

DATE : 01 JUN 2019

DAY :

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service

DFA CHIEF CALLS ON MANILA, OTTAWA TO MOVE ON

WITH TRASH FINALLY OUT, PH DIPLOMATS RETURNING TO CANADA

**By Dona Z. Pazzibugan
and Jheset O. Enano**
@Team_Inquirer

Tons of garbage illegally exported to the country years ago were finally shipped back to Canada on Friday, prompting Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. to order the return of Filipino diplomats to their posts in the North American country.

The 69 containers of garbage were loaded overnight onto the MV Bavaria, a Liberia-flagged container ship, at Subic Bay Freeport and began the 23-day voyage to the Canadian city of Vancouver at Ottawa's expense.

Presidential spokesperson Salvador Panelo on Friday said he hoped ties with Canada would now return to normal.

Locsin said the diplomatic row over the trash had ended and urged both countries to "move on" since "there's more than garbage between us."

"The garbage is gone, good riddance," Locsin posted on Twitter with images of MV Bavaria leaving the port at Subic. "Baaaaaaaaa bye, as we say it."

To the diplomats he had recalled after Canada missed President Duterte's May 15 deadline to take back the trash, Locsin said: "To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point."

No media coverage

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) barred media coverage of the loading of the trash onto the container ship.

"Canada pulled all the stops on this: seamless cooperation by shouldering the expense to

ship back the 69 containers of garbage," Locsin said.

MV Bavaria arrived at Subic at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday and lifted anchor at 7:22 a.m. on Friday, taking more than 10 hours to load the containers.

Ottawa took back the garbage more than two weeks after the President threatened to declare war on Canada and dump the trash in front of its embassy in Manila.

After Canada missed his deadline, Mr. Duterte lashed out at Ottawa and directed officials to hire a company that would ship the trash and leave it in Canadian waters.

DENR mulls moratorium

On Friday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it was planning to impose a moratorium on the entry of all recyclable scrap materials into the country.

A DENR administration order issued in 2013 allows the importation of recyclable materials, including scrap metals, plastics and electronics.

Environmental activists gathered in Subic as the containers were being prepared on Thursday, holding banners that said "never again" and "we are not the world's dump."

A local court in 2016 declared the importation of 2,400 tons of Canadian trash illegal.

Environment Undersecretary Benny Antiporda told the Inquirer the proposed moratorium on all waste imports would be discussed by Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu with other agencies.

"We will first come up with numbers and check who benefits from these imports, so we can analyze the economic impact of the [morato-

rium]," Antiporda said.

Basel Ban Amendment

Groups like the EcoWaste Coalition and Greenpeace Philippines have called on the government to ratify the Basel Ban Amendment, which prohibits the export of hazardous wastes, including those intended for recycling, from rich nations to poor countries.

The call to ban the importation of all waste came as the government faced new criticism over the entry of containers of trash from Australia and Hong Kong at the Mindanao International Container Terminal in Misamis Oriental province.

Antiporda said stricter security measures should be put in place so that recyclable wastes could not enter the country and languish in the ports.

"This ordeal has taught us of the urgency of correcting outmoded regulations allowing waste imports into the country under the guise of recycling," said Aileen Lucero, national coordinator of EcoWaste Coalition.

With the return of the 69 containers to Canada, Lucero also urged the Bureau of Customs to disclose information on how the wastes from eight other containers were disposed of.

Customs officials said the contents of 34 of the original 103 containers had been emptied in a landfill of the Metro Clark Waste Management Corp. at Barangay Kalangitan in Capas town, Tarlac, in July 2015.

But the company said it only accounted for 26 containers.

