

DATE : \_\_\_\_\_

Monday

DAY : \_\_\_\_\_

# DENR

## IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

By **CORY MARTINEZ**

**MORE than 500 marine turtle or pawikan hatchlings have been released in the waters of Sarangani Bay.**

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 12 through its Executive Director Nilo Tamoria led the release of the 528 hatchlings Olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) in Bgy. Lumasal in Maasim, Sarangani province late afternoon of May 16.

Tamoria was joined by Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) of Kiamba, Forester Jesus Boja, Chief of Coastal Resource and Foreshore Management Section (CRFMS) Felix C. Robles and staff of municipal environment and natural resources office of Maasim in releasing the hatchlings.

Tamoria, called on the coastal communities of Sarangani to help in protecting and conserving their coastal areas and be responsible with their wastes.

"It is important that we take care of our marine ecosystem. I call on the communities to help us in protecting and conserving our coastal areas. Let us be responsible in managing our respective wastes. There are several reported stranding of pawikan and this indicates that there is something wrong with our coastal environment," Tamoria said.

He also explained that

## DENR releases 500 pawikan hatchlings in Sarangani Bay



the hatchlings were released in the afternoon to provide them a greater chance of survival. "Accordingly, only one (1) percent of the released sea turtles is expected to survive into adulthood," the DENR official said.

Belonging to the species of Olive ridley, the baby pawikans, all 528, were hatched at the Maasim Pawikan Hatchery in Maasim town, constituting the biggest number of hatchlings ever recorded since the hatchery's establishment in 2015.

Tamoria also told the local residents who came to witness the activity that the journey of the young sea turtles is "not easy" as these are threatened not only by the presence of predators in the ocean but also by pollution and plastic wastes.

"They may be eaten by big fishes and sharks, or they may ingest plastic waste thrown into the ocean," he said.

For his part, Robles said that the female pawikan usually returns to

its birthplace to lay eggs in the next 20 to 25 years.

"We let pawikan hatchlings to crawl into the sea. This will help them remember where they come from. They imprint on the unique magnetic field of their birthplace and the female ones use this information to return to their birthplace to nest," Robles said.

The shores of Bgy. Lumasal and the nearby communities are known nesting sites of sea turtles.

Olive ridley, also known as the Pacific ridley, is the second smallest and most abundant species of sea turtles in the world. It thrives in warm and tropical waters, primarily in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

As to its conservation status, Olive ridley is vulnerable to extinction thus its possession and deliberate killing is punishable under Republic Act No. 9147, also known as the Philippine Wildlife Resources Protection and Conservation Act.



P-1

## PHILIPPINE EAGLES GEOTHERMICA AND SAMBISIG TO BE LOANED TO SINGAPORE

# Ambassadors for Philippine biodiversity

STORY BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA [@jonlmayuga](#)

**O**N June 4, a pair of captive-bred Philippine eagles will fly to Singapore as part of a Wildlife Loan Agreement (WLA) entered into by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Wildlife Reserves Singapore (WRS), Singapore's leading wildlife conservation organization.

Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu and WRS Deputy Executive Officer Cheng Wen-Haur signed the agreement highlighting a first of such agreement for the critically endangered Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), the country's national bird.

Only about 400 pairs of the eagles are left in the wild, owing to the massive habitat loss and hunting for food and trophy.

### 50 years of friendship

WITNESSED by Gerard Ho Wei Hong, the ambassador of Singapore to the Philippines, and Joseph del Mar Yap, the Philippine ambassador to Singapore, the signing of the WLA on May 20 marked 50 years of friendship between the Philippines and Singapore.

"Sending [the Philippine eagles named] Geothermica and Sambisig to Singapore acts as a biodiversity measure to ensure the survival of the species and as a fallback population in the event of catastrophic

events like disease outbreaks or extreme natural calamities taking place in their Philippine habitats," Cimatu said during a news conference after the signing of the WLA at the DENR Central Office.

For his part, Wen-Haur expressed his gratitude to the DENR for entrusting the Philippine eagle to the WRS, as an act of friendship that will strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

"The loan of the eagles this year is especially symbolic as it coincides with the 50th anniversary of friendship between the Philippines and Singapore," he said.

### Mutual benefits

DENR Assistant Secretary for Staff Bureaus Ricardo Calderon said the Philippines and Singapore are mutual beneficiaries of the WLA.

"For the Philippines, it will receive technical assistance for the possible release of any progenies of the loaned eagles; the promotion of the Philippine eagle to international visitors of the Jurong Bird Park; and capacity building through staff exchanges in the areas of management; research to be agreed with WRS; and technical support for in-country activities for the duration of the WLA from WRS," he said.

Calderon said for WRS, having the Philippine eagles means the opportunity to showcase one of the rarest and largest eagles in the world as among the attraction of the Jurong Bird Park.

"It will also benefit from the capacity building of WRS staff on wildlife management through staff exchange to be agreed with the DENR and PEF [Philippine Eagles Foundation] having been successful in its captive-breeding program," he said.

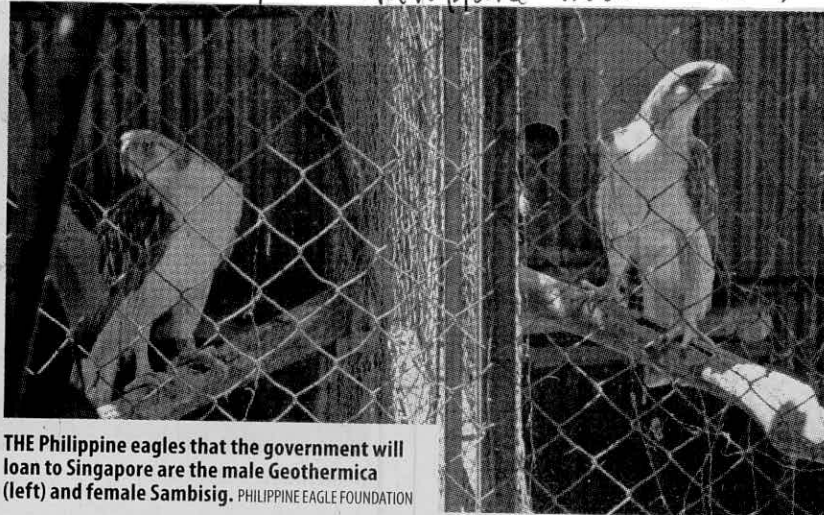
Lastly, he said the partnership provides an avenue to broaden its outreach and partnership with like-minded organizations in Southeast Asia in pursuit of its corporate mission.

### Ambassadors of Philippine biodiversity

STAYING indefinitely at the Jurong Bird Park for the purpose of conservation through captive-breeding, the Philippine eagles, Geothermica and Sambisig, both



## Ambassadors for Philippine biodiversity



**THE Philippine eagles that the government will loan to Singapore are the male *Geothermica* (left) and female *Sambisig*.** PHILIPPINE EAGLE FOUNDATION

captive-bred and raised by the PEF at the Philippine Eagle Center (PEC) in Davao City, will play a crucial role as ambassadors of Philippine biodiversity, the DENR chief said.

"The Philippine eagle is an ideal ambassador of Philippine biodiversity, perfect for the purpose of generating awareness on the urgent need for conservation," Cimatu said.

The 15-year-old *Geothermica*, a male, hatched on January 7, 2004, is an offspring of Junior and Kahayag from Mindanao.

The female eagle, *Sambisig*, on the other hand, is currently 17 years old. It was hatched on November 17, 2002. *Sambisig*'s parents are Sam and Diamante, the most prolific pair in the PEC.

The DENR chief underscored the need to increase the global awareness about species conservation, in time for the celebration of the International Day of Biological Diversity.

Cimatu said the program also aims to stimulate international support for an in situ, or original site, conservation program for the Philippine eagle, along with a biosecurity measure against risks arising from potentially catastrophic events such as disease outbreaks that could wipe out the population

of the Philippine eagle.

### Insurance policy

DURING the press conference, Dennis Salvador, executive director of PEF, the DENR's conservation partner since the 1990s, said sending *Geothermica* and *Sambisig* to Singapore is a sort of an insurance policy to save the species from extinction in case of a disease outbreak.

He noted that the Philippines was recently hit by the deadly avian influenza virus or the bird flu virus, and it was only recently that the country was declared bird flu-free by the Department of Agriculture.

Fortunately, he said the Philippine eagle population is unaffected by the virus.

"Otherwise, the population of the Philippine eagle would have been wiped out already," he said.

### WRS track record

THE WRS prides itself as a collection-based conservation organization.

According to Wen-Haur, the WLA will see a long-term active partnership between the Philippines and Singapore to protect and breed the Philippine eagle outside its native country.

"We have specially curated populations of animals in our parks in Singapore, which are taken care of professionally and scientifically with the ultimate goal of ensuring their survival on this planet," he said.

Currently, he said WRS supports over 30 field conservation areas in Southeast Asia, mainly through funding and capacity-building initiatives.

WRS has also worked closely and supported various nongovernment organizations in the protection of several species in the Philippines. For birds, these are the Luzon bleeding-heart, the Mindanao bleeding-heart, the critically endangered Philippine cockatoo, southern rufous hornbill, Luzon hornbill, yellow-breasted fruit dove and the coledo.

WRS is also working for the conservation of nonavian species like the Palawan forest turtle and the Palawan pangolin, both critically endangered species.

### Jurong Bird Park

THE pair of Philippine eagles will be a big addition to the Jurong Bird Park, a 20-hectare hillside haven for close to 3,500 birds across 400 species, of which 20 percent are threatened.

Famous for its large and immersive walk-in aviaries, such as Lory Loft, Jungle Jewels, Waterfall Aviary and the recently revamped Parrot Paradise, the Jurong Bird Park is the first in the world to breed the Malayan black hornbill in 1995 and the 12-wired bird-of-paradise in 2001, for which it received the Breeders' Award from the American Pheasant and Waterfowl Society.

### WLA terms and conditions

THE PEF has a successful captive-breeding program and has so far produced 28 eagles since the 1990s. However, some eagles that were released into the wild are often captured, if not injured, or worse, shot to death by hunters in recent years.

A Philippine eagle can reproduce once every two years, and as they pair for life, with the shrinking forest canopy ideal for their survival, raising a chick is a big challenge. A Philippine eagle pair needs at least 7,000 hectares to

**“The Philippine eagle is an ideal ambassador of Philippine biodiversity, perfect for the purpose of generating awareness on the urgent need for conservation.”—CIMATU**



P-3

## *Ambassadors for Philippine biodiversity*

13,000 hectares of thick, healthy forests to survive.

Under the Philippine-Singapore WLA, the Philippine eagle pair and their offspring will remain a property of the Philippines and shall only for conservation breeding, public awareness, education and other conservation-oriented purposes. They shall not be used for commercial purposes, including biomedical or commercial research.

The WRS, as part of the deal, is also committed to make available an annual conservation fund amounting to \$20,000 with an annual increment of 10 percent, and shall promote and coordinate staff exchanges for training and capability building in the areas of animal husbandry, veterinary management, animal welfare, designs, zoo, education and marketing.

### **Bigger cage, meat diet**

INTERVIEWED by the BUSINESS-MIRROR, Salvador said Geothermica and Sambisig will have access to a bigger cage under the care of the WRS, including better fresh-meat diet.

A Philippine eagle needs to consume at least 300 grams of fresh meat.

Out in the wild, Philippine eagles hunt for prey, making survival difficult in a territory with lesser prey to feed on.

Flying lemurs, monkeys, snakes, lizards, rats and civet cats are among their favorites.

### **A crown jewel**

ACCORDING to Cimatu, the Philippine eagle is considered the crown jewel of Philippine biodiversity and an integral part of the country's rich heritage.

"As our national bird, it embodies our aspiration to soar high as a nation. On the global stage, the Philippine eagle is the largest among extant eagles in terms of length and wing surface," he explained.

He said the signing of the WLA with Singapore was a boost to the DENR's initiatives to save the Philippine eagle as it underscores the importance and urgency of providing safe havens—whether here or abroad—to the biodiversity that is part of Filipino identity, as exemplified by the Philippine eagle.

# Pangolins hunted to near extinction

By **Jhesset O. Enano**  
@JhessetEnanoINQ

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—From 10 a.m. to sundown, JR-Lhiy Pastrana and Elmie Caabay scout southern Palawan forests for termite nests, ant mounds and scratches on trees—traces of their elusive object.

Guided by a local farmer or hunter and his dogs, they look for the endangered Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*).

Little is known about this scaly mammal, only recently described as distinct from the Sunda pangolin.

## Most trafficked mammal

One of the eight pangolin species, it shares the unfortunate fate of being the most trafficked mammal, due to high demand for its scales and meat in Asian markets.

The ground survey forms part of a research aiming to shed light on the Philippine pangolin, the least studied of eight species, before it is pushed to extinction.

The study is led by wildlife group Katala Foundation and funded by USAID Protect

Wildlife, a five-year project for conservation.

With the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development and the Palawan State University (PSU), it aims to determine the Philippine pangolin population, habitat preferences and threats to aid policies and programs for its conservation.

