

13 September 2022, Tuesday



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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



TITLE: *Philippines calls for 'needs-based' priority system
for climate finance*

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Philippines calls for 'needs-based' priority system for climate finance

THE Environment Secretary called access to climate finance an urgent matter and pressed the government to work towards international agreements that will unlock funding to help address the climate "emergency" faced by developing countries.

"Without global transformation and adequate financial resources dedicated to solving the climate change problem, which has reached emergency status, any agreement will be meaningless," Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Maria Antonia Y. Loyzaga said in a statement issued by the Climate Change Commission (CCC).

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the CCC has engaged technical experts in a dialogue that hopes to address the needs of developing countries for lowering greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

The previous administration has staked out a position that the developed world, which has produced the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions as it industrialized, must provide aid to developing countries facing most of the consequences of climate change.

"Urgent delivery of needs-based climate finance on loss and damage is crucial to transformative climate actions by at-risk developing nations. Gone are the days of empty commitments, now is the time to implement, to deliver action with results," CCC Vice Chair and Executive Director Robert E.A. Borje said.

Mr. Borje said the dialogue is an "opportunity to advance inclusive climate finance, driven by a process that ensures balanced geographical participation, particularly of developing states in the Asia-Pacific region."

He said the dialogue also allows participants "to be influenced by the best available science, to rectify past mistakes on not considering uncertainties, costing for externalities, and affording ample space to innovate, so that rehabilitation is not the norm."

Mr. Borje said President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. has declared climate change a priority and expressed his support for climate-mitigation efforts.

"Under Mr. Marcos' administration, there is a proposal to increase national budget allocation for climate change-related programs, projects and activities," Mr. Borje said.

"The Philippines will continue to do its part, while pursuing stronger collaboration with partners and stakeholders toward climate justice," he added.

Mr. Borje called for pragmatic solutions, noting that the Philippines is expected to be one of the countries bearing the brunt of the climate crisis.

The Philippines is considered the fourth most vulnerable country to climate change, according to the Global Climate Risk Index.

"This is what we mean by build right at first sight: to build justly and efficiently at first sight, with a long-term horizon in mind. Our discussions will go beyond dollars and cents," Mr. Borje said.

"There will be recommendations for actions that will affect the lives and livelihood of nations. Today is an opportunity to get things right. To secure climate equity and justice for all," he added.

The Ad Hoc Work Programme on New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance created under the Paris Agreement is tasked to conduct four technical exchange dialogues annually until 2024. — **Luisa Maria Jacinta C. Jocson**



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Tree planting marks PBBM's birthday today

BY MICHELLE R. GUILLANG
@tribunephil_mish

President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. will mark his 65th birthday by joining the nationwide simultaneous bamboo and tree planting in San Mateo, Rizal today, 13 September.

The ceremonial event would take place in San Mateo MMDA Landfill and will be led by Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Ma. Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga and Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary Benjamin Abalos, Jr.

The Chief Executive will deliver a speech before witnessing the ceremonial tree planting at 8 a.m.

In a Palace press briefing on Monday, Press Secretary Trixie Cruz Angeles said there is "no information" yet whether the President will celebrate his birthday in Malacañang.

Moments before the President presided over his Cabinet meeting, First Lady Liza Araneta Marcos dropped by the Aguinaldo State Dining Room to invite the Cabinet members for a "birthday lunch."

When asked about the lunch, the Press Secretary

said it is difficult to discuss such a matter.

"I have no instructions to announce anything. You know minsan, sensitive iyong mga ganiyan. Wait, let's just clarify baka may mag ano na naman sa akin," she said.

"No, I have no information as to whether or not there is going to be a birthday celebration. However, we can safely assume that the President is going to mark it. That's the official statement. Mark it, remember it," she added.

Surprise party

Last month, the President was able to pull off a surprise birthday party for his wife on her 63rd birthday despite his busy schedule.

The President, the First family, and their friends organized a dinner party for Mrs. Marcos.

"To my beloved wife, words have already been said as to how valuable she is as a person and how remarkable she really is. Sometimes it's really hard to believe that she did me a favor of marrying me," Marcos said in his speech during the birthday dinner as shown in his vlog.

WITH ALVIN MURCIA



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Marcos to plant trees on his birthday

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR

PRESIDENT Marcos Jr. (BBM) is expected to spend part of his 65th birthday today planting trees as part of efforts to help preserve the environment.