—WITH REPORTS FROM JOANNA ROSE AGLIBOT, AFP AND REUTERS INQ



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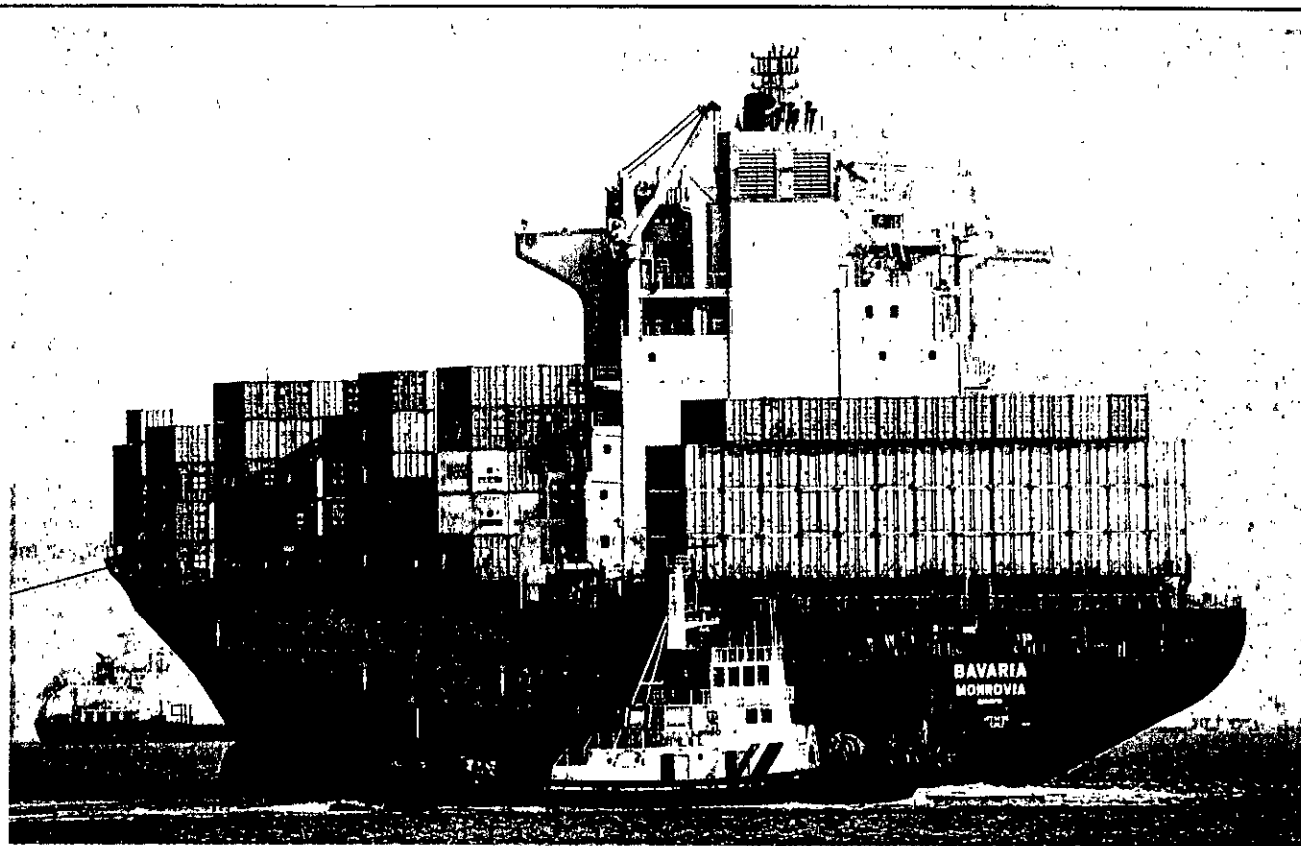
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RETURN TO SENDER - Cargo ship MV Bavaria sails out to sea after it was loaded with 69 containers filled with Canadian wastes at the Subic Bay Freeport in Olongapo City, Friday, May 31. The Canadian government agreed to take back the more than 2,450 tons of garbage after President Rodrigo Roa Duterte expressed outrage that the Philippines has become a dumping ground for the trash. (EPA)

Recalled Filipino diplomats in Canada told to return to posts

By **ROY C. MABASA**

Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. on Friday ordered Filipino diplomats recalled from their diplomatic posts in Canada to go back shortly after the tons of Canadian wastes were finally loaded onto a ship, and left the Subic yesterday en route to Vancouver.

In a social media post, Locsin also

apologized to the recalled diplomats, led by Ambassador to Ottawa Petronila Garcia, and thanked the Canadian Embassy in Manila for their cooperation.

"To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point. Arrivederci! And thank you Canada CDA Mucci," he said.