Glesselle Batin, Palawan Pangolin Conservation Project coordinator, said protecting the species was a challenge when little scientific knowledge was available.

The Philippine pangolin is described as endangered on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List. Yet no areas have been protected specifically for its conservation.

"We may have already lost about 85 to 95 percent of them, but this is only based on the perception of tribal leaders," Batin said.

## Research area

The research focuses on the Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Range, which straddles Puerto Princesa City and the towns of Aborlan, Narra and Quezon.

A big slice of the P4-million

funding for the project is dedicated to the ground survey and camera traps set in several areas, covering over 6,000 hectares.

Researchers on the ground would document and capture the pangolins, noting various measurements.

The animals will later be released in the same area where they have been taken.

From September to Decem-

ber 2018, the team recorded 14 pangolins, including two pregnant ones, in a total surveyed area of 800 hectares.

Pastrana, 25, said the researchers' work was not easy, walking as much as 20 ha every night.

Researchers, however, observed that threats to the animal's habitats remain, such as slash-and-burn farming, or kaingin, timber poaching and

charcoal making.

Interviews done by PSU with indigenous communities showed that poaching and illegal trade on pangolin meat and scales continue.

USAID Protect Wildlife says pangolin meat goes for \$3 to \$5 per kilo, while the scales, believed to have medicinal uses, sell for as much as \$190 per kilo.

More than 30 camera traps have been set up in areas stretching 4,000 hectares.

## 7 photographed

So far, the cameras captured pictures of seven pangolins, but also other wildlife, such as the endemic Palawan peacock-pheasant, civet cat, porcupine and deer.

The researchers hope the numbers will rise. The final findings will be published by year-end, Batin said.

Partnership with upland indigenous peoples, she noted, would be very valuable, as they are the ones most familiar with the pangolin and the threats.

"We hope our research [will] help in the implementation and enforcement of wildlife law," she said. INQ



**DIMINISHING NUMBERS** JR-Lhiy Pastrana, a researcher from Katala Foundation, holds a Palawan pangolin his team found during its nightly rounds in the Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Range in southern Palawan. —PHOTO FROM USAID PROTECT WILDLIFE



## Council finds wisdom to revive Lopez-era resource co-mgmt project

**T**HE Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) is reviving its bid to implement an integrated natural resource management project to enhance, protect and regenerate Palawan's natural treasures within a period of 10 years.

The "Palawan Integrated Natural Resources Management Project," which includes a comanagement agreement between the PCSD led by the Provincial Government of Palawan and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources signed by then-Secretary

Regina Paz L. Lopez, was put on hold in May 2017 after the Commission on Appointments rejected Lopez's appointment to the DENR.

Interviewed by the BUSINESSMIRROR during a media tour organized by USAID for its Protect Wildlife Project in Palawan, PCSD Executive Director Nelson Devanadera said he is set to meet with DENR officials and has met with DENR Undersecretary Rodolfo Garcia to kick off exploratory talks that would lead to the proposed project's revival and implementation.

This was confirmed by DENR Assistant Secretary for Staff Bureaus and newly appointed Director of the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Ricardo L. Calderon in a telephone interview.

"We will sit down with PCSD to talk about the details of the project," Calderon said. The Palawan Integrate Natural Resources Management Project was crafted by Devanadera, a former BMB assistant director along with Calderon who once held the position of Forest Management Bureau chief and

national coordinator of the National Greening Program.

Under the proposed project, a total of 34,200 hectares is earmarked for reforestation, with around 30,000 hectares for enrichment planting and for production forests, plus around 4,200 hectares of mangrove forests.

The project will require a P25.4-billion budget for 10 years, with the bulk of the proposed budget allocated for revegetation, housing and settlement, and livelihood and employment generation. *Jonathan L. Mayuga*



# UN highlights biodiversity's importance

By Elmer N. Manuel

As the United Nations (UN) marked the commemoration of International Day for Biological Diversity recently, a report showed that the food that people eat around the world is becoming alarmingly homogenous.

**However, the world organization stressed that human activity is threatening the fate of species around the world like never before.**

This, as it noted that the access to a wide variety of nutritious food nowadays has never been greater.

In a statement, the UN said the commemoration this year highlights the impact of environmental neglect on food security and public health.

It added that biodiversity in plant and animal life in the world in terms of species, habitats and genetics, leads to ecosystems that are healthier, more productive and better able to adapt to challenges like climate change.

However, the world organization stressed that human activity is threatening the fate of species around the world like never before.

UN secretary general António Guterres said in his speech during the celebration that the quality of the water we drink, the food

we eat and the air we breathe all depend on keeping the natural world in good health.

He also underlined that biodiversity was essential to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and to address climate change.

This year's theme "Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health" aims to leverage knowledge and spread awareness of how much all life depends on biodiversity, revolves around food security and health concerns around the globe.

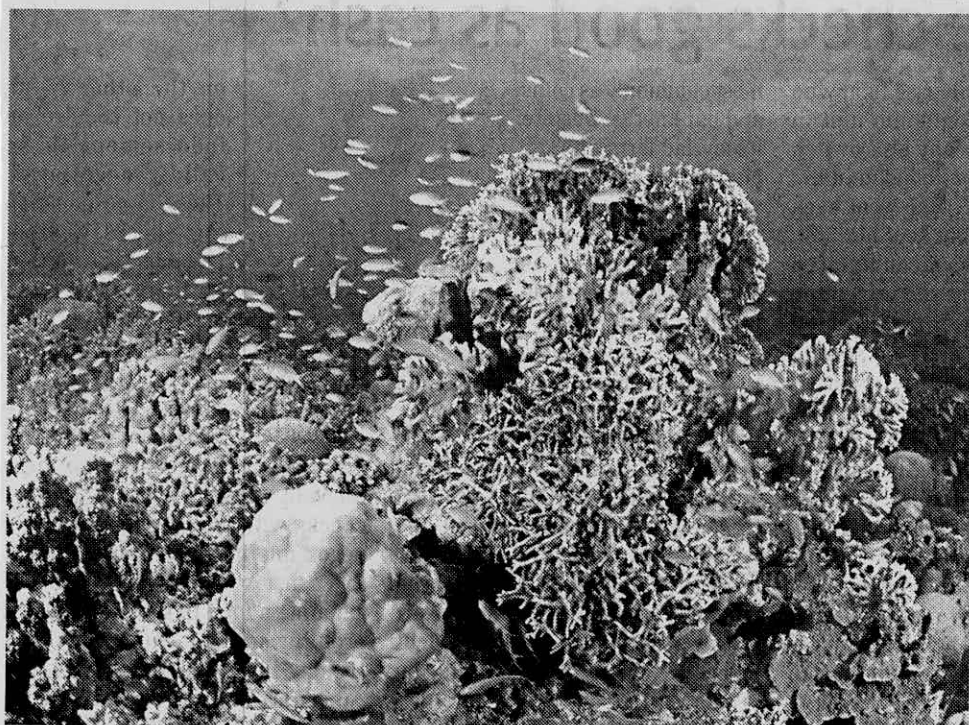
Guterres added that healthy ecosystems can provide 37 percent of the mitigation needed to limit global temperature rise.

He warned that the current negative trends in biodiversity and ecosystems are projected to undermine progress towards 80 percent of the targets for the SDG.

"We cannot allow this to happen," he stressed.

"The world's current food system is increasingly broken. Billions of people lack access to proper nutrition," added the UN chief.

"Approximately one third of what is produced is lost or wasted. The ways in which we grow, process, transport, consume and waste food are leading causes of biodiversity loss, while also contributing to climate change," he stressed.



**Environment protection** The United Nations says biodiversity areas need to be protected to ensure humanity's future.





# MAP urges holistic Laguna Lake rehab for water security, ecotourism

**W**ater security and the environment are major concerns of the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP).

It is for these reasons that MAP urges an immediate effort by the national government together with local government units and the private sector to clean, conserve, rejuvenate and preserve Laguna Lake and its watershed.

Laguna Lake is the largest freshwater lake in our country and among the largest in Southeast Asia. It is an ideal and logical source of potable water and has a vast potential for ecotourism.

Unfortunately, the water quality of Laguna Lake has, despite sporadic efforts, continuously degenerated from neglect and wanton disregard for the lake's wellbeing much like other natural resources of our country.

We strongly applaud President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for seeing the despoilage of Boracay and exercising strong political will by taking draconian measures, including its temporary closure, to rehabilitate and save it from human overexploitation. Now we see the very rewarding positive results even after just a brief period.

We urge PRRD to take similar action and order a Save Laguna Lake action by issuing an executive order to direct all national and local government units and instrumentalities to immediately implement all existing laws, rules, regulations and directives to protect and rehabilitate Laguna Lake and the forest cover of its watershed in

## MAPPING THE FUTURE

the surrounding hills and mountains.

The public must be warned that the government will strictly enforce existing laws that prohibit, under pain of penalty, the dumping of waste into the lake. Polluting industries, such as factories, fish culture, poultry and livestock farms, must be strictly regulated and restricted to a sustainable level.

Other sources of pollution must be prohibited, and these include the use of vessels powered by fossil fuels. Only vessels using clean energy, such as electric or natural gas, shall be allowed as is required in environmentally protective countries.

All development and structures must be banned within a no-build zone starting from its high water mark to within preferably no less than 50 meters, especially in populated areas, to allow space for public recreation and enjoyment of a national resource.

We urge Mr. Duterte to direct the national and local water boards to render and tap Laguna Lake as a dependable, inexhaustible and proximately located source of raw water for Metro Manila and the lake's surrounding communities, with other sources such as dams serving a complementary role to ensure water security under all circumstances,

including potentially catastrophic earthquakes. Further, that all resources, including funding from whatever source, be devoted for the said purpose.

Necessarily, massive reforestation must be undertaken in the surrounding hills and mountains to enhance the productivity of the watershed. Ideally, indigenous wood species, fruit-bearing trees and bamboo should be utilized.

We also urge Mr. Duterte to direct the Department of Transportation to plan and implement a lake ferry transportation system to provide convenient, affordable and reliable connectivity between the towns and cities around the lake.

Further, for the Department of Tourism to plan, develop and implement ecotourism projects to fully exploit the lake's potential, and for the Biodiversity Management Bureau (formerly Parks and Wildlife Bureau) to recommend public recreational parks for implementation and maintenance of the relevant agencies.

This Save Laguna Lake Movement must be participated, supported and sustained by all. Ideally, this movement should be adopted by private corporations as among their primary social responsibility projects. Civil society, including all environment protection organizations, are stakeholders and must participate.

Lastly, let the Save Laguna Lake Movement be the model for the protection and rehabilitation of all our freshwater lakes, and replicated all over the country. INQ



# Security Bank top brass shakeup

## BIZ BUZZ



**W**hen was the last time a local bank was headed by a foreigner? Never. In the Philippine setting, expatriate bankers head foreign banks while domestic ones are run by Filipinos.

But there's always a first time for everything ... such as the case of Security Bank Corp., which will have a new CEO—an expat, at that—starting July 1, 2013.

But is the man really a full-fledged expat ... or somewhat of a local?

Biz Buzz learned that the country's seventh-largest financial institution (with P770 billion in assets under management) will soon be headed by veteran banker **Sanjiv Vohra**, who will be relocating back to the Philippines from his current posting overseas as the Asian co-head of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group's global corporate banking business.

If that name sounds familiar to you, that's because Vohra headed the operations of Citibank Philippines from 2006 to 2013, during which he was a strong advocate for the country with foreign investors and an influential voice in the local banking community.

On the surface, it looks like an odd move for a big-time international banker to move to a local bank, but running Security Bank is no laughing matter given its aggressive and dynamic office culture, whether in underwriting loans to big corporations or small borrowers or making its presence felt in securities trading.

And it's not that odd when one considers that Vohra's current employer, MUFG (Japan's biggest financial group), is a strategic partner of Security Bank, holding two seats in the firm's 15-member board.

Incidentally, Vohra is not the only heavy hitter that will be joining Security Bank. Biz Buzz learned that another

"heavy hitter" —both figuratively and somewhat literally ("somewhat" because he's already lost some heft, thanks to a successful diet program)—will also be joining the bank's board of directors.

We can't reveal it yet, because he has yet to announce his departure from his current bank, which is the local unit of a foreign financial giant.

And what will happen to current Security Bank CEO **Alfonso Salcedo Jr.**? Having grown the bank's retail business exponentially, he will remain on the board and is expected to assume new strategic responsibilities, we're told.

What do all these changes mean? For sure, it will be good for the bank's customers. But it will also mean that the bank's rivals in the asset ranking game had better be looking over their shoulders more often. —DAXIM L. LUCAS

### University blues

After the clean-up of Boracay and the ongoing rehabilitation of Manila Bay, the political will of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will be tested by entities from the public sector that do not comply with its requirements.

For instance, we heard that the DENR had called out this state university as it was discovered that its wastewater was directly flowing into the Pasig River. To address this situation, this university needs to shell out P78 million to put up a sewerage treatment plant. The problem, of course, is that there's no budget for it.

