation briefing of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council

on the effects of "Paeng," where he questioned local authorities in the Bangsamoro region about what could have caused the "very high number" of the death toll in the area.

"It will be important to us to look back and see why this happened. Why were we unable to prevent (the high) casualty? That seems very high for a flooding incident," Marcos said. **Turn to page A2**



PHOTOGRAPH BY AL PADILLA FOR THE DAILY TRIBUNE @tribunephil_al
PAENG'S strong winds threatened to tear off coconut trees along Roxas Boulevard as Metro Manila felt the typhoon's wrath yesterday.



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BBM mulls calamity state

It will be important to us to look back and see why this happened.

From page 1

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council recommended to Marcos the declaration "due to the effects, damage, and projected impacts by 'Paeng'" during the full council meeting.

"National state of calamity is what you are recommending. Many regions are affected, right? It already justifies a state of calamity. All right, let me wait for your resolution. Let's see," Marcos told Undersecretary Jose Faustino Jr., NDRRMC chairperson.

"Let us start with that first to give me a better idea of what happened, what caused the flooding? Why did we fail to evacuate people and such a level of casualty happened? *Napakataas* (It is too high)," he added.

Acting Defense Secretary Jose Faustino Jr., meanwhile, clarified that after the NDRRMC validated the initial death toll report, it was found that the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao "overcounted" the reported deaths to 67.

Figure scaled down

"Just this morning, we have updates, Sir, that... the reports on the casualties from BARMM initially as 67 for validation. They conducted a meeting this morning in the BARMM area and they have corrected the figure from 67 to 40," Faustino said during the briefing.

NDRRMC spokesperson Bernardo Alejandro said 40 Bangsamoro residents have died mostly due to flooding, while the other casualties came from Western Visayas (2) and SOCCSKSARGEN (3).

Maguindanao in terms of preparing because... the 40 deaths with 10 people missing is a little too high. We should have done better than that," he stressed.

Solidum said Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration issued sufficient heavy rainfall warnings and flood advisories.

As early as 24 October, PAGASA forecasted that there will be moderate to heavy rains in Mindanao while it placed Maguindanao province on the orange warning level on 28 October.

Marcos asked government offices to "look into" securing areas that historically are not prone to floods.

"Over the years, we already know where the water is high. There are several areas that were flooded. We need to look into that," he said.

Aid coming

Meanwhile, some P4.1 million in assistance have been so far provided to the typhoon-hit families by the Marcos administration through the Department of Social Welfare and Development, local government units, and other partners, Malacañang said.

The DSWD said the government has available overall relief resources of P1.5 billion with P445.2 million standby funds and a quick response fund and more than P1 billion worth of stockpiles ready to be distributed.

DSWD also reported at least 97,206 families have been affected by the tropical storm in multiple regions, with 12,304 families already sheltering in evacuation centers.

Marcos directed government agencies to prioritize the distribution of safe drinking water and purifying machines to families hit by the storm.

He also asked local authorities to prioritize the restoration of power supply in hospitals, and evacuation

of landfall, with heavy rain inundating mostly rural areas in Mindanao on Thursday followed by deadly landslides and flooding on Friday.

The government revised its official death toll downward from 72 to 45 on Saturday afternoon.

Officials said some deaths had been erroneously tallied twice from the Mindanao tragedies, which accounted for 40 deaths.

The storm also killed five others elsewhere in the country.

In recent years, flash floods with mud and debris from largely deforested mountainsides have been among the deadliest hazards posed by typhoons in the Philippines.

Rescue workers are focusing on the village of Kusiong, home to between 80 and 100 people, which was buried after part of a nearby denuded mountain collapsed.

"Yesterday we were focused on rescue and recovered 11 bodies," regional civil defense chief Naguib Sinarimbo told AFP.

"Today we resumed our work, but this is already a retrieval operation because the village has been buried under rock and mud for more than a day," he added, declining to say how many are feared dead.

Photos released by the coastguard showed rescuers using an old refrigerator as an improvised boat to pull children from a flooded community in Leyte.

Toll likely to go higher

In Zamboanga City, Mayor John Dalipe said the number affected residents may still rise since all major rivers in the city were reported to have overflowed to several barangays in the commercial district.

He said some villages in the city have reported destruction on infrastructure projects, landslide incidents, and felled trees.



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At least 18 people are reported missing, 15 of them are residents of Maguindanao while the rest are from Sultan Kudarat.

Explanation asked

Caught in disbelief, Marcos said the casualty rate is "too high" and government offices must explain why the residents have not been evacuated before the storm hit the province.

During the briefing, Marcos asked Department of Science and Technology Secretary Renato Solidum Jr. why authorities seemed to have not been informed that heavy rainfall would happen in Maguindanao.

"I'm a little bit concerned about why the situation in Maguindanao was so bad. Let's study it further, Secretary Solidum, and we'll find what we can do for an accurate forecast especially on flooding because that seems to be the problem now," Marcos said.