The over 1,000 tons of Canadian

trash shipped to the Philippines from 2013 to 2014, left Subic port on Friday morning onboard cargo vessel MV Bavarian.

Last April, President Duterte stepped up the pressure on Ottawa by issuing a May 15 deadline for the shipment of the waste back to Canada.

Duterte even threatened to go to "war" with Canada if the latter fails ► **9**



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Recalled Filipino diplomats in Canada told to return to posts.

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Recalled Filipino diplomats... ◀1

to retrieve the garbage left languishing in Philippine ports for almost six years.

Canada, however, missed the deadline, citing government red tape in the processing of documents.

In protest, the Duterte administration upped the ante by recalling the Philippine envoy and several other consular officials in Canada.

Lauded

Meanwhile, environmental and cause-oriented groups all over the world have expressed relief after the 69 containers of trash were reshipped back yesterday to Canada after languishing in the Philippines for six years.

In a joint statement, the EcoWaste Coalition, RightOnCanada and IPEN described the historic departure of the

reeking garbage from the Port of Subic north of Manila as a "victory for the rule of law, morality and the environment."

"We feel jubilant that 69 containers of Canadian rubbish are now homeward bound after being stranded here for so long," said Aileen Lucero, National Coordinator, EcoWaste Coalition.

"The Philippines is not the world's dumpsite. Never again shall we allow other countries to trash our dignity, our people's health and the environment," she added.

In 2013 and 2014, 103 containers of more than 2,400 tons of trash from Canada arrived in the Philippines which were declared as scrap plastics for recycling but actually contained plastics, household garbage, used adult diapers and electronic waste. (With a report from Chito Chavez)



DFA orders envoys to fly back to Canada

MALACAÑANG sees a possible reconciliation with Canada as Canada's trash shipment begins its journey back to the North American country.

Tons of garbage sent to the Philippines years ago was shipped back to Canada on Friday after a festering diplomatic row, as Asian nations increasingly reject serving as dumping grounds for international trash.

After a long campaign to urge Canada to take back the rotting waste, President Rodrigo Duterte lashed out at Ottawa last week and ordered the

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refuse returned immediately.

The 69 shipping containers of garbage were loaded onto a cargo vessel at Subic Bay, a former US naval base and shipping port northwest of Manila, and began the lengthy trip to Canada.

"We feel jubilant that 69 containers of Canadian rubbish are now homeward-bound after being stranded here for so long," said Aileen Lucero, National Coordinator of the EcoWaste Coalition.

"The Philippines is not the world's dump site. Never again shall we allow other countries to trash our dignity, our people's health and the environment."

On Friday, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. tweeted images of the *m/v Bavaria* departing from the Subic Bay International Terminal Corp.

He again posted a message on Twitter advising the Philippine representatives to Canada to get ready for their flights back.

"To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point," he said in a separate tweet.

Earlier in Tokyo, Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo said Malacañang was hoping the diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Canada would go back to normal.



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Investigative

The Manila Times

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PH envoys to Canada told: Return to posts

BY BERNADETTE E. TAMAYO

FOREIGN Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. on Friday ordered Philippine diplomats to Canada — who were previously recalled over the trash row — to return to their respective posts.

Locsin issued the directive after all 69 container vans loaded with over 1,000 tons of imported trash were loaded to *M/V Bavaria* for reshipment to Canada.

The retrieval started at about 9 p.m., Thursday, and was completed at 3 a.m., Friday.

The *M/V Bavaria*, a container ship commissioned to transport the garbage back to Canada, will sail for about 21 days before reaching Vancouver.

"Baaaaa bye, as we say it," Locsin said on Twitter to accompany a picture of the ship leaving the Subic Bay Freeport Friday morning.

Locsin on May 16 recalled the Philippine ambassador and consuls to Canada after Ottawa failed to comply with the May 15 deadline to take back the tons of garbage it exported to Manila in 2013.

"To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point," he said on Twitter.

Locsin thanked Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu for "getting up so early to get last-minute okay from foreign transshipment points; and DENR (Department

of Environment and Natural Resources) guys for working side by side with my guys [at the Department of Foreign Affairs] to get this done."