According to the grapevine, the DENR has threatened to close down the university. But as we all know, this could be even more difficult than shutting down Boracay Island as it will affect thousands of college students.

Apart from sewerage woes, this university is also saddled with high water costs. Its water supply goes through a pipeline around the campus perimeter but it turned out that all informal settlers in the area are plugged into its pipeline. As such, the poor university is pay-

ing three times the amount that it should because of the illegal connection of many households in the neighborhood.

The water concessionaire covering the area has suggested to cut off the water pipeline within the perimeter and make a new pipeline that goes directly into the campus. —DORIS DUMLAO-ABADILLA

### Confiscated Ma-Ling

Agriculture Secretary **Emmanuel Piñol** did not like the recent verbal lashing that his quarantine officers received from broadcaster **Raffy Tulfo**, especially when they were just doing their jobs.

Last week, an overseas Filipino worker went to Tulfo's radio program "Isumbong mo kay Tulfo" after officials from the agency confiscated 32 cans of pork meatloaf (or known by the brand "Ma-Ling") that she brought in from Hong Kong.

The incident drew Tulfo's ire that his radio program called the quarantine officers and "lambasted" them.

Piñol was obviously upset by what happened and dedicated three Facebook posts on the matter.

In one particular entry, he said that "Raffy Tulfo used his influence as a media man to have the confiscated items released by the Bureau of Customs and returned these to the OFW."

The incident seemed trivial, but not to the Department of Agriculture, which has been on high alert due to the possible entry of African swine fever (ASF) in the country.

The agency has banned the entry of any pork and pork products coming from ASF-infected areas, which included Hong Kong, since the virus may threaten the country's P200-billion livestock industry.

The cans of Ma-Ling are still in Ilocos, where the OFW lives, but Piñol said the products would need to be brought back to the agency lest they be opened.

"Our choices are simple: take pity on the OFW or risk the P200-billion livestock industry and the thousands of livelihoods

that depend on it," Piñol said.

Well, rules are rules.

Maybe next time, the agency should be more proactive in informing the public of new circulars especially to OFWs who like to hog products from abroad, and media personnel like Tulfo should make it a responsibility to stay updated with current news. —KARL R. OCAMPO

### Sys double down on education

A decade after buying the historic National University (NU) in Manila, the **Sy family** behind the SM Group is accelerating the expansion of the educational institution in a bid to bring it nationwide in five years.

**Hans Sy**, NU chair, told Biz Buzz there were plenty of opportunities for the school to grow its business and extend its mission to provide quality education.

So far, NU opened its second school in Laguna, but Sy said new facilities will open in the SM Mall of Asia and Fairview in the coming months. For next year the 119-year-old institution will open schools in Baliuag, Bulacan, and Dasmariñas, Cavite.

The new schools will easily double NU's student population to about 20,000, Sy told us.

But they are not stopping there. Sy said NU would initially focus on Metro Manila, Greater Manila and then Southern and Northern Luzon. Visayas and Mindanao will come "four to five years" from now, Sy added.

The growth we're seeing in NU, a private investment of the Sys, is part of a broader trend of ultra-rich Filipino families investing in education. Unlike more acquisitive groups, Sy said they would first focus on growing the NU brand and strengthen its core engineering and architecture programs, as well as sports. —MIGUEL R. CAMUS INQ



E-mail us at [bizbuzz@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:bizbuzz@inquirer.com.ph).

Get business alerts and a preview

of Biz Buzz the evening before it comes out.

Text ON INQ BUSINESS to 4467 (P2.50/alert)



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# Manila Standard

AL  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1/ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**STAKEHOLDERS ALL.** Several groups held a cleanup drive at the Baseco Compound in Manila on May 25. **Norman Cruz**



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



6  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/



**NAGSAGAWA** ng clean-up ang mga miyembro ng DENR, MMDA, PCG, Sanguniang Kabaatan, at iba pang mga civic group sa Baseco beach sa Tondo, Manila. *Kuha ni **NORMAN ARAGA***



# Duterte urged to also return garbage to HK, Australia

1/2

By the Inquirer Staff  
@Team\_Inquirer

Besides sending tons of Canada's trash back to Ottawa, Malacañang should also order the immediate return of garbage illegally shipped to the Philippines from Australia and Hong Kong, the chair of the House ecology committee said on Sunday.

Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua urged President Duterte to look into reports that port authorities intercepted a shipment of trash from Australia in early May and discovered another one last week that arrived in early January.

In a statement, Cua also said the Bureau of Customs should keep closer watch, as the discoveries indicated the Philippines had become a destination for foreign waste.

President Duterte last week ordered the hiring of a shipping company to return to Canada 37 containers of household trash illegally shipped to the Philippines in 2013 and 2014 after Ottawa missed a May 15 deadline for it to take the garbage back.

### 'We're sending the shit back'

"I hope the President can also look into reports of garbage coming from Australia and Hong Kong, and issue directives for their immediate return," Cua said, citing news reports about the seizure of illegally shipped trash in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental province.

"We're sending the shit back," Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. tweeted on Sunday, responding to a comment on television about the trash from Hong Kong.

Locsin said the Philippines would stop accepting foreign

trash under the Duterte administration.

"It's a native Filipino business. Or was until Duterte," Locsin said.

Municipal waste was discovered last week in nine containers that arrived from Australia at Mindanao Container Terminal in Tagoloan on May 3.

The contents of the containers were reported as "processed engineered fuel" by the broker, reportedly the same company that handled tons of garbage shipped from South Korea last year.

Cement manufacturer Holcim Philippines Inc. imported the trash for use as incinerator fuel.

### DENR clearance

In a statement on May 23, Holcim said the central office of the Environment Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) had cleared the importation and the use of the material as alternative fuel.

The company said the shipment was declared as a product that underwent processing before it arrived in the Philippines.

The Hong Kong trash—reportedly 25,610 kilos of crushed electronic materials—was discovered on May 22 before it could be claimed by the importer, Deputy Customs Collector for Northern Mindanao John Simon said on Saturday.

The cargo arrived on Jan. 2. It was shipped by Hin Yuen Tech. Env. Ltd. and was consigned to Crowd Win Industrial Ltd. of Pasay City.

"This is just a test cargo. They are just checking if it could pass through Customs. Fortunately, we were able to intercept it," Simon said.

He said 70 more containers of the same kind of trash were to have followed had the customs bureau released the trial cargo.

Port officials identified the broker as Yolanda Narandan, of Door 1, Nacalaban Building, Julio Pacana Street, Barangay 23, Cagayan de Oro City.

A check by the Inquirer, however, found that the address was occupied by an eatery.

Simon said the customs bureau would order the trash shipped back to Hong Kong.

Misamis Oriental Rep. Juliette Uy on Saturday urged the government agencies concerned to take quick action against the shipment of foreign trash to the Philippines, calling

it "an insult to all Filipinos and an affront to our laws."

Earlier, the environmental activist group Greenpeace said the trash from Australia was "unacceptable, reprehensible and deplorable."

### Illegal conversion

Abigail Aguilar, campaigner for Greenpeace Southeast Asia-Philippines, said on Thursday that Holcim's claim that the trash was intended for use as fuel "should be further scrutinized."

The conversion of waste to energy is prohibited in the Philippines under the Clean Air Act and the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, Aguilar said in a statement.

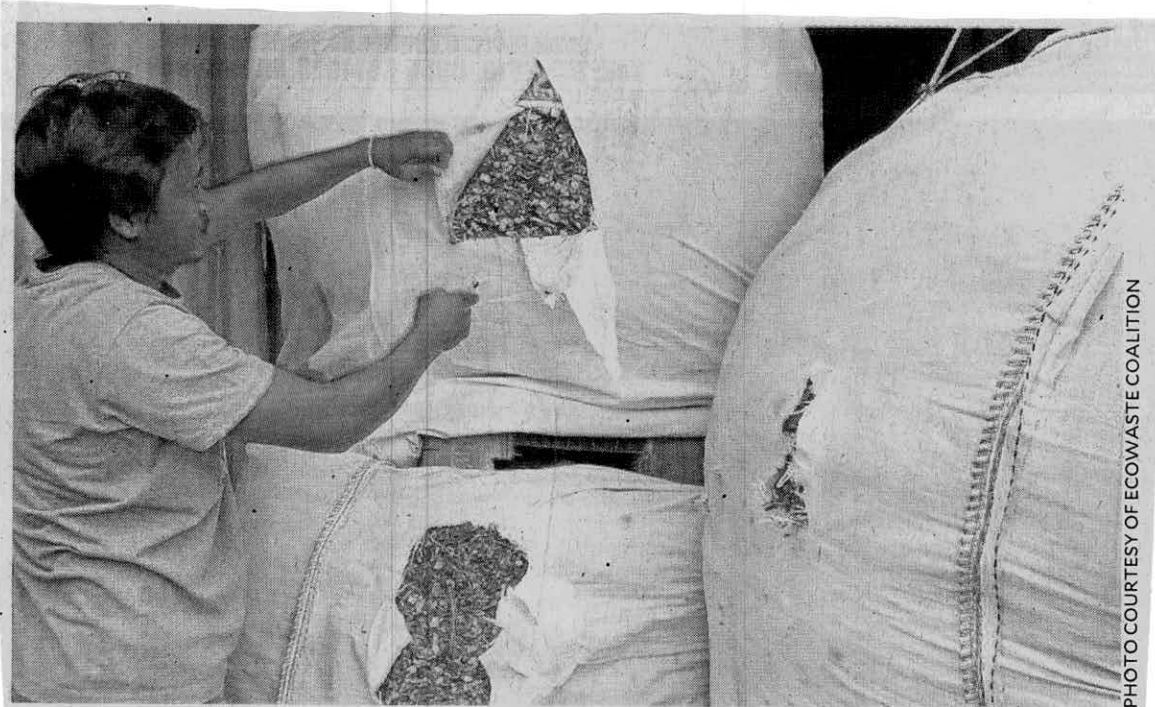
Environmental group EcoWaste Coalition expressed outrage



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE



2/2

PHOTO COURTESY OF ECOWASTE COALITION

**HAUL FROM HONG KONG** A port officer shows big sacks of electronic waste shipped in containers to Mindanao Container Terminal in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental province, from Hong Kong in January. The Bureau of Customs office in Mindanao impounded the illegal shipment.

over the shipment of Hong Kong trash to the Philippines.

In a statement issued on Friday, Aileen Lucero, EcoWaste national coordinator, said her group found it ironic that the shipment came from Hong Kong, "since China has taken the unprecedented move to protect its own environment by banning waste imports."

"We therefore request the Chinese government to seriously look into this matter," Lucero said.

She also called for the Philippines' ratification of the amendment to the Basel ban on waste imports to protect the country from waste trafficking.

—REPORTS FROM DJ YAP, PATRICIA DENISE M. CHIU, JIGGER J. JERUSALEM AND INQUIRER RESEARCH INQ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1900

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

4  
PAGE

UPPER  
LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

## Duterte urged to also look into garbage shipment from Australia, HK

By **CHARISSA M. LUCI-ATIENZA**

Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo "Dax" Cua is urging President Duterte to look into reported trash shipments from Australia and Hong Kong, and also direct their immediate return.

He said Malacañang should step in on the supposed garbage shipments, even as he called for the implementation of stricter monitoring to prevent the illegal entry of garbage into our country.

"I hope the President can also look into reports of garbage coming in from Australia and Hong Kong, and issue directives for their immediate return. For its part, the Bureau of Customs should also demonstrate its tough stance against illegal shipments of garbage," Cua, chairperson of the House Committee on Ecology, said in a statement.

He expressed serious concern over a television report

that seven container vans of municipal waste from Australia were intercepted in Misamis Oriental.

Citing the report, he took note that the shipment's broker was the same company involved in another shipment of garbage coming from South Korea.

Quoting a newspaper report, Cua also expressed concern that 25 tons of mixed plastic waste from Hong Kong was also intercepted by Customs in Misamis Oriental.

He also rallied behind President Duterte's directive to immediately return the trash that was shipped from Canada several years ago.

"I understand the President's frustration over this issue. The usual processes and channels have taken several years. This should have been dealt with right away. We cannot compromise the integrity of our environment and the health of Filipinos," he said.



27 MAY 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

## Australia kumita sa basurang tinapon sa 'Pinas

Nababahala na ang mga environmental group sa Pilipinas sa global waste trade na sinasabing ginagamit ng mayayamang bansa upang gawing tapunan ng kanilang basura ang developing nations.

Kasunod ito ng mahigit 200 toneladang waste materials mula sa Australia na dumating sa Mindanao Container Terminal sa Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental noong May 7.

Ayon kay Aileen Lucero ng EcoWaste Coalition, ito ay isang paraan ng Australia upang matapon nito ang basura at kumita pa, dahil idineklara ang shipment bilang municipal waste o processed engi-

neered fuel na gagamiting alternative fuel.

Sinabi naman ni Jane Bremer, Zero Waste Coordinator ng Australia para sa National Toxics Network, 'unethical' at mapanganib sa kalusugan at kalikasan ang ginawa ng Australia.