We could've done better

"We could have done better in

centers.

In Maguindanao, Governor Bai Mariam Sangki-Mangudadatu said almost 60 percent of its residents, or 309 barangays have been affected by "Paeng."

Mangudadatu said the national government already delivered 10,000 food packs to the province. It also received food packs from the Office of the Vice President and the Davao City government.

Marcos instructed Interior Secretary Benhur Abalos to help BARMM access calamity funds as some towns remain to be in chest-deep flood waters.

"We can facilitate the downloading of calamity funds if needed so they have everything that they need," he told Abalos.

Wide areas affected

"Paeng" pounded the main island of Luzon with maximum winds of 95 kilometers per hour after making landfall on the sparsely populated Catanduanes island before dawn.

The destruction began well ahead

The City Engineer's Office is monitoring damage to infrastructures while the City Agriculturist Office is collating reports of destruction on agricultural farms and products, he said.

Dalipe has mobilized city government resources since Thursday night to respond and assist families affected by the flood.

The Malaya bridge located in the west district of the city, connecting the city to Sibuco in Zamboanga del Norte has collapsed and is now impassable to vehicles, commuters and farmers.

He personally has moved around the city to see for himself the situation of residents who fled their homes.

The City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council chaired by Mayor Dalipe approved on Friday night a resolution recommending the declaration of a state of calamity in Zamboanga City given the destruction wrought by Tropical storm "Paeng."

NONOY LACSON @tribunephil_mish
@tribunephil_Lade



Kakasuhan sa pagputol ng sanga



ATTY. CLAIRE CASTRO

CLEAR IT

Dear Atty. Claire,
Nabasa ko po 'yong article ninyo tungkol sa isang kapitbahay na nireklamo dahil sa kinuha nila ang mga prutas na nahulog sa kanilang bakuran. Halos ganoon din po ang problema namin ngayon at ang pagkakaiba lang ay hindi nahulog ng kusa ang mga sanga ng puno ng kapitbahay namin kundi pinutol ko.

Noong nakaraang dalawang buwan ay napansin ko na nakakasagabal na sa aming bakuran ang mga sangga ng puno ng kapitbahay namin. Sinsira ng mga matitigas na sangga 'yong bubong ng bahay namin at nagkakat ng

mga dahon. Sinabihan ko po 'yong kapitbahay na putulin na dahil sagabal sa amin ngunit ang sabi sa akin ay wala silang oras na umakyat ng puno upang putulin ito. Lumapit ako sa barangay namin upang ipaalam ang reklamo ko ngunit hindi sumipot ang kapitbahay kaya't wala ring nagawa ng barangay.

Noong malakas ang ulan ay napilitan akong umakyat ng bubong at pinutol ko ang mga sanga dahil tumatama sa aming bubong ang mga ito.. Nagalit 'yong kapitbahay namin at sinabi na ireklamo niya ako ng malicious mischief. Hindi ko po naintindihan 'yong reklamong sinabi niya. Tulungan po ninyo ako.

Gumagalang,
Santi

Dear Santi,

Sa iyong kuwento ay naipakita mo na ginawa mo ang lahat upang maayos sana ang gusot tungkol sa nakausling sangga na lumagpas na papunta ng iyong bakuran at sinabi mo na nakakasira na ng iyong bubong at nakakasagabal sa iyong lugar. Kahit na sinabihan mo na ang

may-ari ng puno ay hindi ka pa rin pinansin pati na ang patawag ng barangay.

Dahil sa ginawa mo naman lahat upang maiwasan ang gulo ay hindi ka maaaring maparatang.

Ayon sa Art. 327 ng ating Revised Penal Code ang malicious mischief ay isang criminal act na intensyonal na paninira ng ari-arian ng isang tao dahil sa iyong pagkainis o galit sa may-ari nito. At dahil naisalarawan mo ang pangangailangan ng pagputol ng mga sanga na lumagpas na papunta sa inyong bakod pati ang pagpapaalam mo sa may-ari at sa barangay tungkol dito ay mahihirapan na mapatunayan na ginawa mo ang pamumutol ng mga sanga dahil lamang sa labis na galit o pagkainis; pangalawa, pinapayagan ng ating batas na putulin ang mga sangga na na lumagpas sa boundary line patungo sa bakod ng iba kung walang ginawa ang may-ari nito kahit na pinakiusapan na tungkol sa obligasyon nitong putulin ang sangga ng kanyang puno. Huwag matakot dahil wala akong nakikita na lumabag ka na batas.



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EDITORIAL

Better disaster management

Two days after an earthquake hit the north, a strong storm has brought massive destruction in all three main island groups with the death toll estimated at more than 40 as of Saturday afternoon. Natural disasters like these are a fact of life considering the geographical location of the Philippines—it ranks first in the World Risk Index among 193 countries because of its exposure and vulnerability to them. But what should not be a way of life is how the government responds with stopgap measures every time a calamity happens and how locals are expected to survive on the much-heralded resilience of the Filipino.