Philippine Ambassador to Canada Petronila Garcia returned to the Philippines on May 17 at about 3:50 a.m. on board Philippine Airlines Flight 119.

The Philippines has consulates in Calgary, Vancouver, and Toronto, headed by Consuls General Gilberto Asuque, Maria Andrelita Austria and Rosalita Prospero, respectively.

Prospero, however, died on May 28 in Toronto.

She served as Consul General to Toronto since May 24, 2015.

Her previous diplomatic postings were in Sydney, Australia and Paris, France.

There are 901,218 Filipinos in Canada as of April 2018, comprising a mix of naturalized Canadians, permanent residents and

temporary foreign workers.

This number comprises almost 2.6 percent of Canada's population.

In 2017, remittances from Filipinos in Canada totaled over \$644.4 million, up by 12.6 percent from 2016 (\$572.8 million).

A total of 103 container vans from Canada loaded with garbage had been mislabeled as "recyclable plastic materials."

These were shipped to Manila between 2013 and 2014 by Chronic Inc., a private company in Ontario, and were consigned to Chronic Plastics, a Philippine company.

Upon inspection, the Bureau of Customs and the DENR discovered that the shipment contained bottles, adult diapers, kitchen refuse and other household trash.

In 2016, Canada amended its regulations around hazardous waste shipments to prevent such events from happening again.



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Canada trash sails from Phl; envoys told to return

By HELEN FLORES

As the ship carrying 69 containers of Canadian trash left Subic Port yesterday for its 20-day voyage to Vancouver, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. directed the Philippine diplomats recalled from Canada to return to their posts and accept his apology "for the trouble you went through to drive home a point."

"To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point. Arrivederci! And thank you Canada CDA (chargé d'affaires) Mucci," Locsin said in a post on Twitter a few hours after the Liberian-flagged *MV Bavaria* departed the Subic Port with its cargo of some 1,000 tons of garbage.

The return of the country's diplomats to Ottawa is expected to improve diplomatic ties between the two countries soured by the initial refusal of Canada to take back the garbage.

The 69 containers of trash -

consisting of mixed wastes, including non-recyclable plastic, waste paper, household waste, electronic wastes, and used adult diapers - were loaded on the *MV Bavaria* at around 3 a.m. on Friday. The cargo ship left the New Container Terminal in Subic at 7:20 a.m.

A Filipino importer was said to have illegally facilitated the shipment to Manila of 100 containers of Canadian garbage - declared as recyclable scrap - between 2013 and 2014. Contents of 26 of the 100 containers were buried in a landfill in Tarlac.

"Baaaaaaaaa bye, as we say it," Locsin said in another Twitter post, this time accompanied by a photo of *MV Bavaria*.

"I'm crying. I'm gonna miss it so. Never mind. Another Filipino will find a way to import another batch. Boohoo," he said.

The country's top diplomat also expressed his gratitude to Environment Secretary Roy Cimatú and Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade for working closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs in

ensuring the prompt shipment of the Canadian trash.

"Awwwwwww. I'm gonna miss it so. I forgot to mention that without Tugade's as usual forceful last minute intervention that garbage would still be on the dick...er, dock," he said.

"Thank you Cimatú for getting up so early to get last minute okay from foreign transshipment points; and DENR guys for working side by side with my guys to get this done," he said.

Locsin had ordered a news blackout of the Canadian trash's departure and promised the public updates through his personal Twitter account.

He, however, praised enterprising journalists for finding a way to take pictures of the departing cargo ship by renting bancas or small boats so they could get close to the garbage-laden vessel in Subic Bay.

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) chairman Wilma Eisma called the removal of the garbage "one proud moment for all Filipinos." SBMA had documented the

procedure for the re-shipment of the garbage. "We thank President Duterte for his decisive action that brought about a satisfactory conclusion to this sordid chapter in our history," Eisma said.

Ottawa had failed to meet the May 15 deadline set by the Duterte administration to retrieve the trash, prompting Locsin to order the recall

of Philippine Ambassador to Canada Petronilla Garcia as well as consuls.

Canada later vowed to accomplish the retrieval of trash by the end of June but the Philippine government insisted on a May 30 deadline.