Sa bisa ng Basel Convention, pinapayagan ng Pilipinas ang importation ng hazardous waste ng isang bansa basta't may permiso.

Una nang sinabi ni Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Pano na na-offend ang Malakanyang sa ginawang pagtapon ng basura ng Australia sa ating bansa. **(Dolly Cabreza)**



DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS REDUCED FURTHER

# GOVERNMENT TELLS OFFICIALS: DON'T TRAVEL TO CANADA

Malacañang has directed government officials to refrain from traveling to Canada, in a further reduction of diplomatic relations with Ottawa over the Canadian government's failure to take back tons of garbage illegally shipped to the Philippines years ago.

The Philippines earlier ordered home its ambassador and consuls in Canada after Ottawa missed a May 15 deadline set by Manila for the return of the trash.

On Sunday, the Palace confirmed the issuance of a memo-

randum directing all officials not to travel to Canada and to limit interactions with the Canadian government.

### Diminished ties

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada," presidential spokesperson Salvador Panelo said in a statement.

Panelo said Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea issued the memorandum on May 20

and that it covered all department chiefs, heads of agencies, government-owned and -controlled corporations and state financial institutions.

Panelo said Medialdea issued the directive to "emphasize even further the seriousness of our government's demands."

The Canadian government has said arrangements are being made to take back the garbage, but it has not indicated when that might happen.

Last week, President

Duterte ordered authorities to hire a private shipping company to transport the trash to Canada.

Panelo said the garbage would be left within Canadian territory if Ottawa refused to accept it.

### Household trash

At least 103 containers of household trash—including plastic bottles, bags, newspapers and diapers—were shipped to the Philippines by the Canadian company Chronic

Inc. through Chronic Philippines Inc. in 2013 and 2014.

Two containers have gone missing and the contents of 34 have been disposed of on a landfill in Capas, Tarlac province.

The remaining 37 containers are held at Manila International Container Terminal and at Subic Freeport.

The government has brought charges against the consignee and the customs officials who cleared the trash.

—JULIE M. AURELIO INQ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1900

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

4  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

# Duterte wants relations with Canada diminished

By ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS

**M**alacañang is serious in diminishing diplomatic relations with Canada after Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea issued a memorandum stopping official trips of government officials to Canada, and deals with the North American country.

In a statement Sunday, Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo confirmed that Medialdea issued the memorandum, days before President Duterte ordered for the shipping of Canada's trash back to their country.

The memorandum, issued May 20, directed all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations, and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada.

The memorandum likewise ordered heads of government agencies to reduce official interaction with representatives of the Canadian government.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our Ambassador and Consul-General in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage unlawfully shipped to the Philippines," Medialdea said.

In his memorandum, Medialdea said the move was to stress the seriousness of the government's demands following Canada's failure to retrieve the garbage a private firm shipped to the Philippines in 2013.

In 2013, a total of 55 container vans of garbage from Canada were discovered by Customs authorities in the Manila seaport. The shipments were allowed into the country because they were allegedly disguised as recyclable plastics.

Last month, President Duterte threatened to declare war against Canada if they will not get back the trash they shipped to the Philippines almost six years ago. Canada, in response, vowed to retrieve their garbage. Duterte gave them a May 15 deadline.

However, due to their "inordinate" delays, an upset Duterte ordered government agencies to look for a private shipping company to bring Canada's trash back to their country.

"We are extremely disappointed with Canada's neither-here-nor-there pronouncements on the matter. Obviously, Canada is not taking this issue nor our country seriously," he said Wednesday.

"The Filipino people are gravely insulted about Canada treating this country as a dump site," he added.

The Palace official added the government will shoulder all expenses and will leave it in Canadian waters if the North American country would refuse to take it back.

"The government of the Philippines will shoulder all expenses and we do not mind," Panelo said despite being unable to determine where to get the fund for this act.

"If Canada will not accept the trash, we will leave the same within their territorial waters or 12 nautical miles out to sea from the baseline of any of their country's shores," he added.

Panelo said the shipping will be done "immediately," stressing that the Filipinos will not allow themselves to be treated like a dump site.



# Trash row: PH, Canada now have 'diminished' relations

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR

MALACAÑANG yesterday said "diminished diplomatic relations" between the Philippines and Canada prompted the Philippine government to limit its official dealings with and travels to Canada.

Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo, concurrent presidential spokesman, said Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea on May 20 issued a memorandum order directing all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned and controlled

corporations, and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada.

Panelo said the memorandum order also directed heads of government agencies to reduce official interaction with representatives of the Canadian government.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our ambassador and consul general in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve

its containers of garbage unlawfully shipped to the Philippines," he said.

President Duterte last week ordered the hiring of a private shipping company to send back to Canada container vans of garbage shipped to the Philippines in 2013 and 2014. Malacañang also threatened to have the garbage abandoned in Canada's territorial waters.

Canada missed a May 15 deadline for it to retrieve its garbage.

Panelo reiterated the Philippines will shoulder the cost of shipping back the garbage, and it

does not find acceptable Canada's announcement last week that it will complete the retrieval by end of June.

At least 100 containers of garbage, mis-declared as plastic scraps, were brought to the Philippines. Some of the garbage have been treated and buried in a landfill in Tarlac.

Communications Secretary Martin Andanan, in an interview over radio dzBB, said the important thing about the garbage row is for the other countries to recognize that the Philippines is not a dumping ground.



## Palace bans govt execs' travels to Canada

**T**HE Philippine government has ordered heads of government agencies to reduce interaction with the Canadian government in a bid to diminish diplomatic relations with Ottawa for its failure to retrieve the garbage it illegally dumped in the country five years ago.

Malacañang at the weekend confirmed the report that Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea issued a memorandum dated May 20, 2019, directing all department

secretaries and heads of agencies, as well as government-owned and -controlled corporations and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our ambassador and consul general in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage unlaw-

fully shipped to the Philippines," said Presidential Spokesman and Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador S. Panelo in a statement on Sunday. The order was reported to take effect immediately.

Last week, the Palace rejected Canada's move to retrieve its trash by end of June, saying it cannot wait that long as the President wants the 69 waste containers out of the country immediately.

This, after the Canadian government announced that it had already

hired shipping firm Bolloré Logistics Canada to safely bring back the waste to Canada as soon as possible.

On Wednesday, Duterte had again expressed outrage over Canada's "inordinate delay" in retrieving the waste, prompting him to order Philippine agencies to look for a private shipping firm that will ship the waste back.

Malacañang said the Philippine government is even willing to shoulder the expenses.

Prior to this, the Philippine government also recalled its key diplomats in Canada after Ottawa failed to comply with the May 15 deadline to take back the garbage.

*Bernadette D. Nicolas*



# Official travel ban

# on Canada

*Trash row triggers  
Rody's latest order*

By Nat Mariano

**P**RESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte has banned official travel to Canada as tons of rotting trash shipped here by a private Canadian company in 2013 and 2014 remain in the Philippines, Malacañang said Sunday.

In a statement, Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo said Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage illegally shipped to the Philippines triggered President Duterte's latest order.

"Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea issued a memorandum directing all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned-and-controlled corporations, and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada," Panelo said.

"The... memo likewise directed heads of government agencies to reduce official interaction with representatives of the Canadian government," he added.

Panelo said Duterte's directive was consistent with the country's stance on maintaining diminished diplomatic ties with Ottawa while the garbage problem remained unresolved.

Last week, the President sanctioned the recall of the Philippine ambassador and consuls in Canada. Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. also

*Next page*

## Official...

*From A1*

maintained that the country's diplomatic presence in Canada will remain diminished until the waste containers have been "ship-bound there."

Earlier, Southeast Asian environmental non-governmental organizations called on their respective governments to strictly enforce bans on illegally shipped wastes from developed countries.

"The recent news about waste shipments... [in] the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia is alarming. When the wealthy nations clean up, it should not have to be at the expense of the developing world. Governments in Asia, which has become the world's new dumpsite, must strictly guard their territories against waste smuggling from richer countries," said Beau Bacongus, Plastics Campaigner of the Global Alliance

for Incinerator Alternatives Asia Pacific and Break Free From Plastic Asia Pacific coordinator.

Early this month, waste shipments from Australia arrived at the Mindanao International Container Terminal in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental. These were declared as municipal waste and processed engineered fuel intended for the cement company Holcim.

The news of the shipment broke out as the Manila demanded the Canadian government take back 69 containers of illegally shipped wastes found in the Port of Manila in 2013 and 2014.

"The entry into our country of residual wastes generated by Australia's commercial, industrial, and construction sectors in the form of cement kiln fuels looks like a devious disposal scheme. Described as 'municipal waste' in the shipment declaration, Australia is able to get rid of its residual wastes in a profitable way by converting and relabeling

them as processed engineered fuel for export to developing countries like ours. We question this latest scheme of foreign waste disposal," said Aileen Lucero, national coordinator of Ecowaste Coalition.

Early this year, at least 60 shipping containers carrying hazardous and toxic wastes have been piling up at the Batu Ampar port in Batam, Riau Island, in Indonesia for five months. Earlier, a shipment containing waste from foreign countries was discovered in Tanjung Priok Port in Jakarta.

"This has to stop. It is the height of hypocrisy for the richer countries to be presenting themselves to the world as having good waste management system, while at the same time, polluting us and calling us the world's biggest polluters. Shame on them! Come clean up your mess and stop producing so much waste," said Yuyun Ismawati, co-founder of BaliFokus/Nexus3.

**With Macon Ramos-Araneta**



# President forbids gov't officials from working trips to Canada

THE OFFICE of the President has issued a memorandum prohibiting government officials from going on an "official trip" to Canada.

This comes after the Canadian government failed to meet President Rodrigo R. Duterte's May 15 deadline to ship out its garbage dumped in the Philippines about five years ago.

In a statement on Sunday, Presidential Spokesperson Salvador S. Panelo "confirmed" that Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea issued a memorandum dated May 20, "directing all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned and -controlled corporations and government financial insti-

tutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada."

Government employees require a written travel permit from their agency for foreign trips.

"The aforesaid memo likewise directed heads of government agencies to reduce official interaction with representatives of the Canadian government," he added.

Mr. Panelo also said the Palace maintains "that these directives are consistent" with its stance "on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our Ambassador and Consul-General in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage

unlawfully shipped to the Philippines."

The spokesman announced on Wednesday last week that the government would no longer wait for Canada's action as Mr. Duterte had already decided that the Philippines would shoulder "all expenses" for the shipment.

Mr. Panelo said the President was "upset about the inordinate delay of Canada in shipping back its containers of garbage."

"Obviously Canada is not taking this issue nor our country seriously," he added.

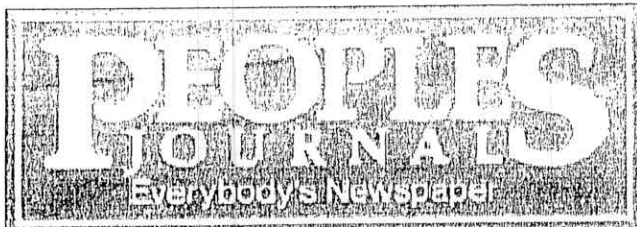
As a result of this "offending delay," he said, Mr. Duterte "instructed the appropriate office to look for a private shipping company which will bring back

Canada's trash to the latter's jurisdiction."

If the Canadian government will not accept the trash, the Philippines, according to Mr. Panelo, "will leave the same within its territorial waters or 12 nautical miles out to sea from the baseline of any" of Canada's shores.

After Malacañang's announcement, the Canadian government said it has hired a private firm for the shipment.

But Mr. Panelo said in a press briefing last Thursday, "They said it will take about end of June. The President will not allow that. And I understand from Finance Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III that the trash will be shipped back soon." — **Arjay L. Balinbin**



27 MAY 2019

DATE

## Palace bans official travels to Canada

**PRESIDENTIAL** spokesperson Salvador Panelo yesterday confirmed that government officials have been directed to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada.

"We confirm that Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea issued a memorandum dated 20 May 2019, directing all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada," Panelo said in a statement.

He added that in the memorandum, heads of government agencies were also told to reduce their official interaction with the Canadian government.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic re-

lations with Canada starting with the recall of our Ambassador and Consul-General in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage unlawfully shipped to the Philippines," Panelo said.

Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. ordered the recall of several ranking Philippine officials in Canada after it missed the deadline to take back the tons of trash it illegally shipped to the Philippines years ago.

Panelo said the recall was a warning that the Philippines is ready to end its decades-old diplomatic ties with Canada.

President Rodrigo Duterte had lashed out at Canada over the tons of household trash that were illegally exported to the Philippines in batches in 2013 and 2014.

He even threatened to go to war over the garbage now rotting in ports and a

landfill, but Panelo said the President's remark was just a figure of speech.

Canada said they were already working with the Philippine government for a "timely resolution" to remove the tons of Canadian garbage in the country. Documentation issues however were stalling the process for the repatriation, according to Panelo.

Canada said the removal of the trash would be completed by end of June. However, this was unacceptable to Duterte, Panelo said.

Duterte is sending the trash back to Canada, and the Philippine government will shoulder the cost of repatriating the trash, Panelo said.