He is expected to lead the kick-off ceremony of the "Buhayin ang Pangangalaga ng Kalikasan," a program that aims to plant 8,000 seedlings and bamboo planting

stocks around the Calabarzon (Region IV-A).

It is a program of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Interior and Local Government.

The tree planting sites are San Mateo in Rizal; Majayjay, Laguna; Trece Martirez City, Cavite; Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas, and Dolores in Quezon.

Press Secretary Trixie Cruz-Angeles could not say if there will be a celebration to mark the President's birthday.

"I have no instructions to announce anything. You know minsan, sensitive iyong mga ganyan... I have no information as to whether or not there is going to be a birthday celebration. However,

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MARCOS

we can safely assume that the President is going to mark it (I have no instructions to announce anything. You know sometimes, those things are sensitive... I have no information as to whether or not there is going to be a birthday celebration. However, we can safely assume that the President is going to mark it)," she said.

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office is celebrating Marcos' birthday with a nationwide feeding program.

Selected accredited agent corporations or small-town lottery operators around the country will provide sandwiches and drinks to the public under the program "Handog ng PCSO: Isang araw na salu-salo sa kaarawan ng Pangulo."

On Sunday, the people of Ilocos Norte serenaded the President and gave him cakes and a bouquet for his birthday.

Marcos was in Ilocos Norte to commemorate the 105th birthday of his late father, former president Ferdinand Marcos.

The younger Marcos thanked the people of Ilocos Norte for remembering not just his father's birthday but his as well, vowing to work harder to realize his commitment of giving the Filipinos a "better Philippines."



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Marcos to lead birthday tree-planting in Rizal today

By HELEN FLORES

President Marcos will lead this morning a nationwide simultaneous bamboo and tree planting in San Mateo, Rizal to mark his 65th birthday.

Marcos will be joined by Interior Secretary Benhur Abalos and Environment Secretary Ma. Antonio Yulo-Loyzaga at the event, which will be held at the San Mateo Metropolitan Manila Development Authority landfill in Barangay Pintong Bocaue.

Marcos' one-on-one interview with TV host and actress Toni Gonzaga will be aired today on the newly launched ALLTV, which is owned by former senator Manny Villar.

Gonzaga, along with husband director Paul Soriano, supported Marcos in the May 9 presidential elections.

Gonzaga recently posted some clips of her interview with the President on her YouTube channel, where she was seen asking him some controversial questions, including the possible renewal of the franchise of ABS-CBN under his term, the appointment of former Senate president Juan Ponce Enrile as presidential chief legal counsel and Marcos' decision not to rejoin the International Criminal Court.

Gonzaga also asked the President on proposals to rename the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and on his promise to bring down the price of rice to P20 per kilogram.

Last Sunday, Marcos led the celebration of the 105th birthday of his father and namesake in Taguig City and in Batac, Ilocos Norte.

Marcos declared yesterday a holiday in Ilocos Norte to celebrate Marcos Day.

Executive clemency

Meanwhile, frail and elderly inmates are the priority in the Department of Justice (DOJ)'s executive clemency request for Malacañang, which Marcos is expected to approve on his 65th birthday, the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) said yesterday.

Qualified inmates in correctional facilities are those 70 to 100 years old, sick and have served more than 20 years in prison, according to PAO chief Persida Rueda-Acosta.

"If you have been in prison for a long time, you are old, you are sick and you have served for a long time, you should have the forgiveness of the heavens through the hand of the imprimatur of the President of our Republic," Acosta said at a public briefing.

Earlier, the DOJ said about 300 convicts could walk free by Marcos' 65th birthday if he grants them executive clemency as they had recommended.

The list of qualified inmates was submitted last week to Malacañang.

Executive clemency may come in the form of commutation of sentence, conditional or absolute pardon that can only be granted by the President upon the recom-

mendation of the Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP).

Presidents usually grant executive clemency to old and frail convicts, those who have shown good behavior or are themselves notable figures.

Acosta, whose office, alongside the BPP, was tasked to process the clemency applications, said she is "optimistic" that Marcos would approve the 300 applications of inmates.

"I don't want to pre-empt the decision of our secretary of justice and our dear President, but I wholeheartedly believe and trust that tomorrow will be a good morning because we will see the government's action in people who deserve sympathy and help," Acosta said.

DOJ spokesman Mico Clavano earlier said Marcos' decision would help decongest the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City, considering how it has a 330-percent congestion rate.