Locsin had said Manila would maintain "diminished diplomatic presence" in Canada until the garbage makes

its return voyage.

Vice President Leni Robredo had warned of possible implications of the Duterte government's decision to recall its diplomats in Canada on almost a million Filipinos in the North American nation.

Based on latest data from the DFA, there are around 892,481 Filipinos in Canada.

- With Ric Sapnu



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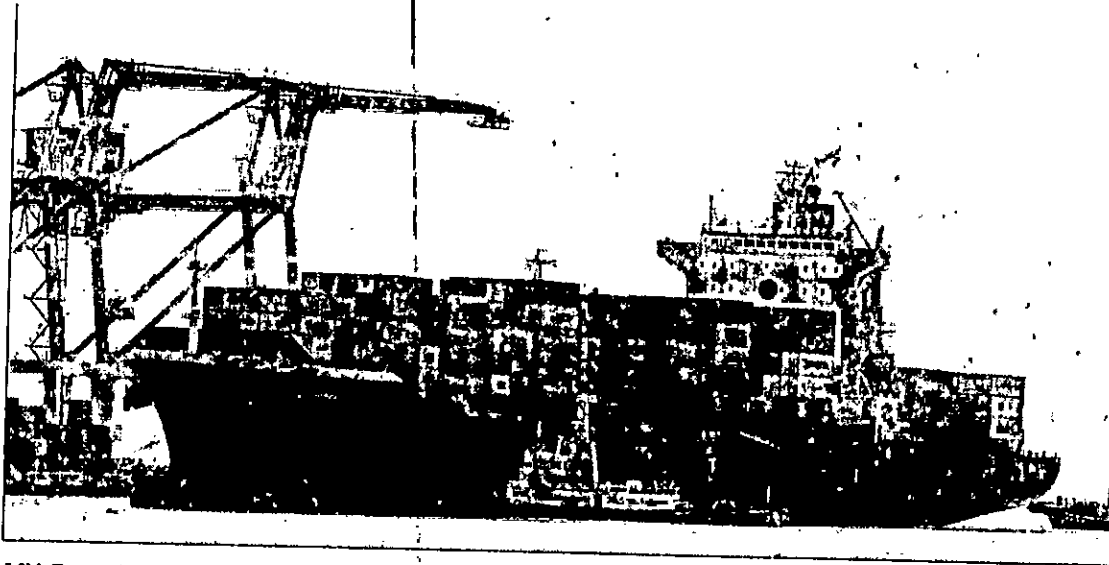


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MV Bavaria arrives at the New Container Terminal in Subic, Zambales last Thursday to bring 69 containers of trash back to Canada.

KJ ROSALES



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CARTOON

01 JUN 2015

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PH ENVOYS FLY BACK TO CANADA

By Cristina
 Lee-Pisco

As Canadian garbage makes return journey

FOREIGN Secretary Teodoro Locsin yesterday directed the Philippine diplomats to Canada to return to their respective posts.

Locsin made the order after the 69 container vans of garbage Canada exported to the Philippines were loaded on M/V Bavaria to be returned to its place of origin.

On May 16, Locsin recalled the Philippine ambassador and consuls general to Canada when Ottawa failed

to comply with the May 15 deadline to repatriate the tons of garbage it exported to Manila in 2013 and 2014.

"To our recalled posts, get your flights back. Thanks and sorry for the trouble you went through to drive home a point," Locsin tweeted.

Philippine Ambassador to Canada Petronila Garcia returned to the Philippines on May 17.

The Philippines has consulates general in Calgary, Vancouver, and Toronto.



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Phl envoy pinababalik na sa Canada

Pinababalik na ni Foreign Affairs Sec. Teddy Locsin Jr. ang mga opisyal ng embahada ng Pilipinas sa Canada na una nang ni-recall kamakailan

dahil sa basura issue. Matatandaang pinauwi si Ambassador Petronila Garcia, dahil sa kabiguan ng Ottawa na matanggal sa ating

bansa ang tone-toneladang basura, base sa deadline na ibinigay ni Pangulong Duterte.