He added that if Canada will not allow its garbage to enter the country, the contracted vessel would leave the containers of solid waste in its territorial waters.



27 MAY 2019

DATE

## Taga-pamahalaan, inutusang huwag bumiyahе sa Canada

**NAGLABAS** na ang pamahalaang Pilipinas ng kautusan sa lahat ng mga opisyal at empleyado ng pamahalaan na huwag basta bumiyahе papuntang Canada bilang bahagi ng pagbawas ng ugnayan sa pagitan ng nasabing bansa at Pilipinas.

Sinabi ni Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo na nakapaloob ang kautusan sa Memorandum na inisyu ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea na may petsang Mayo 20, 2019 na nagbabawal sa lahat ng mga pinuno ng departamento, ahensya, government owned and controlled corporations at government financial institutions na magbigay ng pahintulot para sa opisyal na biyahе papuntang Canada.

Nauna rito, pinauwi ng pamahalaan ang mga ambasadador at consul ng bansa ka-

makailan lamang.

Nag-ugat ang problema sa pagbabalewala ng Canada sa kahilingan ng pamahalaang Pilipinas na kunin na nito ang itinambak na basura sa bansa noong 2013-2014.

Nasa 103 container van ang mga basura na galing sa mga ospital, plastik, kusina, kasilyas, papel at iba at ngunit itinapon na ang ilan dito sa Tarlac landfill sa kwestiyunableng mga kadahilanan, bukod sa pamamahо ng mga ito.

Binalak nang ibalik na lang ang mga basura ng pamahalaang Duterte simula sa linggong ito subalit nagsabi ang Canada na sa katapusan na lang ng Hunyo kukunin ito.

Itinuturing naman ng Pilipinas na matagal pa ito at maaaring totohanin na ng pamahalaan na dalhin ang basura sa Canada kahit gagastusan pa ito ng ating pamahalaan.





STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



PAGE



UPPER  
LOWER



PAGE 1  
STORY



BANNER  
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

## Utos ni Duterte sa gov't officials dahil sa basura

# TRAVEL BAN SA CANADA

INIUTOS ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa lahat ng department secretaries at heads of government agencies na itigil na ang mga official trip sa Canada.

SUNDAN SA  
PAHINA 15

### Mula sa pahina 16

Ito ay may matapos ang kabiguan ng Canada na iuwi sa kanilang bansa ang tone-toneladang basura na itinapon sa bansa noong 2013 at 2014.

Sinabi ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo, base sa memorandum na nilagdaan ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea noong May 20, 2019, pinagbabawalan ng Pangulo ang mga nasa government owned and controlled corporations (GOCC) at government institutions na magbigay ng travel authorities sa Canada.

Limitado na rin sa mga government agencies ang pagkakaroon ng

official interaction sa mga kinatawan ng Canadian government.

Naninindigan ang Pangulo sa pasya nito, ayon kay Panelo at hindi nababahala ang Filipinas na putulin ang diplomatic ties sa Canada kung hindi kukunin ang basura.

Nagsimula na ito sa pamamagitan ng pag-recall ng Filipinas sa ambassador at consul general nang mabigo ang Canada na sundin ang ang itinakdang May 15 deadline para iuwi na ang kanilang mga basura.

Kamakailan ay iniutos na ng Pangulo ang paghahanap ng private shipping company na magdadala ng basura sa Canada.

Sagot na rin ng gobyerno ng Filipinas ang gatusin sa pagbabalik ng basura sa Canada.



## Biyahe sa Canada pinagbawal

KINUMPIRMA ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo na ipinagbawal na ang pag-iisyu ng travel authorities para sa mga official trip sa Canada.

"We confirm that Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea issued a memorandum dated 20 May 2019, directing all department secretaries and heads of agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations and government financial institutions to refrain from issuing travel authorities for official trips to Canada," ayon kay Panelo.

Nabatid na binigyan

ng direktiba ng Malacañang ang lahat ng department secretary at head ng mga ahensiya, government-owned and controlled corporation at government financial institution na itigil ang pag-iisyu ng travel authorities para sa mga opisyal na biyahe sa Canada.

Sinabi ni Panelo sa naturang memorandum, pinagsabihan rin ang mga head ng government agency na bawasan ang kanilang opisyal na pakikipag-usap sa Canadian government.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on

the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our Ambassador and Consul-General in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage unlawfully shipped to the Philippines," ayon kay Panelo.

Iniutos na ni Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. ang pag-recall sa ilang matataas na opisyal sa Canada matapos na mabigo ang Canadian government sa kanilang deadline na ibalik ang tone-toneladang basura na ilegal nilang dinala sa Pilipinas ilang taon na ang nakakalipas.

Ang pag-recall sa mga opisyal ng Pilipinas sa Canada ay nangangahulugan na handa ang Pilipinas na wakasan ang dekadang diplomatic ties sa Canada.

Magugunita na nagbanta rin si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na itatapon ang mga naturang basura sa mga daungan ng Canada pero kalaanan nilinaw ni Panelo na ang sinabi ni Pangulong Duterte ay 'figure of speech' lamang ni Duterte.

Tiniyak naman ng pamahalaan ng Canada na tinatrabaho na ang isang resolusyon para ibalik sa kanila ang ba-

sura na bahagi pa ng mga basura na ilegal na dinala sa Pilipinas noon pang 2013.

Sinabi pa ng pamahalaan ng Canada na ang pagbabalik ng mga basura ay kukumpletuhin bago matapos ang buwan ng Hunyo, gayunman hindi ito naging katanggap-tanggap kay Duterte.

Ayon pa kay Duterte, ipadadala niya ang basura sa Canada at sasagutin ng pamahalaan ang gastusin ng pagbabalik sa mga naturang basura sa Canada at kung hindi ito tatanggapin ng Canada, iiwanan ang mga basura sa kanilang territorial water. **(Juliet de Loza-Cudia)**



## Gov't officials, bawal muna sa Canada

Nina ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS, BETH CAMIA, at CHARISSA M. LUCI-ATIENZA

Seryoso ang Malacañang sa paglilimita sa diplomatic relations sa Canada matapos maglabas si Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea ng memorandum na pumipigil sa official trips ng mga opisyal ng pamahalaan sa Canada, at pakikipagtransaksiyon sa bansang North American.

Sa isang pahayag nitong Linggo, kinumpirma ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo na naglabas si Medialdea ng memorandum, ilang araw bago ipinag-utos ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang pagbibiyaha ng basura ng Canada pabalik sa nasabing bansa.

Sa memorandum, inilabas noong Mayo 20, inaatasan ang lahat ng department secretaries at mga pinuno ng mga ahensiya, government-owned and controlled corporations, at government financial institutions

na umiwas sa pagbibigay ng travel authorities para sa mga opisyal na biyahe sa Canada.

Inaatasan din nito ang mga pinuno ng government agencies na bawasan ang official interaction sa mga kinatawan ng Canadian government.

"We maintain that these directives are consistent with our stance on the diminished diplomatic relations with Canada starting with the recall of our Ambassador and Consul-General in that country in light of Canada's failure to retrieve its containers of garbage unlawfully shipped to the Philippines," aniya.

Sa memorandum, sinabi ni Medialdea na ang hakbang ay pagdidiin sa mga demand ng gobyerno matapos mabigo ang Canada na hakutin ang basurang ipinadala sa Pilipinas ng isang pribadong

kumpanya noong 2013.

### BASURA NG AUSTRALIA, HONG KONG

Samantala, hinimok ni Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo "Dax" Cua si Pangulong Duterte na silipin ang iniulat na shipments ng basura mula Australia at Hong Kong, at ipag-utos ang agarang pagpapabalik sa mga ito.

Sinabi niya na dapat nang makialam ang Malacañang sa sinasabing garbage shipments, kasabay ng panawagan ng pagpapatupad sa mas istriktong pagbantay sa ilegal na pagpasok ng mga basura sa bansa.

"I hope the President can also look into reports of garbage coming in from Australia and Hong Kong, and issue directives for their immediate return. For its part, the Bureau of Customs should also demonstrate its tough stance against illegal shipments of garbage," ani Cua, chairperson ng House Committee on Ecology, sa isang pahayag.



**Basura 'di kinukuha, utos ni P-Du30**

**GOV'T. OFFICIALS  
BAWAL MAG-CANADA**

KINUMPIRMA ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo na pinalimitahan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang pagbibigay ng travel authorities para mag-sagawa ng official trips patungong Canada.

Ito ay makaraang mabigo ang Canada na kunin ang tone-toneladang basura na kanilang ibinagsak sa bansa noong 2013 at 2014 matapos ang itinakdang deadline.

Batay sa memorandum na nilagdaan ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, noong May 20, 2019, pinagbawalan din ng pangulo ang mga nasa government owned, controlled corporations at government institutions na magbigay ng travel authorities sa Canada.

Pinalilimitahan na rin umano ng pangulo ang government agencies na mag-

karoon ng official interaction sa mga kinatawan ng Canadian government.

Giit ni Panelo, alinsunod ang memorandum sa paninindigan ng pangulo na hindi nababahala ang Pilipinas na putulin ang diplomatic ties sa Canada kung hindi nila kukunin ang kanilang basura.

Nagsimula ito sa pamamagitan ng pag-recall ng Pilipinas sa ambassador at consul-general nang mabigo ang Canada na makamit ang itinakdang May 15 deadline para kunin ang basura.

Una rito, ipinag-utos ng Punong Ehekutibo ang paghahanap ng private shipping company na magbabalik ng basura sa Canada.

Inako rin ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas ang gatusin sa pagbabalik ng basura sa nabanggit na bansa.

*(Mylene Alfonso)*



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

27 MAY 2019

## Travel ban sa mga gov't officials sa Canada, iniutos ni Duterte

INATASAN ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang lahat ng department secretaries at heads of government agencies na limitahan ang pagbibigay ng travel authorities para sa official trips sa Canada.

Ito ay may kaugnayan sa kabiguan ng Canada na kunin ang toneladang basura na itinapon sa bansa noong 2013 at 2014.

Ayon kay Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo, base sa memorandum na nilagdaan ni Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea noong May 20, 2019, pinagbawal din ng pangulo ang mga nasa government owned, controlled corporations at government institutions na magbigay ng travel authorities sa Canada.

Pinalilimitahan narin ng pangulo sa mga government agencies ang pagkakaroon ng official interaction sa mga kinatawan ng Canadian government.

Ayon kay Panelo, ang memorandum ay alinsunod narin sa mariin na paninindigan ni Pangulong Duterte na hindi nababahala ang Pilipinas na putulin ang diplomatic ties ng Pilipinas sa Canada kung hindi kukunin ang basura.

Nagsimula na aniya sa pamamagitan ng pag-recall ng Pilipinas sa ambassador at consul general nang mabigo ang Canada na makamit ang itinakdang May 15 deadline para kunin ang basura.

Una rito, ipinag-utos na ng pangulo ang paghanap ng private shipping company na magdadala ng basura sa Canada.

Aakuin narin ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas ang gastusin sa pagbabalik ng basura sa Canada.



27 MAY 2019

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1/ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Canada trip ng gov't officials bawal muna

Ipinagbawal muna ng Malacañang sa mga opisyal ng gobyerno na magbiyahe sa Canada dahil nabigo itong hakutin ang itinambak nilang basura sa bansa

Wika ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo sa isang statement na inabisuhan din ang mga pinuno ng bawat ahensya ng gobyerno na bawasan ang kanilang official interaction sa Canadian government.

Una nang iniutos ni Pangulong Duterte ang paghahanap ng private shipping company na magdadala sa tone-toneladang basura sa loob ng teritoryo ng Canada.

Kung hindi raw tatanggapin ng Canada ang mga basura, iiwan ito sa kanilang karagatan o 12 nautical miles mula sa baseline ng alinman sa kanilang baybayin.

Sasagutin ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas ang gagastusin sa nasabing shipment. *(Rudy Andal)*



27 MAY 2019

DATE

## Basura probe, ikakasa vs Canada, Australia, HK

**NAPIKON** na rin si Sen. Cynthia Villar sa ilang bansa sa pagtatambak ng basura sa bansa kaya itinakda niya ang imbestigasyon hinggil dito.

Sa pahayag, sinabi Villar, chairman ng Senate committee on environment and natural resources na kanyang paiimbestigahan ang pagtatambak ng basura sa bansa na nakalagay sa ilang containers.

Reaksiyon ito ni Villar matapos matuklasan na may panibagong basura na nakalagay sa ilang containers galing naman sa Australia.

"May kasunduan sa United Nations na mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang pagtatapon ng basura sa miyembrong bansa," ayon kay Villar

Kaya iginilit ni Villar na nilabag ng Australia ang naturang kasunduan.

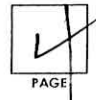
"Hanggang ngayon nasa Pilipinas pa ang toneladang basura galing sa Australia (at Canada)," ayon kay Villar.

Kamakailan, pinutol ng Pilipinas ang relasyong diplomatiko nito sa Canada saka pinauwi ang embahador at lahat ng consul-general ng bansa.