In Abra, residents have been sleeping outdoors after a magnitude 6.4 earthquake struck northern Luzon last Tuesday night. Three months ago, when northern Luzon was hit by a powerful magnitude 7.0 earthquake that killed 11 people and injured more than 500, traumatized residents also opted to sleep outdoors out of fear of aftershocks. Three months later, locals are back in the same situation.

In Mindanao, Western Visayas, and parts of Luzon including Metro Manila, Severe Tropical Storm “Paeng” brought heavy rains and raging floods beginning last Thursday, sweeping homes made from light materials and submerging roads in deep waters. In Maguindanao, where floods reached the roofs of houses, a local official said they were caught by surprise because the affected municipalities were not prone to flooding.

This has become a recurring scene whenever a calamity happens: affected residents are evacuated and crowded into temporary shelters, relief goods are distributed, and homes are rebuilt with the same flimsy materials that have been destroyed. Then the vicious cycle is repeated when the next calamity strikes. And each time, the poor bears the brunt as they are the ones forced to live in areas severely affected when typhoons or earthquakes hit.

Why do they risk their lives and that of their loved ones by staying in disaster-prone areas? One of the reasons often cited is livelihood, but most often than not they do not have a choice: moving elsewhere will cost money that they do not have. But that local governments allow them to build structures in hazardous areas in the first place is part of the chronic problem.

Government agencies such as the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) and the University of the Philippines Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards (UP NOAH) Center have tools to help identify hazardous areas. Three years ago, Phivolcs launched HazardHunterPH, which generates initial assessment reports for seismic, volcanic, and hydro-meteorological hazards to help the public prepare for possible impacts. UP NOAH last year relaunched its website that helps determine storm surge, flooding, and landslide hazards in an area. It aims to help the public know potential hazards and safe locations in their community, as well as for experts and lawmakers to incorporate the data in their disaster risk-related policymaking.

Tools such as hazard mapping are helpful and can save lives—this is apparent in Japan, another country that is prone to natural disasters, where locals know where to go or what to do in case an earthquake or storm hits. Unfortunately, in the Philippines, not everyone would have the gadget and internet connection needed to access them. Those who live in high-risk areas are likely to have more immediate concerns than downloading an application or accessing a website to check if they’re in danger.

Mapping the disaster-prone areas within a barangay is only an initial step. Local governments must cascade crucial information to their constituents through community-based briefings to make people have a clear understanding of the risks of natural disasters. More importantly, local disaster risk reduction and management councils, which are tasked to ensure that the most vulnerable sectors are involved in hazard planning, must see to it that no structures are built in hazardous sites that put residents on the direct path of disasters.

The Philippines has enough laws to respond to calamities. What the government needs is to improve its disaster mitigation measures. This could be through relocating communities that are in risk areas and providing them with public housing, helping farmers diversify crops and giving them the needed technology to prepare for climate disasters, banning development that would lead to the destruction of natural covers like mountains and mangroves, and building permanent shelters where locals can take cover when an earthquake or typhoon hits.

Stakeholders—from the national and local governments to nongovernment organizations—should help the most vulnerable sectors become more self-reliant. It is only through empowering them with crucial information and helping them lead disaster-risk-free lives that massive destruction and deaths can be prevented and mitigated. This would also require the government to do better than using mere stopgap measures in dealing with calamities.



EDITORIAL

Natural disasters

THE catastrophic effects of natural disasters, like typhoons, earthquakes, landslides and flooding, continue to worry the government and the Filipino people.

Almost throughout the year, destructive natural calamities not only kill and injure people but destroy billions of pesos worth of property and agricultural crops.

They also render homeless thousands of Filipinos, who are mostly farmers, fishermen and daily wage earners, worsening the homelessness problem in the Philippines.

We urge the authorities to come up with measures aimed at addressing the high vulnerability of the country to destructive weather events brought by climate change.

In the view of many quarters, there's a need to make our infrastructure disaster-resilient and ensure community preparedness whenever natural hazards occur.

Every year, government records show that an average of 20 typhoons and storms, some of them deadly, batters this Southeast Asian nation of election-crazy people.

That's why, nobody was surprised when rampaging floodwaters spawned by "Tropical Storm Paeng" killed at least 42 people in Maguindanao alone on Friday (October 28).

Strong winds and heavy rains battered towns and cities in Mindanao, the Visayas and Luzon. Most of the fatalities in Maguindanao drowned or buried by landslides.

With the worsening of climate change due to society's addiction to fossil fuel, we, like other Filipinos, cannot overemphasize the importance of taking action now.

Let's implement highly-effective climate change adaptation strategies and action plans before it's too late.



Corporate indifference

“
The cavalier attitude bodes ill for its ability to meet minimum safety, health, and environmental standards when it starts operating, the petitioners added.

Legal problems indeed are hounding the many businesses of conglomerate San Miguel Corp. similar to a recent research assessment of Bloomberg Intelligence.

A Bloomberg report said legal entanglement is among the serious risks another SMC unit faces.