Pero dahil nakaalis na ang barkong may dala ng 69 container vans ng Canadian waste, wala na umanong rason para sa naunang recall order. (Rudy Andal/Lordeth Bonilla)



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Tone-toneladang basura ng Canada naibalik na

NAKAALIS na kahapon sa bansa ang barkong humakot at mag-uwi ng mahigit 1,000 toneladang basura na iligal na dinala sa bansa may ilang taon na ang nakalilipas.

Mula sa New Container Terminal sa Subic, inaasahang makarating sa Vancouver ang MV Bavaria, ang barko na may dala ng tone-toneladang basura, makalipas ang 24 araw.

Ayon kay Raul Cruz, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority

deputy administrator, sinimulan nilang ilagay ang mga basura sa mga container dakong alas-9 ng gabi noong Huwebes at natapos dakong alas-3:20 ng umaga kahapon.

Sinagot ng gobyerno ng Canada ang P10 milyong gastos sa paghahakot ng basura pabalik sa kanilang bansa.

Ang hakbang ay kasunod ng banta ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte ng giyera kung mabibigo ang mga ito na bawlin ang tone-toneladang basura na

iligal na dinala sa Pilipinas nang magkakahiwalay sa pagitan ng 2013 at 2014.

Katuwang ng Pangulo sa hakbang na ito ang Département of Environment and Natural Resources, Dept. of Justice, Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Bureau of Customs, SBMA at Maersk Lines.

Magugunita na ilang opisyal sa Embahada ng Pilipinas sa Canada ang pinauwi sa bansa matapos mabigo ang Canada na sundin ang May 15 deadline para mahakot ang basura.



69 container ng basura biyaheng Canada na

MATAPOS ang anim na taon, tuluyan nang naalis sa bansa ang 69 container ng basura na tinapon sa Subic Port, Zambales mula sa Canada, Biyernes nang umaga.

"Baaaaaaaaa bye, as we say it," ayon pa sa tweet ni Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin kasama ng mga larawan ng pag-alis ng M/V Bavaria na lulan ang mga nasabing container na bibiyahe ng halos isang buwan para dalhin sa Vancouver port.

Sa isa namang pahayag, sinabi ni Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) chair Wilma Eisma ang pag-

papasalamat nito kay Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

"We thank President Rodrigo Duterte for his decisive action that brought about a satisfactory conclusion to this sorry chapter in our history," ani Eisma.

Matatandaan na higit 100 container mula sa Canada, na naglalaman ng iba't ibang basura, plastic na bote, at maging adult diaper ang binagsak sa Pilipinas sa pagitan ng 2013 at 2014.

Sa nasabing bilang, ang laman ng 26 na mga container ay binaon na sa isang landfill sa Tarlac. **(Mina Aquino)**

PIM

Pang-Masa

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

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Goodbye, basura balik Canada na



KUNG hindi pa nagbanta si Boss Digong sa gobierno ng Canada malamang namahonang todo ang Philippines my Philippines dahil sa 69 pirasong 40 - footer container na basurang itinambak nito sa vicinity ng Bureau of Customs.

The other day, naibiahe na pabalik sa Canada ang basurang kanilang itinambak sa Philippines my Philippines kaya naman naghihiyawan, nagtatalunan sa tuwa ang madlang Pinoy dahil wala ng baho at pangarib sa kalusugan dulot ng mabahong basura sa ating place.

Sabi nga, ha-bye!

Ang Philippines my Philippines ay isa sa dalawang bansa sa timog-silangan Asya na nag-protesta nang tratuhin tayo bilang dumpsites ng ilang mayayamang countries.

Napag-alaman, na ang tone-toneladang basura ay isinakay overnight sa M/V Bavaria na maglalakbay ng halos 20 araw para marating ang Canada at doon ibagsak para ibalik ang mga mabantot nilang mga basura.

Ang barkong may lamang basura ay titigil muna sa isang Taiwanese port bago pumunta sa Canada.

Ikinatuwa pala ng mga environmental activists ang pagdating ng M/V Bavaria sa Subic Bay noong Huches.

Sigaw ng nakararami, ang Philippines my Philippines ay hindi 'garbage dump' ng ibang countries kaya mag-ingat sa mga gustong magbalak ng kababuyan at kasalulaan.