Ipinagbawal din ng Palasyo sa lahat ng ahensiya ng pamahalaan na magpunta sa Canada at makipag-usap sa kanilang opisyal nang walang pahintulot ng Palasyo

"Kahit hindi na ako ang magiging chairperson ng Senate committee on environment, paiimbestigahan pa rin natin na tila ginagawang dumpsite ang Pilipinas ng ibang bansa," giit nil Villar.

**ERNIE REYES**



UPPER  
LOWER



27 MAY 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

## Trato sa Canada, dapat gawin din sa China

### BROADCASTER'S VIEW



**Ely Saludar**

TWITTER @ElySaludar

Kahanga-hanga ang tapang at paninindigan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte laban sa pama-

halaan ng Canada na may kinalaman sa isyu ng napakaraming basura na nakapasok sa Pilipinas.

Bukod sa lantarang pagbatikos mismo ng Pangulo sa pamahalaan ng Canada sa pagpasok ng tone-toneladang basura sa Pilipinas ay iniutos din ang pagpapauwi sa mga opisyal ng embahada at konsulado sa Canada.

Ang pinakahuli ay ang paglalabas ng kautusan ni Pangulo Duterte na ipagbawal sa lahat ng mga opisyal ng gobyerno na mag-

tungo sa Canada.

Bawal nang maglabas ng travel authority sa mga opisyal ng gobyerno sa anumang official travel sa Canada na ayon kay Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea na epektibo agad ang nasabing kautusan.

Tama ang hakbang na ito ng Pangulo na maging matibay at matapang upang maibalik sa Canada ang mga basura nila dahil hindi tapunan ng basura ang Pilipinas.

Sana ay tiyakin din na mapapanagot ang Pilipinong kasabwat

sa pagpapasok ng basura ng Canada sa Pilipinas at higit sa lahat ang mga tiwaling opisyal ng Bureau of Customs (BOC).

Samantala, ang tapang at paninindigan ng Pangulo laban sa Canada ay ganito rin sana ang asta at pagtrato sa China na lantarang sumasakop na sa ating karagatan na ating pag-aari sa West Philippine Sea.

Makailang ulit na rin na nalantad sa mga report ang patuloy na pagtatayo ng istraktura ng China sa karagatan at isla na ating pag-aari.

Gayundin ang paglimas ng yamang dagat ng mga Chinese na dapat ay para lang sa mga Pilipino.

Pero sa China ay napakalambot ng paninindigan ng Pangulo na lubhang nakapagtataka para sa mga Pilipino na kung tutuusin ay mas malaki ang halaga na nawawala sa Pilipinas sa mga aksiyon ng China kumpara sa basura na galing sa Canada.

Sana naman ay ipakita din ng Pangulo ang kaniyang tapang laban sa China tulad sa ginawa n'ya sa Canada.





Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1800

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

13  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019  
DATE

## Fumigation of Canada's toxic garbage underway – Locsin

By **ROY C. MABASA**

The fumigation of the tons of garbage that Canada illegally shipped to Manila six years ago is now in full swing, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said in a tweet over the weekend.

This developed following the Philippine government's rejection of Canada's offer to ship back the trash to Ottawa by

the end of June.

"The fumigation is going full speed, thanks to my friend RR it will continue to be fumigated and rapidly loaded onto the ship already contracted by CANADA despite US-PH military ops IN SUBIC," Locsin said in his tweet.

On Friday, Malacañang said President Rodrigo Duterte will not agree to Canada's timeline and has instead ordered the immediate return of the waste to its port.

In a separate tweet, Locsin also took a swipe at the past administration's "all talk no action" in treating the questionable importation of the Canadian waste.

"The difference under Duterte is we catch and send it back pronto. Before all talk no action and then total silence and

inactivity on our part so as not to rock the immigrant boat. Under Duterte, we like to rock and roll," he said.

In a statement on Thursday, the Canadian Ministry of Environment and Climate Change announced that it will complete the removal of the garbage by the end of June

"The removal will be complete by the end of June, as the waste must be safely treated to meet Canadian safety and health requirements. The safe and environmentally sound disposal in Canada of the waste material will take place before the end of summer 2019. The costs associated with the preparation, transfer, shipment, and disposal of the waste will be assumed by the Government of Canada," it said.

## Editorial

### *Basura pa more*

**M**AY bago na namang basura na dinala sa bansa Mat nakakaalarma na ang ganito. Talaga yatang tapunan ng basura ng mga malalaking bansa ang Pilipinas. Kung anu-anong basurang toxic ang dinadala rito.

Hindi pa naibabalik sa Canada ang mga basura na dinala sa bansa noong 2013-2014, ay may dumating na namang basura at nagmula naman sa Australia. Dumating ang basura ng Australia sa Mindanao Container Terminal sa Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental noong Mayo 3.

Sabi ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) nakadeklara ang basura na "processed engineered fuel" (PEF) at gagamitin umanong gatong para sa isang cement company. Siyam na container ang basura at sinabi ng Custom na hindi raw delikado sa kalusugan ang mga basura na galing sa Australia. Hindi raw toxic ang mga ito.

Mabilis magsabi ang mga taga-Custom na hindi toxic ang mga basurang galing sa Australia. Gaano sila nakatiyak gayung kararating lamang ng mga

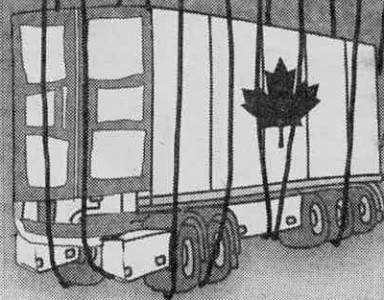
ito. Dapat isailalim sa masusing pagsisiyasat ang sinasabing "processed fuel" at baka makaapekto ito sa kalusugan at sa kapaligiran. Kailangan ding may pag-apruba ito ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Ginagawang tambakan ng basura ang bansa. Sa kabila na nagbabala na si President Duterte na huwag pagtapunan ng basura ang Pilipinas, patuloy pa rin sa pagdating at tinatanggap ng Customs. Nagdeklara ng giyera sa Canada si Duterte at tinaningan ng Mayo 15 para ibalik ang basura pero hanggang ngayon ay nasa bansa pa. Noong nakaraang taon, dumating din sa bansa ang basura mula sa South Korea pero naibalik din agad ito sa pinanggalingang bansa. Ang Sokor mismo ang nagproseso para maibalik ito sa kanilang bansa.

Kasalanan din naman ng BOC kung bakit maraming nakakalusot na basura. Hindi nila dapat hinahayaang maibaba ang mga container ng basura. Kapag nalaman nilang basura ang laman, dapat ipabalik agad sa pinanggalingang bansa. Kung ang basura ng Canada ay agad nainspeksiyon ng Custom noong 2013, hindi na sana ito naidiskarga sa Manila Port. Ngayon ay nagdudulot ng problema sa bansa sapagkat mabagal magpasya ang Canada kung kukunin o hindi ang kanilang basura na kinabibilangan ng household at hospital wastes.

Magkaisa ang lahat laban sa mga bansang nagtatapon ng basura.

# BASURA



Na naman!!!

Larry Goy '19  
5.27.19



# PIM

## Pang-Masa

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

27 MAY 2019

DATE

4

PAGE

UPPER HALF

LOWER HALF

### RESPONDE



NI GUS ABELGAS

## May pera sa basura!

HINDI lang pala paboritong bagsakan ng mga ilegal na droga ang Pinas, aba'y ngayon eh lumalabas na paborito rin pala tayong bagsakan ng mga basura galing sa ibang bansa.

Hindi pa man naibabalik ang ma-kontrobersiyang tone-toneladang basura buhat Canada ngayon eh meron rin palang basurang dinala dito buhat Australia.

Nasabat ng Bureau of Customs ang pitong container van ng basura sa Misamis Oriental.

Misdeclared ang kargamento na sinasabing alternative fuel daw para sa paggawa ng semento pero nang buksan ayun mga basura pala.

Hindi lang yan, pati South Korea at sinasabing pati Hong Kong eh meron ding shipment ng basura sa ating bayan.

Bakit nga ba dito nila dinadala ang kanilang basura, ano ba ang meron o ang rason at dito dinadala ang kanilang waste materials.

Kailangan talagang masilip nang husto kung sino ang magpasimuno sa pagpapapasok ng mga basura sa bansa.

Hindi nga ba't may kasabihan na may pera sa basura. Literal nga na may pera sa basura, ito ba ang dahilan kaya dito ito binabagsak ng ibang bansa?

Eh sinu-sino naman ang nagkaka-pera rito?

Hindi naman siguro mangangahas ang mga ito kung walang kontak mismo sa loob ng Pinas, Isiping pang hindi lamang isang bansa kundi may iba pa palang bansa ang nagbabagsak ng basura dito.

Kaya nga galit na galit si Pangulong Duterte, hindi nga naman tayo landfill ng ibang bansa

*(Sundan sa page 4)*

### RESPONDE... Mula page 3

para tapunan nila ng kanilang basura.

Hindi lang sapat na maipabalik ang mga basura sa mga bansang pinanggalingan

kundi alamin ang mga taong sangkot sa pagdadala nito.

Papanagutin, kung pwede itapon sa bundok ng mga basura.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

TIME EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1900

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

12  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

## BELOW THE LINE

# Amoy Suka 🎵 Huhuhmmm...



\*\*\*

DFA Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. recalled our ambassador and diplomats from Ottawa, after Canada missed the May 15 deadline to ship back the 69 containers of trash that it had shipped to the Philippines in 2013 and 2014.

After President Rodrigo Duterte ordered its return, Canada said that it would take back the tons of garbage. Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland had spoken with DFA Secretary Locsin to "reiterate Canada's firm commitment to

promptly repatriate the waste to Canada." Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna said that Bolloré Logistics, which was awarded the contract to repatriate the trash, will complete the removal of the trash by the end of June at Canada's expense. She added that Canada has updated its environmental laws to prevent similar situations in the future.


More than 100 Canadian containers were delivered to the Philippines by a private Canadian company, marked as recyclable materials, but actually contained some 2,500 tons of household waste, including plastic bottles and used adult diapers. BAN Toxics, a local environmental group, accused Canada of dragging its foot on the issue, and pointed out that the trash had been rotting here for years.

Last Wednesday, presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said that the President Duterte had ordered officials to ship the trash back to Canada at the Philippines' expense. On Thursday, Malacañang rejected Ottawa's timetable for garbage removal by end of June. Panelo said Philippine authorities are working to return the waste "soonest," citing information from Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez.

Apart from the garbage row, ties between the two countries soured after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in 2017 raised concerns over Duterte's drug war.

The Philippines' vigorous sparring with a historically friendly partner is lamentable. I would be curious if we would be as forthright and pugnacious in addressing apparently intractable issues with other countries.

FEEDBACK: [joseabetozaide@gmail.com](mailto:joseabetozaide@gmail.com)

**JOEY GALICIA-VENANCIO**  
(on-leave)  
Sumbong o Reakson...  
Phone: 09193297810  
Email: venanciojv@gmail.com

## Pagiging basura ng Pilipinas bunga ng corrupt BOC officials

KAYA nagiging tapunan na ng basura ang ating bansa ay dahil narin sa mga korap na opisyal ng Bureau of Customs (BOC).

Batid ng mga bansang nag-e-export ng basura sa Pilipinas na madaling makalusot ang anumang kargamento, ligal o iligal, sa BOC dahil nga napaka-korap ng mga namamahala rito.

Ang tone-toneladang basura ng Canada na itinapon sa Tarlac ay pinagkakitaan ng malaki ng mga buwaya sa BOC. Tiyak iyon! Hindi naman 'yun maibababa at mailalabas ng pier kung walang permit ng sinumang ulupong sa Customs eh.

Tulad lamang nitong tone-toneladang shabu shipments na nakalalabas ng compound ng Customs, sa palagay n'yo ba ay makalulusot sa mga X-ray ng Customs 'yan kung walang 'go signal' ng mga namamahala dyan? Considering na kahit isang dangkal na kapal ng bakal ay kaya palang i-detect ng X-ray machines ang laman ng container van.

Kaya nga lahat ng Customs officials ay ubod ng yayaman dahil sa grabeng corruptions! Ultimo nga ordinaryong clerk dito ay multi-milyonaryo. Remember Paulino Elevado alyas "JJ", ang utusan sa Customs na naka-Porsche nang manghabol at manutok ng barrel sa driver ng van few years ago? Ang kotseng Porsche ay nagkakahalaga ng mahigit P10 milyon!

Kaya anumang kontrabando na nakalalabas sa bakuran ng Customs, tiyak 'yan ay may bendisyon ng mga opisyal dyan. Mismo!

Balikan natin ang basura ng Canada. Ibabalik na raw ito sa port of origin sa sunod na buwan matapos pauwiin sa bansa ni Pangulong Duterte ang ating ambassador sa Canada. Pero ilang containers ng basurang iyon ang nailibing na sa landfill sa Tarlac. Paano iyon? Huhukayin pa ba iyon para maibalik sa Canada?