SMC Global Power recently lost its petition for a P4.80 increase in the kilowatt-per-hour rate for the fixed-rate charges of the Sual coal and Ilijan natural gas plants after the Energy Regulatory Commission dismissed its applications.

The SMC power generating firm had notified the ERC and its principal in the power supply agreement that it will terminate the supply of electricity as it is piling up losses.

Bloomberg Intelligence was referring to repercussions of sudden termination of the contract that SMC Global Power may face penalties of more than P500 billion if it reneges on the PSAs of its units South Premiere Power Corp and SMC Energy Corp.

Similarly, its Batangas liquefied natural gas projects are saddled with alleged violations of the laws particularly on the environment.

A petition filed by the Verde Island Passage, Bukluran ng mga Mangingisda sa Batangas, Caritas Philippines, and Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development against SMC subsidiary Excellent Energy Resources Inc. and Linseed Field Corporation, a local affiliate of Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Company, sought the cancelation of the project's environmental compliance certificate before the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The petitioners and the residents of the Batangas communities where the project will be located cited the “egregious number of violations” that they said proved SMC-EERI’s bad faith and inability to even meet the basic conditions of its Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan and ECC.”

The cavalier attitude bodes ill for its ability to meet minimum safety, health, and environmental standards when it starts operating, the petitioners added.

On top of the fines concerned groups are asking to be imposed on EERI, the cancelation of the ECC was also sought.



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“
*A Bloomberg
report
said legal
entanglement
is among the
serious risks
another SMC
unit faces.*

The complainants said the penalty of suspension or even cancelation of the permit would be the adequate punishment on EERI “not only for its cavalier disregard for government permitting requirements but also for its failure to submit proof of its compliance with obligations that tie into its social and environmental responsibility to the community their power plant will operate in.”

EERI is being charged with three major offenses over its failure to obtain the permit to cut coconut trees from the Philippine Coconut Authority, failure to obtain a water permit from the National Water Resources Board, and a Land Conversion Order from the Department of Agrarian Reform.

The complaint filed before the DENR also alleged four minor offenses for failing to submit its reportorial requirements.

AG&P-Linseed is building a liquefied natural gas import terminal facility in Batangas City, and SMC-EERI is constructing a 1.75 GW LNG power plant that will be housed in an integrated complex.

Both projects threaten the biodiversity of the Verde Island Passage and the livelihood of the people who depend on it, according to the complaint.

“SMC-EERI and AG&P-Linseed are the primary examples of His Holiness Pope Francis’ warning about profits at the expense of the environment. This project will enrich their investors, who are based far away but drive our fisherfolk and those who work in the tourism industry to poverty,” said Fr. Edwin Gariguez, leader of the complainants.

While it is understandable for SMC to rush the project since a series of unfortunate events left it without a source of energy for its Ilijan natural gas plant, the conglomerate should remain a good corporate citizen by ensuring the safety and health of communities in its project site.



PAL targets to achieve net zero emissions in 2050

By EMMIE V. ABADILLA

Philippine Airlines (PAL) will attain net zero carbon emissions by 2050, in support of international agreements for climate action, including the Paris Agreement and the Glasgow Climate Pact, the flag carrier stated Friday, October 28.

Already, PAL is investing in an all-out carbon reduction program, part of its multi-year commitment to combat climate change.

According to United Nation's International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), greenhouse gas emissions from aviation could increase by a factor of two to four times 2015 levels by 2050.

Aviation makes up more than 2 percent of all global CO2 emissions: around 1.3 percent from international and 0.7 percent from domestic flights.

Hence, "Our Net Zero initiative comes at a crucial time for the international aviation industry, which seeks to lessen its environmental impact," according to PAL President & COO Capt. Stanley K. Ng.

PAL's Net Zero goal will be holistic and comprehensive, covering both flight and ground operations. PAL began this process by shifting to renewable energy for the electricity supply of its major offices and working on the potential use of sustainable aviation fuel to power its fleet of high-technology aircraft.

The airline is continually improving its operational efficiency by implementing fuel efficiency initiatives such as Single Engine Taxi In (SETI) and Reduced Acceleration Altitude (RAAL) that reduce CO2 emissions while adhering to strict safety standards.

In the long term, PAL seeks to develop a Net Zero Emissions (NZE) strategy and foster a more earth-friendly aviation environment based on scientific best practices.

For this purpose, PAL tapped the services of climate scientist and science diplomat Glenn Banaguas, the president and founder of the Environmental and Climate Change Research Institute (ECCRI).

In 2010, he spearheaded the institute's flagship program, Climate Smart Philippines: Science for Service, bringing scientific experts and stakeholders together to address disasters and preventing losses from climate change.

For these initiatives, Banaguas received the global UN Sasakawa Award, the first individual Filipino recipient in the award's 35-year history.

He is the honoree of The Outstanding Filipino (TOFIL) Laureate, the Philippines' equivalent of the Nobel Prize and is also the Executive Fellow of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and the Lee Kuan Yew Senior Fellow in Public Service.