Feeding program

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) will tie up with selected small-town lottery operators or the so-called accredited agent corporations to conduct a nationwide feeding program today to celebrate Marcos' 65th birthday.

The PCSO said the nationwide feeding activity is aimed at being a more meaningful "birthday gift" to the President.

At the event, the agency will simultaneously provide sandwiches and drinks to the public under the program dubbed "Handog ng PCSO: Isang araw na salu-salo sa kaarawan ng Pangulo."

The initiative is on top of the PCSO's commitment to remit P2.5 billion to the Bureau of Treasury also in time for the birthday celebration, to fund the flagship universal health care program (UHCP) of the national government.

The UHCP provides for the automatic inclusion of every Filipino in the National Health Insurance Program.

The PCSO's financial support to the UHCP accounts for its full net charity fund from the fourth quarter of 2019 until Dec. 31 last year, amount-

ing to P1.74 billion.

It also includes the P837-million fund from the first and second quarters of this year.

PCSO general manager and vice chairman of the board Mel Robles has already signed the check, which he hopes will

make Marcos' "birthday celebration even more substantial."

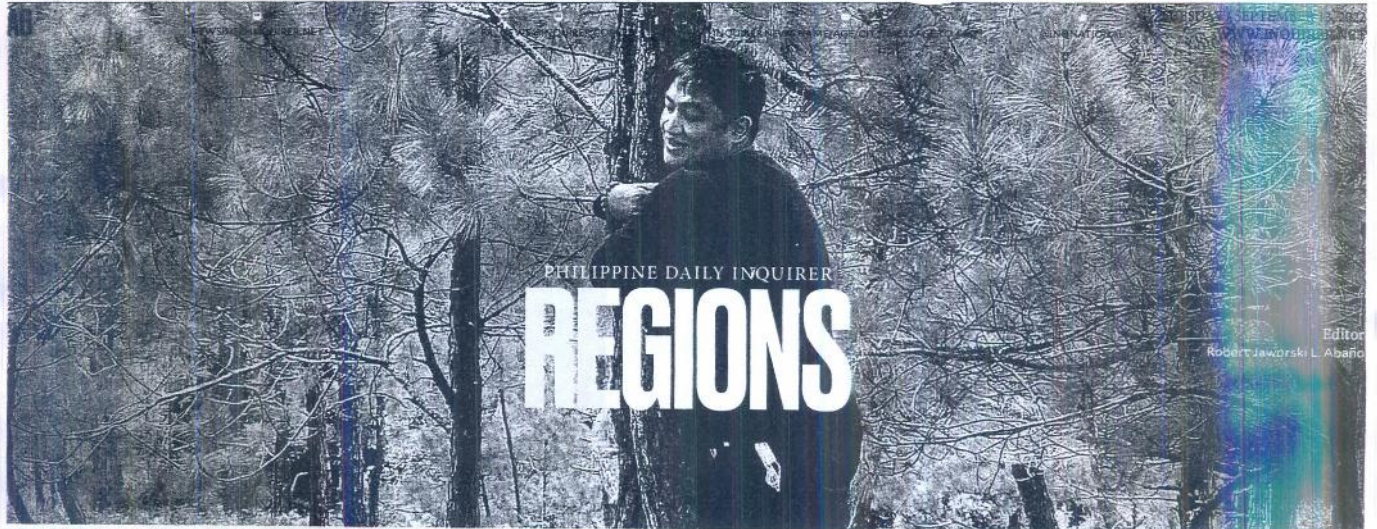
"Providing better, affordable and accessible health services to all Filipinos ranks high in the President's platform of governance," Robles noted. - With Neil Jayson Servillos, Rainier Allan Ronda



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TREE HUGGER The Baguio government has begun the process of regenerating and expanding its pine tree population, which includes this forest patch at the Baguio Dairy Farm, a favorite hiking site for locals, such as this resident in this photo taken in October 2021. —EV ESPRITU

TO PROTECT PINE TREES

BAGUIO TO GET TOUGH ON 'INVASIVE PLANTS'

BAGUIO CITY—The city government has started addressing the spread of “invasive plant species” in its environment as it starts regenerating the city’s depleted pine tree cover, Mayor Benjamin Magalong said on Monday.

The move came after experts noted that a number of trees growing in the city, including hardwood species and even ornamental plants and flowers adorning its parks, are water guzzlers that could affect the spread of pine trees as well as other endemic plant and animal species.