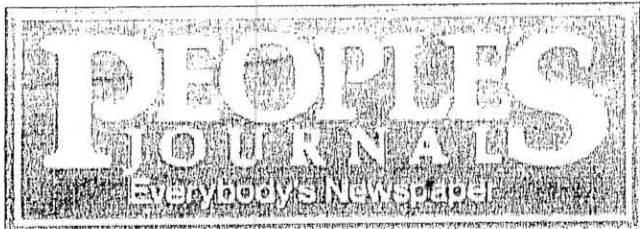
Tapos kamakailan lang ay may mga dumating na namang containers ng basura mula naman sa Australia! Aray ko!!! Ginawa na talagang tapunan ng basura ang Pilipinas. Uulitin ko, hindi maipapasok sa bansa ang mga imported basurang ito kung walang nakorap sa BOC, Mr. President...

Kaya ang dapat papanagutin sa lahat ng basurang ito, Mr President, ay walang iba kundi ang mga opisyal ng Customs. Mismo!!!

Oo! Sabi ng beteranong Customs beat reporter na si Ed Domingo, doble raw ang laki ng tarahan ngayon dyan. Ang naghahari ay ang "Lordson". Hmmm... mukhang kilala natin ito ah? Sya parin!!!



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



4  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

## Kung basura, basura na talaga!

**BASURA** kaliwa't kanan ang itinambak ng ibang bansa dito sa ating bayan!

Nauna ang Canada na hanggang ngayon ay hindi pa kinukuha sa kabila ng marami nilang pangako.

Sumunod ang South Korea na hindi pa rin nakukuha lahat ang itinambak nilang basura sa Pilipinas!

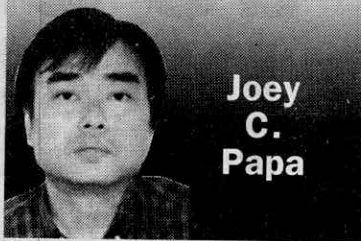
Sumunod naman ang Australia at marami pang "kesyo-kesyo" pero ang deklarasyon ng Bureau of Customs ay mixed community waste ang itinambak nila basura dito sa atin.

Sinundan pa rin ng electronic waste mula sa Hong Kong!

Ginawa na talagang tambakan ng basura ang ating bansa! Tinututulan ito ng Ecowaste Coalition at Bangon Kalikasan Movement (BKM). Pumunta ang isang opisyal ng Ecowaste at kasama ang Bureau of Customs ay sinaksihan nila ang laman ng bloke-blokeng binalot na magkakahalang basura o mixed wastes. Matagal nang tinutulan ng Ecowaste at BKM ang pambabastos na ginagawang ito sa atin ng ibang bansa. Ang Tsina at ibang bansa ay ipinagbawal na ang pagtatambak ng basura ng ibang bansa sa bayan nila. Anyare sa 'Pinas?

Aba'y kailangang kaagad nang ilabas ni President Duterte at Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu ang isang Executive Order (EO) o Department Administrative Order (DAO) na nagbabawal sa pagtatambak ng lahat ng uri ng basura sa Pilipinas mula sa

### BANGON KALIKASAN



Joey  
C.  
Papa

ibang bansa. Ganoon lang naman kasimple.

Nakita marahil nang ibang bansa noon ang paghawak ng Pilipinas sa basurang itinambak sa atin ng Canada. Nagpatumpik-tumpik ang pamahalaan noon, nag-aalala sa mga diplomatikong tensyon, kaya hayun, tumagal ng anim na taon, nasa atin pa ang basura ng Canada.

Nagbabala lang ng digmaan si Duterte kaya nagsikilos na ang mga taga-pamahalaan at Canada.

Ngayon naman pinagtatalunan pa na processed engineered fuel daw ang basura galing Australia.

Malinaw naman ang sinabi ni Region 10 Bureau of Customs Collector John Simon na narinig ko sa isang panayam sa kanya sa radyo. Community waste ito na may plastic at iba pa. Mixed waste ang tawag dito. Basura pa rin!

Kailangang-kailangan na agad ang isang order. Itinext sa akin noon ni

Secretary Cimatu na binubuo na raw nila ang isang DAO banning all kinds of garbage. Ngunit tila natatagalan ito.

Sa palagay ko'y mauunahan na naman ang DENR ni Pangulong Duterte sa ban ng lahat ng uri ng basura na itatambak ng ibansa dito sa atin.

Ang pahayag ni Port Collector Simon ay may customs at environmental violation ang mga importer ng mga basura kaya dapat silang nangot sa batas. Mangyayari kaya ito?

Ang tawag ko sa basura ng Australia ay "nilumpya." Binalot lang ng mabuti ang mga halo-halong nabubulok na basura at saka sinabing engineered fuel ito.

Nakasulubong ko na ang ganitong istilo ng "paglulumpya" ng basura. Ginawa ito ng isang kumpanya. Nangolekta sila ng mga basura at dinala ito sa isang bayan sa Rizal maraming taon na ang nakararaan. Noong una'y hindi sila pinansin dahil mayroong medical mission at kung ano-ano pang "mission" kasama na ang livelihood at medical ang ginawa.

Hindi rin ito nagtagumpay dahil basura pa rin ito! Nangamoy ang baho at nagalit ang mga residente at pinatigil sila!

Kung basura, basura na talaga. Huwag nang magpaikot-ikot. Aminin na lang at mag-isip nang ibang paraan na maka-kalikasan sa mga gawaing gusto nilang gawin.

(bangonkalikasan@yahoo.com)



# NESTLÉ, VALENZUELA CITY

# COLLABORATE ON WASTE SACHET

# RECOVERY PROGRAM

1/2

By MICHAELA TANGAN

**In April 2018, Nestlé Global announced that its packaging would be 100% recyclable or reusable by 2025 in line with its vision that none of its waste ends up in landfill or as litter.**

Nestlé Philippines is rallying behind this vision as it conducts initiatives, programs and collaborative work with key sectors, communities and green industries.

Working toward a waste-free future, Nestlé recently forged a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City Government of Valenzuela, Green Antz Builders, Inc., and the Department of Education.

The multinational food and beverage company explained that amid the growing waste woes in the country and the world, Valenzuela has a staunch commitment to proper solid waste management and already has an established segregation system for rigid plastics, making the city an ideal partner for a citywide pilot program to collect and recycle or upcycle waste plastic laminates, specifically sachets and used beverage cartons.

Currently, 70 trucks go around the city to collect garbage. The waste haulers immediately execute the first round of segregation of garbage before it is further sorted out in the transfer station.

Apart from having a volunteer model school for environmental awareness and collection, an efficient materials recovery facility is already running in one of the city's barangays. This gives larger plastic waste a second life.

In the past, it had been difficult for the city to act on plastic laminates and other small plastics, which account for a big chunk of waste collected.

"When it comes to the PET bottles and large plastic materials, there is a system already in place in the city. Our trash collectors segregate those, bring them to our transfer station in the city, sell them and get the income back. Those in the transfer station will sell them to bigger consolidators, recyclers, therefore, those plastic residuals or scraps would be reused," Valenzuela City Mayor Rex Gatchalian said.

"This program with Nestlé is meaningful to us because we never really had the solution on what to do with the smaller plastics such as laminates and sachets. It's too time-consuming for our garbage team to segregate those," he added.

Nestlé comes into the picture as it carries out its social, environmental and economic initiative called *May BALIK! Sa PLASTIK!* The program will encourage students and

street sweepers to drop off used plastic wastes at collection booths strategically stationed in public schools and barangays instead of discarding them. In return, they will receive school supplies and Nestlé products as incentives, respectively.

To harvest the economic benefits of post-consumer plastic laminates, Green Antz, a Bulacan-based innovative social enterprise, will utilize a portion of the collected plastic waste. Using a mixture of wet cement, shredded plastic, and a proprietary binding substance, Green Antz produces stronger and aesthetically superior construction materials such as eco-bricks, which are more economical to use than regular hollow blocks. Nestlé has also entered into a partnership with Republic Cement, which will co-process the bulk of wastes collected under the program.

"The good thing about this project is that it creates an incentive system that will eventually influence people to treat waste as a resource, thus, it becomes a culture. I'm really excited to see the change because it

involves the children. And aside from the incentive system that we are promoting, we are, in effect, educating the kids. Ten to 15 years from now, they will be our next generation, and if we do it correctly, we will be producing environmentally responsible Filipinos," Green Antz president Rommel Benig shared.

"There is a need to accelerate action on the issue of plastic. For Nestlé, this means addressing post-consumer wastes that would otherwise go to landfills and leak into waterways and oceans. We are piloting a program with Valenzuela City to help strengthen our proof of concept that we can later replicate in other cities. The best thing about it is that the approach involves the participation of various stakeholders. Our partnership with Valenzuela City, one of the most progressive cities in Metro Manila, is a milestone not only for us at Nestlé and Valenzuela City, but more importantly, for the environment," Nestlé Philippines Chairman and CEO Kais Marzouki said.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

27 MAY 2019

DATE

2/2

TITLE:

PAGE 1/



Nestlé Philippines, the City Government of Valenzuela, the Department of Education (DepEd ) Valenzuela Division, and Green Antz Builders, Inc. have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a citywide program dubbed *May BALIK! Sa PLASTIK!* to recover post-consumer waste laminates such as sachets and used beverage cartons by sorting and collecting them for co-processing in cement kilns, or for recycling and upcycling. The MOU was signed by (from left) Green Antz Builders, Inc. president Rommel Benig, Valenzuela City Mayor Rexlon Gatchalian, Nestlé Philippines Chairman and CEO Kais Marzouki, and DepEd Assistant School Division Superintendent Dr. Benjamin Samson.



Green Antz eco-bricks — composed of shredded plastic sachets and wet cement — are more durable and economical than regular hollow blocks.



## AIA PLANTS 20,000 MANGROVES FOR ITS 20 FRUITFUL YEARS



As a way of giving back for AIA's 20 fruitful years in the auction industry, the company planted 20,000 mangrove propagules in a 10-hectare coast at Abucay, Bataan on May 17 in cooperation with DENR and the SBMA Ecology Center. 165 volunteers took part in the program.

The auctioneer initially started its biodiversity conservation and mangrove reforestation programs in 2015. At that time, AIA committed to protect various mangrove forests and had since planted around 35,580 mangroves in various areas. AIA took on the responsibility of caring for a total of 15 hectares of protected sites.

*"We specially picked Mangrove Planting as the core activity of our CSR programs because of its environmental significance. Mangroves are powerhouses when it comes to carbon storage. Studies indicate that mangroves can sequester four times more carbon than rainforests. This is so relevant to our industry for ways we all know. Unlike other one-day tree planting activities, ours is a continuing activity as we will see to it that the mangroves will survive and serve its purpose,"* said AIA General Manager Atty. Ma. Leonora Tabladillo.

These sites will reconstitute and improve the coastal barriers of Subic Bay and Bataan, serve as protection during storm

surges, provide a natural habitat for different species, and reduce carbon emissions in the air. It will not only increase the resilience of the coastline but will also open up new income-generating opportunities for the local communities.

Moving forward, AIA will continuously maintain and ensure the sustainability of these mangrove forests, as well as implement more reforestation projects in line with its eco-initiatives to protect the environment.

*To learn more about AIA's Corporate Social Responsibility programs, visit [www.aia-auction.com/csr](http://www.aia-auction.com/csr).*



## AIA PLANTS 20,000 MANGROVES FOR ITS 20 FRUITFUL YEARS



As a way of giving back for AIA's 20 fruitful years in the auction industry, the company planted 20,000 mangrove propagules in a 10-hectare coast at Abucay, Bataan on May 17 in cooperation with DENR and the SBMA Ecology Center. 165 volunteers took part in the program.

The auctioneer initially started its biodiversity conservation and mangrove reforestation programs in 2015. At that time, AIA committed to protect various mangrove forests and had since planted around 35,580 mangroves in various areas. AIA took on the responsibility of caring for a total of 15 hectares of protected sites.

*"We specially picked Mangrove Planting as the core activity of our CSR programs because of its environmental significance. Mangroves are powerhouses when it comes to carbon storage. Studies indicate that mangroves can sequester four times more carbon than rainforests. This is so relevant to our industry for ways we all know. Unlike other one-day tree planting activities, ours is a continuing activity as we will see to it that the mangroves will survive and serve its purpose,"* said AIA General Manager Atty. Ma. Leonora Tabladillo.

These sites will reconstitute and improve the coastal barriers of Subic Bay and Bataan, serve as protection during storm

surges, provide a natural habitat for different species, and reduce carbon emissions in the air. It will not only increase the resilience of the coastline but will also open up new income-generating opportunities for the local communities.

Moving forward, AIA will continuously maintain and ensure the sustainability of these mangrove forests, as well as implement more reforestation projects in line with its eco-initiatives to protect the environment.

*To learn more about AIA's Corporate Social Responsibility programs, visit [www.aia-auction.com/csr](http://www.aia-auction.com/csr).*



## AIA PLANTS 20,000 MANGROVES FOR ITS 20 FRUITFUL YEARS



As a way of giving back for AIA's 20 fruitful years in the auction industry, the company planted 20,000 mangrove propagules in a 10-hectare coast at Abucay, Bataan on May 17 in cooperation with DENR and the SBMA Ecology Center. 165 volunteers took part in the program.