With Banaguas providing expertise, PAL aims to conduct comprehensive assessments of its overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and move towards full decarbonization.



Each one of us will have to learn to live sustainably

Overconsumption is at the root of the triple planetary emergency of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

In these perilous times for the planet, we need all hands on deck.

I know that sometimes the enormous scale of a challenge might be reason enough to throw up one's hands in resignation.

And there isn't a larger challenge in our world today than the climate crisis.

But this Lifestyles for the Environment initiative is designed to highlight an essential and hopeful truth: All of us, individuals and communities, can – and must – be part of the solution of protecting our planet and our collective future.

After all, overconsumption is at the root of the triple planetary emergency of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

We are using the equivalent of 1.6 Earths to maintain our lifestyles.

And that great excess is compounded by great inequality.

The combined greenhouse gas emissions of the richest one percent are more than twice the poorest 50 percent.

So, we need to urgently transform our economic systems to make them friendly to the planet – and to make them equitable, so all can have equal opportunity to thrive in developed and developing countries.

Each one of us will have to learn to live sustainably



**SECRETARY
GENERAL
UNITED NATIONS**
ANTONIO GUTERRES

and reduce our environmental footprint.

By saving energy and reducing pollution and waste.

By using less plastic.

By taking advantage of clean cooking technologies.

By eating more sustainably and not throwing away food.

By using renewable energy.

By making our money count as consumers by supporting sustainable products.

And we also need to be speaking up and demanding that leaders support clean, green lifestyles and ambitious

climate action.

In three weeks, world leaders will meet in Egypt for the next United Nations climate change conference – COP-27.

COP 27 represents a key political opportunity to rebuild trust and accelerate action across all the pillars of the Paris Agreement.

A quantum leap in support to adaptation in developing countries and measurable progress and serious progress in loss and damage are essential conditions to reestablish trust between developing and developed countries around the world.

We have no time to lose.

We are in imminent danger of failing to meet the goal of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Our global goal has to be net zero emissions by 2050.

And to achieve this, we must collectively halve global emissions from 2010 levels by 2030.

And as the LIFE initiative highlights, every citizen has a role to play – and that includes everyone, everywhere, using their voice to urge their leaders to take much-needed ambitious climate action.

As the Prime minister of Mauritius has recalled, Mahatma Gandhi reminded us that: "The world has enough for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed."

That perfectly captures the situation we face now.

Unfortunately, for the time being, greed is prevailing over need. And we need to reverse this trend.

The planet is able to support each and every one of us – but we must treat its resources with wisdom and respect.

So today, let us pledge to alter our economies and our lifestyles so we are able to share Earth's resources fairly and take only what we need.



Excerpts from the Secretary-General's remarks at the launch of Lifestyles for the Environment Initiative on 20 October 2022.



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New US Peace Corps climate initiative in PH

United States Peace Corps chief executive officer Carol Spahn said the Philippines is among the first countries to implement its new climate initiative.

Spahn said around 40 coastal resource management volunteers would be working with the government next year to identify and implement strategies on climate change adaptation.

"Every person, every volunteer has a role to play in supporting climate change initiatives. This can be through education, teaching of students as we're working with youth, and really enabling them to support their own communities, as well as through coastal resource management, which is very more directly impacting climate change," she said in a press conference.

The US Peace Corps announced its climate initiative last month, which targets to deploy 1,000 Peace Corps volunteers in 50 countries to serve 2 million hours of volunteer work related to climate change adaptation.

Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency executive director Donald James Gawe said among the areas where the climate initiative of the US Peace Corps would be rolled out include Pangasinan extending up to Ilocos Norte.

"During the bilateral meetings, this is where we set the areas and we have criteria in choosing the areas. Aside from (they are) broadly (in) Luzon and Visayas, we use criteria such as incidence of poverty as well as these are areas vulnerable to climate change and disaster risk," Gawe added.

This is the first time that Spahn visited the country as the US Peace Corps celebrated its 61st anniversary in the country.

Spahn said the Philippines is one of the first countries that the agency has partnered with since its inception in 1961.

For the past six decades, over 9,300 Peace Corps volunteers have been deployed in the country to work alongside communities and the government to achieve development priorities.



Editorial

Authorities should forge fisheries pact with China

LIKE China's ambassador to Manila, we welcome the situation in the West Philippine Sea that now allows Filipinos to fish in and around contested waters without being harassed by foreign coast guard ships and larger fishing vessels. Ambassador Huang Xilian even went on to say that China was open to expanding maritime cooperation with the Philippines.

Of course, Filipinos would be happier if there were no Chinese presence in the disputed area. But this geopolitical problem is anything but simple. As many know, China clings to its nine-dash line policy that claims 90 percent of the South China Sea. Or as President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. explained it, China claims territories that belong to the Philippines.