The city is currently prioritizing the preservation of its remaining pine trees, from which Baguio has earned its moniker the “City of Pines,” given that of its 2.5 million trees, only around half a million are of the Benguet Pine species.

Experts tapped

Magalong said the city’s environment and parks management office has tapped experts to manage current and future pine trees, which they hoped to grow into new forests, such as treating infected trees lining the manmade lake of Burnham Park with the help of a tree-surgery firm called JSA Inc.

Last week, scholars drew attention to ornamental or foreign plants and trees growing in city parks and other green zones.

“Some of these exotic plants can be a threat to the water security [of its fellow plants]. *Ang iba, matakaw sa tubig* (Some species consume

more water), instead of helping conserve rainwater,” said Dr. Zenaida Baoanan, a biology professor of the University of the Philippines (UP) Baguio, who participated in an online lecture series on Sept. 9 to commemorate Baguio’s 113th foundation day.

She noted, for example, the “very dry” areas where the Mahogany and Alnus trees, species that were introduced to Baguio, are found.

Replacements

“We need to replace potential invasive plants with native plants that regulate the water cycle,” Baoanan said.

A UP team was also exploring the impact the common African tulip, which is found in many of the city’s parks, has on the Baguio ecosystem, she added.

Baoanan stressed that Baguio needs to grow back its forest cover so it can again span 40 percent of its 57-square-kilometer territory.

She said policymakers should premise the pine tree regeneration program on Baguio’s vulnerability to geological hazards. Prone to landslides, pine tree roots ideally hold together the soil along the mountain city’s slopes.

Magalong said this was part of the reason why Balete growing at the center of downtown Session Road would soon be relocated to the Botanical Gardens.

“Balete roots spread out and do not go deep enough to keep the soil stable,” he said.

—VINCENT CABREZA INQ



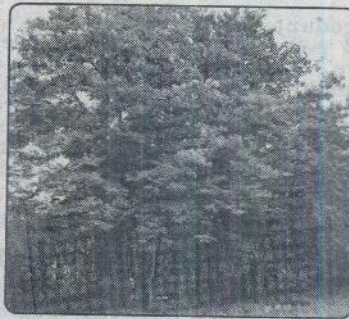
Narra tree pasok sa top 10 antioxidant worldwide

Pinuri ng Million Trees Foundation, Inc. (MTFI) ang resulta ng siyentipikong mga pag-aaral na isinagawa ng De la Salle-Dasmariñas College of Pharmacy sa kahalagahan ng puno ng narra na maaring magpagaling sa iba't ibang sakit dahilang upang mapabilang sa top 10 antioxidant sa buong mundo.

Inihayag ng mga researcher mula sa De la Salle-Dasmariñas College of Pharmacy na naka-base sa Cavite ang natuklasan ng kanilang siyentipikong pag-aaral sa mga extract ng narra sa isang press conference na ginanap sa Rembrandt Hotel sa Quezon City noong nakaraang linggo.

"This landmark findings about the medicinal value of Narra tree gives us more reasons to pursue our ambitious goal of planting

10 more million trees by 2030," pahayag ni MTFI president at executive director Melandrew Velasco.



critically endangered na Philippine National Tree, ay may pinakamataas na Oxygen Radical Absorbance Capacity o ORAC na No. 1 sa bansa at kabilang sa top 10 sa buong mundo.

Ang ORAC ay isang pang-agram na pamamaraan na binuo ng mga siyentipiko mula sa National Institute of Health and Aging upang sukatin ang kapasidad ng antioxidant ng iba't ibang pagkain.

Sinusukat din nito ang antioxidants na natural na depensa ng katawan laban sa harmful compounds na

nauugnay sa maraming sakit, kabilang ang panghihina ng katawan, diabetes, sakit sa puso at kanser.

Kasabay nito, isiniwalat din sa pag-aaral na nasusukat din sa ORAC ang parehong mataas na antas ng antioxidant potency. **(Dolly Cabreza)**

Lifestyle

Kinumpirma ng mga professor mula sa De La Salle College na nanguna sa press briefing na sina Dr. Alicia Catabay, Louie Fernando Legaspi, Sigfredo Mata at Timothy Jay Bengala, na ang antioxidant properties ng bark at branch wood ng



Property developer asks PRA to review valuation of Manila Bay reclamation project

By Darwin G. Amojelar

ASIAN Seas Resources and Construction Development Corp., a property developer controlled by the F.F. Cruz Construction Group, asked the Philippine Reclamation Authority to review the proposed reclamation project of Waterfront Manila Premier Development Inc.