The auctioneer initially started its biodiversity conservation and mangrove reforestation programs in 2015. At that time, AIA committed to protect various mangrove forests and had since planted around 35,580 mangroves in various areas. AIA took on the responsibility of caring for a total of 15 hectares of protected sites.

*"We specially picked Mangrove Planting as the core activity of our CSR programs because of its environmental significance. Mangroves are powerhouses when it comes to carbon storage. Studies indicate that mangroves can sequester four times more carbon than rainforests. This is so relevant to our industry for ways we all know. Unlike other one-day tree planting activities, ours is a continuing activity as we will see to it that the mangroves will survive and serve its purpose,"* said AIA General Manager Atty. Ma. Leonora Tabladillo.

These sites will reconstitute and improve the coastal barriers of Subic Bay and Bataan, serve as protection during storm

surges, provide a natural habitat for different species, and reduce carbon emissions in the air. It will not only increase the resilience of the coastline but will also open up new income-generating opportunities for the local communities.

Moving forward, AIA will continuously maintain and ensure the sustainability of these mangrove forests, as well as implement more reforestation projects in line with its eco-initiatives to protect the environment.

*To learn more about AIA's Corporate Social Responsibility programs, visit [www.aia-auction.com/csr](http://www.aia-auction.com/csr).*



# GCash launches CSR arm to upgrade social platform

GCash, operated by Globe Fintech Innovations Inc. (Mynt), has launched GCash for Good, its corporate social responsibility arm, to further develop the GCash app into a more socially relevant and sustainable platform that will help address issues across different levels of society.

GCash is well-equipped to become a springboard for donations to non-government organizations (NGOs) that champion various advocacies, thanks to its scale and innovative digital platform.

With GCash for Good, GCash users can use the GCash app to donate to various groups to create an impact on society.

This allows GCash to be a more inclusive and open platform that will help create better opportunities for millions of Filipinos.

"We have always strived to build a better financial ecosystem in the Philippines, and as a socially responsible corporate citizen, we want to leverage on our strength as a digital platform to help others create a better country moving forward," Mynt president Anthony Thomas said.

### Platform for generosity

GCash is mindful that people now prefer to donate online, as this removes the hassle of having to go through long queues and processes, and gives them

more time to focus on their daily lives.

According to a study by Global Trends in Giving, 54 percent of individuals prefer to donate online, while the total volume of donations made online grew by a strong 12.1 percent in 2017.

Along with this, various research shows a growing trend in micro-donations and crowdfunding, with sites like Patreon and Kofi gaining massive support. According to Tech's Good, micro-donations range between \$0.25 and \$10. This kind of donations, albeit small at a time, can make a huge difference once added up.

With innovative mobile

money technology like GCash, people who want to do good are now empowered with a more efficient experience.

GCash for Good aims to create a community where doing good and giving back is open to all. Any amount will create huge opportunities for organizations that forward different issues. With GCash for Good, users will also have direct access to where their donations go. It showcases a more transparent and user-friendly interface for anyone to access.

"Our purpose for creating GCash for Good lies in our ardent desire to encourage generosity among Filipinos. We want to create more opportunities

to allow people to give to and give back to the communities," Thomas said.

### Platform for the green agenda

For its initial launch, GCash for Good has partnered with Bantay Kalikasan, Haribon Foundation, World Wildlife Fund for Nature, and the Forest Foundation Philippines.

Through its e-money platform GCash, Mynt aims to develop financial sustainability mechanisms that would strengthen biodiversity conservation efforts for these partner organizations. It also plans to proactively join campaigns that call for a ban on waste imports, deforestation and waste incineration.

Together with these organizations, GCash is pushing for a greener Philippines, recognizing the huge impact that the environment has in the daily lives of Filipinos.

"We have a shared vision of creating a lasting, long-term positive impact on the environment. With joined hands, we promise to be strong government partners in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations," Thomas said.

GCash for Good is talking to other NGOs to push other pressing issues into the limelight with the hopes of generating more support for the fight for a better Philippines.



## To recognize sustainable community-based tourism

TPB will identify the best sustainable tourism destinations of the country with the assistance of DoT Regional Offices and recognize three winners according to a set of criteria

The Philippine Tourism Promotions Board (TPB), the marketing arm of the Department of Tourism (DoT), launched recently the first Sustainable Community-Based Tourism Recognition (SCBTR) as part of its Sustainable Tourism campaign.

The SCBTR highlights different forms of tourism such as ecotourism, which focusing on areas that promote environmental conservation and appreciation of nature; culture tourism, which promotes heritage and encourages participation in cultural activities; and adventure tourism, which offers a full adventure travel experience.

TPB will identify the best sustainable tourism destinations of the country with the assistance of DoT Regional Offices and recognize three winners according to a set of criteria that includes community participation, benefit sharing, tourism resources conservation, partnership and support from within and outside the community, local ownership, management and leadership, communication and interaction among stakeholders, quality of life, scale of tourism development and tourist satisfaction.

The recognized sites must also practice sustainability through preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and community; provide a unique local experience; practice ecological balance and sustainable organic farming; promote artisanal products in the community; empower cultural pride; share cultural heritage; offer immersive and experiential activities; and elicit overall interest from visitors.

Winners will receive incentives and grants for the enhancement of sites and tourism products and services; trainings and seminars; and progress monitoring and assistance from TPB to obtain support from organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Slow Food International and The Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) for the development of community programs.

The destination will also be promoted digitally, featured in international and domestic travel fairs and shows participated in by DOT and TPB, and endorsed for a possible partnership with the former Secretary of the Philippines' Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Gina Lopez.

This first-of-its-kind recognition is initiated by TPB in support of Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat's overarching direction in striking balance between tourism business and social responsibility.

Aside from acknowledging sustainability efforts and achievements, TPB also hopes to reaffirm the commitment of local government units, non-governmental organizations, and private sectors in the tourism industry in implementing sustainable tourism related-initiatives.

Moreover, TPB hopes to showcase and promote domestically and internationally the country's unique tourism products, inspire stakeholders to share sustainable practices, and draw potential investors for the enhancement and development of sustainable tourism sites and attractions.



**SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITY-BASED**  
— TOURISM RECOGNITION —  
IT'S MORE FUN IN THE PHILIPPINES.



## Maynilad to focus on wastewater projects

WEST zone concessionaire Maynilad Water Services Inc. will focus on improving its wastewater management capabilities which forms bulk of its P16.8-billion capital expenditure for the year.

"Maynilad is dedicating a bigger share of this year's capital investment toward wastewater projects, as we seek to facilitate sewerage coverage expansion in the West Zone. Accelerating our wastewater projects will require a lot of resources but we are committed to do our part in protecting the health of our customers and the environment," Ramoncito Fernandez, Maynilad president and chief executive officer, said in a statement.

Roughly 70 percent or P11.4 billion of this year's budget will be used for wastewater management projects to comply with the government's more stringent effluent standards as well as to maintain network reliability.

The amount will also be used for the construction of a new sewage treatment plant (STP) in Central Ma-

nila, installation of about 30 kilometers of sewer lines in Las Piñas City, upgrade of existing STPs to include nutrient-removal processes, lot acquisitions for new STPs and pump stations, installation of new sewer service connections and maintenance of existing sewer network.

Meanwhile, P1.9 billion will be spent by Maynilad for the construction of additional pumping stations and reservoirs for better supply management, service expansion programs and water source projects to enhance water supply and pressure.

The company is also allocating P3 billion for its non-revenue water management program to cover leak detection and repair, meter management, pipe replacements and network diagnostics, among others.

The rest of the budget will go to the company's customer service and information program, which involves modernizing data management and information systems to improve service delivery.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



PAGE



UPPER  
LOWER



PAGE 1  
STORY



BANNER  
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

# 'Phl has right in SCS but no might yet'

By PIA LEE-BRAGO

For Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr., the Philippines has the "right" but "no might yet" on the issue of territorial claims in the South China Sea.

"Defense Secretary (Delfin) Lorenzana says Sandy Cay is ours. The erudite paper I read didn't quite say that categori-

cally. But I like the categorical tone. IT IS OURS," Locsin said in a tweet on Saturday.

"While Lorenzana is right and I am so happy that is his position, when we come to argue our case to these features we must be as tight, precise and economical in our claims - Occam's Razor; because all we have is right. We have no might

yet. But soon we will. It is on its way," he tweeted.

In April, Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio called for the filing of diplomatic protests over China's seizure of Sandy Cay and two low-tide sandbars, which he said are also within the country's territorial waters.

Turn to Page 10

## Phl From Page 1

He said that Sandy Cay, a high-tide sandbar, and two nearby low-tide sandbars, are less than two nautical miles from Pag-asa Island. These sandbars emerged within the Philippines' 12-nautical-mile territorial sea in Pag-asa. Anything that emerges within the country's territorial sea is also its territory and is well-recognized under international law.

Carpio warned that if the country fails to file the protests, it "will be deemed to have acquiesced" to Beijing.

Former foreign secretary Albert del Rosario said that "Contrary to our position that right is might, China has strongly declared that it is might that will triumph (over) what is right."

In a landmark ruling on July 12, 2016, the Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) found no legal basis for China to claim historic rights to a "nine-dash line" in the South China Sea and Beijing had breached the sovereign rights of the Philippines, which brought

the case.

The tribunal also ruled that many purported islands controlled by China are not in fact islands, but instead reefs or rocks, which do not generate territorial rights.

China refused to honor the ruling and raised a serious accusation against the judges of the tribunal, saying they took bribes from the Philippines in exchange for invalidating Beijing's expansive and excessive claims in the South China Sea.

Despite its militarization of the South China Sea raising regional tensions, China declared it is "always a builder of world peace, contributor to global development and defender of international order."

Meanwhile, China has opposed a bill filed in the US Senate that proposes sanctions for involvement in "illegal" activities in the South and East China Seas, saying it runs counter to international law and basic norms governing international relations.

Republican Sen. Marco Rubio and Democratic Party Sen. Ben Cardin on Thursday formally reintroduced the

South China Sea and East China Sea Sanctions Act that would "impose sanctions against Chinese individuals and entities that participate in Beijing's illegitimate activities to aggressively assert its expansive maritime and territorial claims in these disputed regions."

"The act you mentioned runs counter to international law and basic norms governing international relations. China firmly opposes it," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang.

"Regarding the so-called proposal by some in the US, China's position on the South China Sea and the East China Sea is consistent and clear. Construction on Chinese territory in the South China Sea is a matter completely within our sovereignty," he said.

China urged the US not to move forward the review process to prevent further disturbance to bilateral relations. The US emphasized there is a need for the US to be present in the South China Sea.

Washington warned that China's aggressive and unilateral actions in the South China Sea have a "very direct

effect" on the sovereignty and interest of the Philippines.

US Ambassador Sung Kim said on Thursday that the US military alliance with the Philippines remains critically important to maintain stability in the Indo-Pacific region and US presence in the South China Sea will continue.

"The South China Sea is part of the Pacific, therefore our obligations under the Mutual Defense Treaty clearly applies to situations in the South China Sea," Kim said in a forum in Quezon City.

US forces operate in the Asia-Pacific region, including

the South China Sea, under a comprehensive freedom of navigation program.

The operations, conducted in accordance with international law, are meant to demonstrate that the US will continue to fly, sail and operate "wherever international law allows."

The US has been consistently urging the claimants including China to refrain from taking unilateral aggressive actions that are inconsistent with international law and norms.

"Even though we are not a claimant, we take very serious

interest in what's happening in the South China Sea, and that's why we work very hard to protect freedom of navigation, freedom of overflight," the ambassador said.

During his visit in Manila in March, US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo assured the Philippines that Washington will come to its defense if its forces, aircraft and vessels in the South China Sea are attacked, saying any armed attack there will trigger the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty obligations under which America's commitments are "clear."



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE



15  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

27 MAY 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

# LAND REFORM PROGRAM ITINIGIL NA NI DIGONG

**ITINIGIL na ng gobyerno ang land reform program.**

Katwiran ng Pangulo, naabot na ng administrasyon niya ang limitasyon sa pamimigay ng mga lupa.

"Land reform gusto ko 'yan. Ako ang pinakamaraming titulo

na — almost 60,000 hectares. Gusto ko pa. But the land reform program has stopped. We no longer cannot acquire," ayon sa Pangulo.

Sinabi ng Pangulo na siya ang Pangulo na mas maraming naipamigay na lupa sa

mga mahihirap pero kailangan na niyang huminto dahil nasa batas ito.

Humingi naman siya ng paumanhin sa mga naabutan ng itinakda ng batas.

"Kayong inabutan ngayon, well then I'm sorry, you cannot be as

rich as your forefathers because of the limitations now imposed by law," pahayag ng Pangulo.

Binalaan naman niya ang mga grupong katulad ng Kadamay na huwag mag-land grabbing o ipaaaresto niya ang mga ito. **PMRT**