To be precise, though, many other neighboring countries also claim territories that belong to the Philippines, including Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. Despite their involvement, China avoids multilateral discussions about those issues, preferring instead to hold bilateral talks. Clearly, no easy or permanent solution is visible over the horizon. And like it or not, the Chinese presence is likely to stay.

Still, the Philippines should pounce on opportunities whenever it can. The relative calm mentioned by China's envoy may just be temporary, since the typhoon season makes fishing more perilous. In any case, the time seems ripe to negotiate a fisheries agreement with China, as well as with other neighboring countries with similar claims.

For the Philippines, helping its fishermen is important because they are among the poorest of the poor Filipinos. And as mentioned in previous editorials, there is a security dimension related to this topic. Those who turn to piracy and other illegal activities, like smuggling, include fishermen who were harassed or kept out of their traditional fishing grounds in the South China Sea, which locals call the West Philippine Sea.

A fisheries pact, even if it is with just China initially, could help prevent tensions from flaring up again later. Furthermore, institutionalizing such an understanding would allow the Philippines and China to focus more on other important aspects of their bilateral ties, like boosting trade and investments. This would likely hold true for now, even without a final resolution to the disputed territories issue.

Conservation and protection

If the Philippines can negotiate such an agreement, the negotiations should include measures to protect and preserve maritime biodiversity in the South China Sea, particularly the coral reefs. They provide the habitat and spawning ground for a variety of marine life. And for small and young fish, the reefs offer protection from predators. In fact, the South China Sea is known for its rich marine biodiversity, which is precisely why fishermen from countries in the region flock to that area.

Unfortunately, the construction of military outposts by China, the Philippines, Vietnam, and others in the South China Sea has been harmful to the natural resources there. The dredging done to create new islands is particularly destructive. Those human activities, along with climate change, could lead to an environmental catastrophe for many in this region.

"Years of overfishing by all the seas' neighbors is threatening food security for increasingly well-off populations looking for alternative sources of protein and imperiling the livelihoods of thousands of fishers," *The Diplomat* magazine reported earlier this year. "The sea's intricate network of coral reefs, where fish shelter and find food, and mariners find protection against storms, has borne extraordinary devastation in recent years. Climate change and warming ocean temperatures are driving some fish species in the South China Sea further north."

Well within the Philippines itself, only 2 percent of the coral reefs remain healthy, according to the Haribon Foundation. Worse, destructive and illegal methods, such as dynamite fishing, continue despite the best efforts of authorities to prohibit them. Plastics and other wastes pollute local and international waters around here and elsewhere. These are perhaps some of the reasons locals venture farther out to open waters to fish.

Clearly, protecting and conserving natural resources in the South China Sea affect many countries in this region. Despite their competing claims, perhaps China, the Philippines and others should collaborate on their common interests.



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WPS marine ecosystem threats resolution eyed

The program funded by USAID is set to be implemented by the country's BFAR in the South Negros, Visayan Sea and Calamian Island Group and soon will be expanded in the WPS.

BY LADE KABAGANI
@tribunephil_Lade

The Armed Forces of the Philippines' Western Command and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources are partnering with United States Agency for International Development to address the marine ecosystem threats in the West Philippine Sea.

The move is pushed through the USAID's "Fish Right Program" by the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center and its local colleagues.

The program funded by USAID is set to be implemented by the country's BFAR in the South Negros, Visayan Sea and Calamian Island Group and soon will be expanded in the WPS as it seeks

to address illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing activities in the WPS with the conduct of a series of area assessments.

Authorities will also focus on the establishment of a marine protected areas network within the WPS as well as improving marine biodiversity and sustainable fisheries, coastal resource management and climate change resilience.

Efforts also include community and local stakeholders' consultative processes, information, education and communication, and several other ecosystem-based approaches.

Philippine Navy Vice Admiral Alberto Carlos, also the WesCom commander, said the expansion of the "Fish Right Program" to the WPS will be beneficial to the country.



PBBM RESPONSE

PRESIDENT Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos has offered his condolences to the families of flood victims, as Severe Tropical Storm Paeng brought heavy rains and drenched some parts of the country, including the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

"Our prayers go to the lives lost in the Aklan, Capiz, and BARMM flash floods, and to those who continue to be gravely affected by this calamity," Marcos said in a Twitter post late Friday night.

About 72 people died in the aftermath of Paeng, which prompted floods and landslides in the southern part of the country, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) spokesperson Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro IV said in a radio interview on Saturday morning.

At least 31 were reported injured and 14 missing.

Marcos asked the public to stay safe and vigilant, as Paeng is expected to bring heavy rains

in parts of Luzon and the Visayas on Sunday.

"All those in the affected areas are advised to take precautions, particularly those who plan to travel this long weekend," he said.

GOVERNMENT PREPAREDNESS

Marcos assured that all concerned agencies, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), the Philippine Coast Guard PCG, the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) are on alert.

"The AFP, BFP, PCG, PNP, and MMDA are on standby for rescue operations, DSWD has pre-positioned food and non-food items to high-risk areas, and OCD has deployed its assets for transportation and clearing operations," he said.