"There is no possible way the reclamation can be done at P34 billion. It's undervalued," ASSERCO legal counsel Jose Bernas said.

Bernas said the reclamation project cost should be at least three times more, or about P100 billion.

Manila Standard tried to obtain comments from representatives of PRA and WMPD, but they had yet to respond as of press time.

The PRA earlier approved the request of WMPD to start the mobilization of its P34.3-billion reclamation and horizontal development of 318 hectares along Manila Bay.

WMPDI counsel Ma. Julieta Santos earlier said the reclamation project complied with the requirements of PRA and the City of Manila.

"Manila also issued its NTP knowing

that the project is beneficial to the city and the Filipino people at no cost to the government. Government has a 51-percent share in the project once there is reclaimed land," Santos said.

Santos said WMPDI paid PRA the regulatory fees and social environment fund in the amount of P800 million as part of the condition to mobilize the project.

Bernas, however, insisted that the same area of the reclamation of WMPDI was already awarded to ASSERCO.

ASSERCO filed a civil case against PRA, City of Manila and Waterfront, saying the awarded project to Waterfront overlapped the former's project award issued in 1991 by PRA.

"Court already found that it was illegal to remove from ASSERCO," he said, adding that the project had no clearance from the National Economic and Development Authority and no public bidding.

ASSERCO filed a motion for reconsideration with the Makati regional trial court on Aug. 22 to reverse its Aug. 4 ruling allowing the joint venture deal of WMPDC with PRA and the City of Manila to proceed with the reclamation project.



PERCEPTIONS

ARIEL NEPOMUCENO



Can the annual floods from Marikina River be controlled?

The recent torrential floods that devastated Pakistan is reminiscent of the 2009 onslaught of Ondoy that left thousands dead and billions of damaged properties. Then after, other threats from the overflow of rivers became almost a perennial nightmare of the residents, not only of nearby communities but of entire cities and municipalities that are gravely affected every time the typhoons and monsoon bring extraordinary volume of rains.

The big question is, can we still possibly control the negative impact of such floods, particularly the one caused by the usual inundations of Marikina River?

I take this as a case in point because this dilemma strikes the center of the country, the National Capital Region. We must be able to address this problem successfully and save the huge metropolis from being helplessly victimized by the raging waters from this 78-kilometer water system that traverses from the Sierra Madre Mountain Range through Rodriguez and San Mateo in Rizal, then Marikina and Quezon City, to Pasig. The solution used here can be the template in handling similar cases such as the Rio Grande in Cagayan and other major rivers as far as those in Mindanao.

Deploy no nonsense engineering solutions. There must be a comprehensive approach in mitigating the inevitable attacks of typhoons coupled by the monsoon rains that cause the rising of waters in Metro Manila, particularly those surrounding the Marikina River. Whatever happened to the supposed huge catch basin in the Sierra Madre? And what happened too to the massive reforestation of its slopes, which were abused through decades of reckless logging and quarry operations, both legal and clandestine?

What's the status, real condition, of the heavily silted Marikina Riverbed which, in some parts, is only two meters deep? The national and local governments have poured in millions of pesos to widen and deepen the river with the objective of significantly increasing its capacity.

We also heard, but it fizzled out, of the Parañaque spillway that can systematically release the excess water from Laguna de Bay to Manila Bay to decrease the floodwaters choking the NCR. Though others contested that there might be a backflow from the sea, this is also worth looking at as a possible complementary solution. No less than the renowned

urban planner architect Felino "Jun" Palafox espoused this engineering plan.

It is high time and urgent that the concerned government agencies such as the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), under the leadership of Secretary Manuel Bonoan, take up the cudgels in finally giving the area a fighting chance against the devastations of floods. He can lead the team that will involve the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), the National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC), DENR, PAGASA, the affected local governments, especially Marikina City whose mayor, Marcelino Teodoro, made an impressive handling of the pandemic in his jurisdiction.

A clear and scientific blueprint that will confidently manage this costly problem is needed. We cannot afford to concede and leave the survival of the residents at the mercy of floods. For sure, there is still a possible engineering panacea that can essentially control, or at least lessen, the effects of a swollen Marikina River.