Ano sa palagay ninyo?

Papayag pa ba kayong madlang Pinoy?

Abangan.



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GOOD RIDDANCE

ni ARLIE CALALO

Ban all waste imports, government urged

As the Philippines bid goodbye to the Canadian waste, local NGO groups, including Ecowaste Coalition, Greenpeace Philippines, Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives, BAN Toxics, and the global Break Free from Plastic movement, have called for the government to ratify the Basel Ban Amendment, which prohibits the import of all waste for any reason including "recycling."

The groups also urged the Philippine government to ban all waste shipments from entering the country, and to stand up for its sovereignty by telling developed countries that ours is not a garbage dump.



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Environment groups hail 'victory'

By Cory Martinez

"IT is a victory for the environment, morality and a victory for the rule of law!"

Thus declared environment-advocate groups led by RightOnCanada, EcoWaste Coalition and IPEN after 69 shipping containers of illegally dumped Canadian trash are finally now homeward bound.

Kathleen Ruff of RightOnCanada said that the Canadian government is now finally going to comply with the Basel Convention and take responsibility for its own wastes.

"This is what environmental responsibility means," Ruff stressed.

EcoWaste Coalition National Coordinator Aileen Lucero stressed that the Philippines is not the world's dumpsite.

"Never again shall we allow other countries to trash our dignity, our peo-

ple's health and the environment," Lucero added.

From 2013 to 2014, 103 containers containing more than 2,400 tons of trash from Canada arrived in the Philippines, wrongly declared as scrap plastics for recycling but actually found to contain unsorted plastics, household garbage, used adult diapers and electronic waste.

Under Basel Convention rules, Canada should have repatriated its waste within 30 days, but instead pressured the Philippine government to process the illegal shipment locally.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau noted the dumping issue in two subsequent trips to the Philippines in 2015 and 2017 but refused to commit to taking back the trash.

A 2019 legal opinion from Canada-based Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Litigation found that Canada's refusal to repatriate its

trash constituted illegal traffic, among other Basel Convention violations.

Last April 23 President Rodrigo Duterte demanded that Canada take back its illegally dumped trash. The Philippines recalled its Ambassador and consuls after Canada missed the May 15th deadline.

Joe DiGangi of IPEN, meanwhile, said that Canada should have complied with the Basel Convention and repatriated its illegal garbage exports years ago.

"It should not take a presidential threat to get Canada or any other country to comply with the Basel Convention. Going forward, both Canada and the Philippines need to learn from this frustrating experience, so that it is never repeated," DiGangi explained.

To prevent the recurrence of garbage dumping, the groups agreed that Canada and the Philippines should rapidly ratify the Basel Ban Amend-

ment which prohibits the export of hazardous wastes and other wastes from developed to developing countries for any reason, including recycling.

They added that new global rules enacted at a recent Basel Convention meeting will stop unrestricted plastic waste exports. However, strengthening Philippine law is also an important step to prevent future dumping, say the groups.

"This ordeal has taught us of the urgency of correcting outmoded regulations allowing waste imports into the country under the guise of recycling. We need to close this ghastly loophole that is facilitating illegal waste traffic and turning our country into a dumping ground for plastic, electronic and hazardous wastes, which should be recycled, treated or disposed of in the country where such wastes were generated," said Lucero.



Toughness revealed

After much grinding of teeth and some level – however minute – of war threats, the Philippines is sending back its diplomats to Canada with the easing of relations with the North American country.

**“
But the
Philippines
had proved it
is no pushover.
It would no
longer be
tough for the
other countries
to prove they
aren't either.”**

Mending the strain caused by the smuggling of Canadian garbage with intent to dump harmful wastes into our shores was long awaited by both countries.

There was no denial both sides had wanted a friendly end to the dispute started by an unscrupulous business deal between two shady ends, which vertiginously exploited the weaknesses of the laws and systems of the smaller country – the Philippines.

Had the Canadian waste not been noticed, they would have ended up in Philippine landfills where the poorest of its people scavenge for any signs of money, however dirty and potentially dangerous, and the scraps may have ended up in our homes, or in pans and utensils we use to prepare food, or even worse, in toys



and baby feeding bottles.