In a Facebook post on Saturday morning, the President said

the government would be distributing financial assistance, prepositioned family food packs, and non-food items to more than 15,000 affected families in the Bicol region and other typhoon-hit areas in the Visayas and Mindanao.

"Mula kahapon, patuloy ang aksyon ng iba't-ibang ahensya para siguruhing naipaparating ang tulong sa ating mga kababayang sinasalanta ngayon ng Bagyong Paeng (Since yesterday, different government agencies continue to work to ensure the immediate distribution of assistance to our fellow countrymen affected by Paeng)," he said.

Undersecretary Cheloy Garafil, officer in charge of the Office of the Press Secretary (OPS), noted that the DSWD, local government units (LGUs), and other partners have provided about PHP4.1 million in assistance to typhoon victims. "On the instruction of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., the DSWD said Saturday that the government has available overall relief resources of PHP1.5 billion with PHP445.2 million

standby funds and quick response fund (QRF). The agency also has more than PHP1 billion worth of stockpiles ready to be distributed," Garafil said. Citing a DSWD report, Garafil said 97,206 families have been affected by the storm in multiple regions, with 12,304 families sheltering in evacuation centers.

She added that according to initial reports, there were 54 destroyed houses and 54 damaged in the aftermath of the typhoon.

Garafil said Marcos has been in "constant communication" with various government agencies to ensure that there is sufficient resource augmentation to support LGUs in all affected areas.

"The President has instructed national government agencies to assist the BARMM in its relief and rescue operations on the recent flooding in Maguindanao," she said. "The President wants to assure them of the full support of the government. Everyone is advised to stay alert and take all precautionary measures to stay safe."

PNA



Abalos hails CAR local execs for quick quake response

By **JOEL DELA TORRE**

THE Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has recognized the 282 local chief executives (LCEs) in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) for their quick response following a magnitude 6.4 earthquake that hit their respective areas.

Secretary Benjamin "Benhur" Abalos Jr. commended the LCEs, especially in Regions 1 and 2, for their preparedness and immediate execution of urgent measures that ensured the safety of their jurisdiction leading to zero casualties.

Reports from the DILG regional offices also said that 182 individuals were immediately evacuated to safer grounds.

LCEs, according to Abalos, are very critical in any disaster, especially earthquakes and areas closer to the epicenter.

Their presence and quick decision-making are very important during crucial times.

"We thank the 282 LCEs from CAR, Regions 1 and 2, for manning their areas of jurisdictions during this recent earthquake in Abra. Your urgent actions made

all the difference in saving people's lives. Hindi natin alam kung kailan magkakalindol but your leadership has really carried us through," the DILG chief said.

Based on the data gathered by the DILG field offices, the DILG Secretary said 74 of 77 LCEs in CAR were manning their posts and were on top of the earthquake response efforts, while 125 of 128 LCEs from Region 1 and 85 out of 93 from Region 2 were likewise reported to be pressed at work during and after the quake.

Not only that, but these LCEs were also on top of the situation, especially in the conduct of evacuation in affected communities and the provision of relief goods to the internally displaced persons (IDPs).

They were there during the ongoing conduct of rapid damage assessment and the deployment of all heavy equipment and rescue equipment/resources in strategic areas.

Reports said that LCEs likewise convened their respective Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (LDRRMCs) and conducted Emergency Response Meetings to activate all concerned Barangay DRRMCs

for close coordination, prepositioned necessary supplies, and prepared evacuation centers.

According to the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-Phivolcs) earthquake advisory, a magnitude 6.4 earthquake of tectonic origin occurred with its epicenter located five km Northeast of Lagayan, Abra, at a depth of 13 kilometers at 10:59 p.m. on October 25, 2022.

Abalos said that 52 families or 182 individuals were evacuated in CAR with reports of 442 partially damaged houses and 14 totally damaged houses, and one impassable road. He added that 47 individuals were injured due to the said earthquake.

"Our LCEs are continuously working the rounds to evaluate and extend the needed assistance especially in hardly hit areas. Patuloy din po ang mga hakbangin ng pamahalaan sa pagtulong sa ating mga kababayan sa Norte," he said.

Last July 27, Abra was likewise hit by a powerful earthquake which resulted in 498 houses in the province being declared as totally damaged while there are 26,350 with partial damage.



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WITHOUT FEAR & WITHOUT FAVOR

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Mayon lahar due to typhoon possible

The Philippine Volcanology and Seismology cautioned the public about the possible volcanic sediment flows and lahars at Albay province's Mayon Volcano amid the onslaught of tropical storm "Paeng."

The state seismology bureau disclosed that heavy rains prevailing over the Bicol Region and Eastern Visayas until the weekend due

to severe tropical storm "Paeng" could also generate muddy stream flows or muddy runoff in rivers and drainage areas within the Mayon volcano.

It also strongly recommends increased vigilance and readiness of communities in Mayon's pre-determined zones of lahar and related hazards.