Audit and monitor the efforts exerted. To ensure that the problem on the regular flooding of Marikina River will be solved, the resources used, meaning public funds, must be properly accounted for. Dredging and flood control projects are the hardest to measure. It's unreliable if we simply limit our audit based on the reported dredging activities such as estimating the mud grabbed and thrown by the giant backhoes that seem to constantly operate along the rivers. But judging by the results, the unabated floods are the clearest clue that not much is really being accomplished.

How I wish that the Senate, for example, can give its attention on this. An exercise of their oversight can shed light on how we are performing on this battleground, vis-à-vis the budget allocated for this intention through the years. Perhaps, Senate President Miguel Zubiri can render his mettle to seriously put all concerned agencies on their toes.

We must fully understand where we failed or succeed so far in managing this menace. Again, thousands of lives and billions already perished because of these floods. We can definitely avoid another catastrophe by courageously, scientifically and objectively confronting this problem.

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DTI to consumers:

Be environmentally aware

THE increasing awareness of consumers on the need to protect the environment has been driving the growing demand for sustainable products.

Recent studies by First Insight and the Baker Retailing Center at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (2021) and The Economist Intelligence Unit (2022), commissioned by the World Wide Fund for Nature show

that when it comes to sustainability, consumers also place importance on corporate values aside from the products and services.

Ecolabelling is a helpful tool that provides consumers information to assist them in choosing products that have less impact on the environment. Ecolabelling schemes around the globe are continuously increasing, with ecolabel credibility, recognizability, and

accountability seen as crucial factors in positively influencing consumer attitude towards green product purchase.

Some examples of these country ecolabels are Japan's Eco Mark Program, Korea's Eco-Label Program, and The Nordic Swan Ecolabel implemented in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

On the flip side, some businesses

take advantage of this demand for sustainable products through "green-washing" or the practice of making dishonest claims of sustainability or environmental friendliness in an attempt to gain marketshare, a deceitful marketing ploy intended to mislead consumers who prefer to purchase environmentally-conscious products and services.

Trade and Industry Undersec-

retary and Consumer Protection Group head Ruth B. Castelo stressed: "Consumers should always be mindful of the authenticity or genuineness of a product's claims, and the validity of its certification or labels."

"Consumers should exercise their right to information and be protected against fraudulent, dishonest, or misleading labelling," Castelo added.



CSOs to push for 'green new deal' for post-Covid recovery

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA
@jonlmayuga

LEADERS of various civil society organizations (CSOs) are pushing for the passage of a measure that will target specific programs and finance mechanisms for a just and green recovery.

At a recent roundtable discussion, technical experts and leaders of 26 civil society groups began re-crafting House Resolution (HR) 0008, entitled the People's Green New Deal (PGND), into a House bill to be filed in the House of Representatives.

Convened under the Panatang Luntian Coalition, the roundtable discussion held on Thursday, September 8, was hosted by the Manila Observatory (MO) at the Ateneo De Manila University and led by Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan-PNE). They were also joined by their legislative partner, Kabataan Party-list (KPL), which filed House Resolution 0008 last July 27.

"We are proud to lead the re-crafting of this bill in the hopes of a future where the Filipino people can enjoy their right to a healthy environment," Jon Bonifacio, acting national coordinator of Kalikasan PNE and lead convenor of the Panatang Luntian said in a news release.

The delegates represented labor unions, urban poor organizations, jeepney drivers, farmers, fisherfolk, agriculturists, environmental scientists, architects, engineers, urban planners, com-

munity workers, doctors, health-care workers, fisherfolk, and indigenous peoples.

"True climate justice will only be achieved with a grassroots-centric approach with our policy framework. The most vulnerable sectors of society need to be empowered if we are to survive the onslaught of the climate crisis," added Bonifacio.

The key takeaway of the roundtable discussion focused on identifying key metrics of the economy and priority programs that needed to be addressed in order to rollout mechanisms for financing loss and damage caused by the climate crisis.

"We are pushing this package to facilitate just compensation from top polluter countries and carbon major companies for the past, present, and future ecological and climate injustices suffered by the Filipino people and the environment," Bonifacio explained.

The People's Green New Deal is a proposed roadmap that integrates environmental concerns in the country's post-pandemic recovery. As such, it will also be a policy and legislative framework for the network's advocacy work.