LADE KABAGANI



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Argao, Cebu

ABANG SA YUTANG PUBLIKO

GIPADANGAT KINING PAHIBALO, nga ang buhatan sa Department sa KALIKOPANHONG UG KINAIYANHONG KAHINGUHAAN (DENR), CENRO, Argao, Cebu modawat ug atubangay (binaba) o simulat nga tanyag presyohanay sa dili molapas sa alas dyes (10:00) ang lakna sa buntag peisa 5 sa Enero, 2023 para sa abang sa luna sa yutang publiko nga gihulagway dinhi sa ubos:

Numero sa Aplikasyon	:	MLA No. 072241 - 37
Nahimutangan sa yuta	:	South Poblacion & Panadtaran, San Fernando, Cebu
Nahulagway sa luna	:	Foreshore Land
Gikanidad sa a) yuta	:	=P= 6,000 per square meters or P 8,472,000.00 for the whole tract (1,412 square meters) South Poblacion, San Fernando, Cebu =P= 4,500 per square meter or P 128,646,000.00 for the whole tract (28,588 square meters) Panadtaran, San Fernando, Cebu
Kinatibuk-ang kantidad	:	=P= 137,118,000.00
b) mihuras	:	=P= 380,295,592.00
Gi- apbyan a) para	:	Port Expansion Purposes
b) ni	:	Solid Earth Development Corporation Represented by Mitzie Almira I. Carin

Ang malamposon nga mitanyag ning maong presyo kon lain sa nag- apply sa itaas mo- uli o mohulip sa balor gikantidad sa mihuras ug sa gasto sa pagpa subasta sa pagsukod sa maong luna sa yuta.

Ang katungod sa pag - ABANG ning maong yuya ihatag sa tawong nagtanyag sa labing taas nga ABANG tinuig, diin kini dili gayud mominus sa tulo (3%) ka porsiento sa gikantidad nga balor sa yuta ug dugang nga usa (1%) ka porsiento sa balor sa gimugna o nagplatar nga mihuras. Aron nga ang usa ka kwalipikadong aplikante sa yutang publiko, ug nga sa dili pa magsugod kini, modeposito ug balor ug tulo (3) ka bulan nga abangan. Deposito nga gawas sa kwarta lamang sama sa "CASH", "MONEY ORDER", "TREASURY WARRANT", "CERTIPIKADONG TSEKE", "CASHIER O MANAGER TSEKE" ang dawaton. Ang pagtanyag-presyohanay sa usa ka taivo agig representasyon sa laing tawo nga kinahanglan ug pinalihok nga " SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY", panahon nga mopataas siya sa iyang tanyag - presyo aron pagkompleto sa tulo (3) ka bulan nga abangan, kon dili ang among gipatas-ang tanyag presyo dili pagadawaton.

Gireserba ang katungod sa pagdawaton o sa pagsalikway sa usa ka nagtanyag- presyo o fanan niini.


Argao, Sugbo, Pilipinas, Setyembre 30, 2022.

NOLITO A. LAPINIG
OIC, CENR Officer



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 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Argao, Cebu

LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

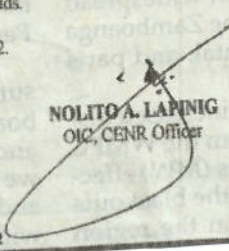
Notice is hereby given that DENR – CENRO, Argao, Cebu will accept oral or written bids not later than 10:00 o'clock in the morning on January 5, 2023 for the lease of the tract of land herein below described:

Location of Land	: South Poblacion & Panadtaran, San Fernando, Cebu
Description	: Foreshore Land
Boundaries	: NW along line 1 -2 by FLC - 072241 - 12 (Solid Earth); On the NE, SE, and SW, along lines 2-3-4-5 by Bohol Strait; on the NW, along line 5-6 by Foreshore land; and on the NW, along line 6-1 by FLC - 072241 - 12.
Area	: 30,000 square meters
Appraised Value of Land	: =P= 6,000 per square meters or P 8,472,000.00 for the whole tract (1,412 square meters) South Poblacion, San Fernando, Cebu =P= 4,500 per square meter or P 128,646,000.00 for the whole tract (28,588 square meters) Panadtaran, San Fernando, Cebu
Total Appraised Value of the land	: =P= 137,118,000.00
Existing Improvements	: =P= 380,295,592.00
Applied for	: Port Expansion Purposes
Applicant	: Solid Earth Development Corporation Represented by Mitzie Almira I. Carin

The successful bidder if other than the applicant must reimburse the latter of the value of the improvements and the expenses for the public of the Notice of Auction and the survey of the land.

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 a qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) months rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury, warrant, certified checks, cashier's check or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder as to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise, such bid as raised shall not be accepted, the right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Argao, Cebu, Philippines, September 30, 2022.


NOLITO A. LAPINIG
OIC, CENR Officer

P.S. October 16, 23, 30, November 6, 13 & 20, 2022