At the event, environmental concerns were categorized into eight clusters. Eight simultaneous workshops were held to discuss issues per cluster. Participants per cluster included:

Just Recovery and National Industrialization. Led by Bong Labog of Kilusang Mayo Uno, Leody de Guzman of Bukluran ng Mang-

gagawang Pilipino; Pro-People Engineers and Leaders; Advocates of Science and Technology for the People, and Center for Environmental Concerns.

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. Led by Dr. Chito Medina of Magsasaka at Siyentipiko Para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura; they were also joined by Oceana Philippines, and Kabataan Party-list.

Biodiversity Protection. Led by Dr. Neil Aldrin D. Mallari of the Center for Conservation Innovations; they were also joined by Philippine Native Plant Conservation Society Inc., and Kalikasan PNE.

Disaster Resilience. Led by Dr. Susan Balingit, Executive Director of Citizen's Disaster and Response Center; they were also joined by Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP), and the Manila Observatory.

Green Cities and Just Mobility. Led by Architect Amillah Rodil of United Architects of the Philippines and Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners; they were also joined by Pinagkaisang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide, Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap, and Save San Roque Alliance.

Just Energy Transition. Led by Jordan Fronda of Center for Environmental Concerns; they were also joined by Pangasinan People's Strike for the Environment, 350 Pilipinas, the Green Convergence for Safe Food, Healthy Environment and Sustainable Economy, the Manila Observatory.



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No more fossil fuels, UN tells EU

UN cites Pakistan's floods as reminder

GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) — The United Nations urges European Union countries on Monday to continue battling climate change and not resort to more fossil fuels in their response to soaring energy prices and fears of winter shortages.

Russia has reduced supplies of gas to Europe since its invasion of Ukraine in retaliation for EU sanctions, sending prices for the fuel soaring.

“There is no room for backtracking in the face of the ongoing climate crisis,” deputy UN rights chief Nada Al Nashif told the United Nations Human Rights Council.

She pointed to the devastating floods affecting more than 33 million people in Pakistan as an example of what happens when the world fails to act on climate change.

“How many more tragedies of this sort do we need before the urgency of the moment jolts

us into action?” she asked.

Speaking at the opening of the council's 51st session in Geneva, Al Nashif acknowledged that the soaring energy prices in Europe “threaten to impact the most vulnerable as winter approaches.”

Climate finance

Before the war, 40 percent of the EU's gas imports came from Russia. Now Germany and others are scrambling to come up with new ways to heat homes and power factories.

Al Nashif, who is currently serving as acting High Commissioner for Human Rights until new chief Volker Turk replaces Michelle Bachelet, pointed out that “some EU member states are turning to investments in fossil fuels infrastructure and supplies.”

“While that impulse is understandable, I urge the EU and its member states to consider the long-term consequences of locking in more fossil fuel infrastructure,” she said.

“It is essential to accelerate

the development of energy efficiency projects and renewables.”

Al Nashif urged all countries “to seek an ambitious outcome” at the next UN climate conference in Egypt in November.

They should seek to “address loss and damage and meet and increase climate finance commitments,” she said.

On 30 August, leading Earth systems scientist Johan Rockstrom said the cost-of-living crisis pushing millions of Europeans towards poverty was driven

by fossil fuels.

‘Some EU member states are turning to investments in fossil fuels infrastructure and supplies.’

“This is fossil fuel-driven, supply-driven inflation,” the director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research told AFP. “We've been saying since 1990 that we need to phase out the fossil fuel-driven economy towards a renewable-driven economy. And now here we are — we're now hitting the wall.”



Pakistan, PH wallow in the same boat

THE whole of Pakistan is wallowing in misery now as it buries 1,400 people who have died in flooding that was so massive it covered one-third of the country, ruining agricultural crops, leveling homes and shops, eroding and destroying roads and bridges.

Visiting the flood-ravaged areas, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was so appalled by the devastation that he declared that “Pakistan and other developing countries are paying a horrific price for the intransigence of big emitters that continue to bet on fossil fuels.”

Guterres lamented the lack of attention the world gave to climate change, particularly industrialized nations that benefited much from this official neglect. “This is insanity, this is collective suicide,” the UN official told a news conference in Pakistan.

‘The Marcos administration needs to deploy all forms of mitigative interventions that would defend Filipinos from the deleterious effects of climate change.’

“From Islamabad, I am issuing a global appeal: Stop the madness. Invest in renewable energy now. End the war with nature,” he said. He hopes that his visit would galvanize support for the South Asian country which needs at least \$10 billion to repair damaged infrastructure.

In the wake of this development, we can understand why former President Rodrigo Duterte detested the idea of the Philippines’ taking up responsibility to avert global warming when the country has very little contribution to this mess. The industrialized nations are to blame and so they should take up the challenge of cleaning up, Duterte said.


We note that Pakistan is responsible for less than 1 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, but is eighth in the list of countries most vulnerable to extreme weather caused by climate change, according to Germanwatch.

In the same breath, it is relevant to note that the Philippines ranks fourth in terms of risks arising from floods and storms, according to Fitch’s Climate Change Physical Risk Exposure Heatmap rankings. The most vulnerable are Mozambique (first), Vietnam (second) and Bangladesh (third).


Just like the Philippines, Pakistan receives heavy and often destructive rains during its annual monsoon season. But downpours as intense as this year’s have not been seen for decades. This reminds us of the torrential rains of typhoon “Ondoy” several years ago when Metro Manila residents were given a taste of the biblical deluge.

The Marcos administration needs to deploy all forms of mitigative interventions that would defend Filipinos from the deleterious effects of climate change.





Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City 1116
Tel. No. (632) 8539-4378
Website: www.emb.gov.ph E-mail: recordsco@emb.gov.ph



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) REPORT** of the proposed **Parañaque Spillway Project** of Department of Public Works and Highways located in Cities of Muntinlupa, Parañaque, and Las Piñas in Metro Manila, and City of Bacoor, Province of Cavite.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the proposed **Parañaque Spillway Project** to attend Public Hearing that is scheduled as follows:

Date	Time	Venue
28 September 2022	9:00 AM <i>(Registration will start at 08:30 AM)</i>	Sucat Covered Court, Brgy. Sucat, Muntinlupa City
29 September 2022	1:00 PM <i>(Registration will start at 12:30 PM)</i>	Bernabe Compound Covered Court, Brgy. Pulang Lupa Uno, Las Piñas City

This Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the Department of Public Works and Highways' application for Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC). The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the aforementioned project is being reviewed by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information:

Proponent	Department of Public Works and Highways
Project Name	Parañaque Spillway Project
Project Location	Cities of Muntinlupa, Parañaque, and Las Piñas in Metro Manila, and City of Bacoor, Province of Cavite
Components	Intake Facility (Inlet) Drainage Facility (Outlet) Spillway (Underground Tunnel Type)
Rationale	The main objective of the Parañaque Spillway is to reduce the flood damage within the lakeshore area by providing another outlet in Laguna Lake and helping Napindan channel in lowering the water level in the lake during heavy rain
Project Capacity	9.7 kilometers underground spillway
Area	9,7198 hectares

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


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

<p>EMB National Capital Region National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Quezon City Tel. No. (02) 8931-1331</p> <p>EMB Region IV-A 6/F Unit E, DENR By the Bay Building, 1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila Tel. No. (02) 8536-9784</p>	<p>CPDO - Muntinlupa City City Hall, Muntinlupa City</p> <p>CPDO - Parañaque City City Hall, Parañaque City</p> <p>CPDO - Las Piñas City City Hall, Las Piñas City</p>
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For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 8539 4378 local 116 and look for the project case handler Engr. Jose Paolo H. Aragoncillo or at this e-mail: jose_aragoncillo@emb.gov.ph

(PDI - Sept. 13 & 20, 2022)




 Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD
 8th Floor NIA Bldg., EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1100

**FOREST WATER SYSTEM SERVICES/
MARIETTA TAGO SY,** Applicant. Case No. 22-3411

x _____ x

NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Certificate of Public Convenience to operate and maintain a waterworks system within Barangays Buyog and Laca, municipality of Jagna, province of Bohol, with the following proposed rates:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential and Institutional						
Pipe Size	0-5m8 (min)	6-10m8	11-20m8	21-30m8	31-40m8	Over 40m8
½	P182.00	40.10	43.70	51.00	88.30	61.90

Commercial and Industrial						
Pipe Size	0-15m8 (min)	16-30m8	31-60m8	61-100m8	Over 100m8	
½	P1,092.00	91.10	109.30	116.50	131.10	

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **3 October 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 the province of **Bohol** 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 2nd day of August 2022.

By Authority of the Board:

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

Affected Parties:
The Secretary
 Sangguniang Bayan
 Jagna, Bohol
The Barangay Chairmen
 Barangays Buyog & Laca Jagna, Bohol

(REMATE: Sept. 13, 2022) L