But President Rodrigo Duterte was firm against accepting the trash. And in using some foul words and issuing big threats of war against a mighty and rich nation, he had sent his message across the Pacific.

No, it would be wrong to say that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Pierre James Trudeau was rattled by the threat. It would not be right to say that he was rankled by Mr. Duterte's cussing. But Trudeau did what any thinking, respecting leader should in finding ways to reclaim his country's trash can.

Mr. Duterte had elided the nice, diplomatically tamed words used by his predecessor. And to a big effect.

Trudeau listened, and he listened well.

But words, even a threat of war, are nothing.

Actions were needed to make an impact.

Mr. Duterte needed to send the strongest of his messages to Mr. Trudeau, who in the past had criticized his war against drugs and the number of deaths recorded in the country in relation to it.

It would not have been without Mr. Duterte's imprimatur that Foreign Affairs Sec. Teddy Locsin ordered the recall of Filipino diplomats from Canada.

The order came as a shock to the Canadian government, which until that point was dilly-dallying on taking back the garbage. It knew then the Philippine government was serious.

Ever playful, Mr. Duterte upped the ante by again threatening to send back the Canadian garbage at the Philippines' expense.

But Mr. Trudeau had already removed the

legal obstacles that took his country long to respond. Canada is taking back its garbage.

It was all's well that ends well between the two countries. The *M/V Bavaria* sailed back to Canada via Taiwan with 69 containers of the Canadian trash.

The day before that, a small outrigger sailed near the ship with a statement that read: "Philippines: not a garbage dumping ground!"

That was a clear message heard not just by Canada but the whole world.

The Philippine action also inspired other small nations to follow the example to reject other countries' refuse.

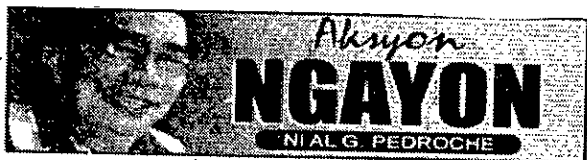
Speaking in Tokyo on Thursday, Malaysia's Prime Minister

Tun Mahathir bin Mohamad called the bigger Western countries' practice of dumping their wastes on the hapless third world nations as "grossly unfair." He said it should stop.

But the Philippines had proved it is no pushover. It would no longer be tough for the other countries to prove they aren't either.



**“
Had the
Canadian waste
not been noticed,
they would
have ended up
in Philippine
landfills where
the poorest
of its people
scavenge for any
signs of money,
however dirty
and potentially
dangerous.”**



Basura watch

DAPAT maging mapagmatyag ang Bureau of Customs sa mga pumapasok na kargamento mula sa ibang bansa para maiwasan ang pagpupuslit ng mga ilegal na epektos, hindi lamang droga kundi basura. Ngayong lumarga na ang barkong magbabalik sa Canada sa toné-toneladang basurang iniluwas sa Pilipinas, kailangang maging istrikto ang administrasyon laban sa mga nakikipagsabwatang tauhan at opisyal ng pamahalaan para mailusot ang mga ganyang uri ng smuggled stuff.

Mantakin n'yong anim na taong natengga ang mga basurang ito na naipuslit sa tulong ng mga impluwensyal na personalidad nung panahon pa ni Presidente Noynoy. Kinailangan pa ang matigas na political will hi

Presidente para ipilit ang pagpapabalik sa Canada ng mga basurang ito.

Nang walang positibong tugon ang Canada, ang Pilipinas na ang gumawa ng inisyatibo para maibiyahen ang kargamentong basura pabalik sa Canada.

Hindi nangimi si Duterte na magbitiw ng mararahas na salita laban sa Canada na magaring magbingit sa ating diplomatikong relasyon sa naturang bansa sa pagkawasak.

Peró may mga nagtatanong, bakit Canada lang? 'Di ba may iniluwas din ang mga bansang Hong Kong at Australia na kargamentong bagama't legal sa unang tingin ay hinaluan din ng basura?

Wika nga, something fishy is going on? May mga bansang wala na sigurong lugar na mapagtatapunan ng kanilang dumi ang naghahanap ng mga mauutong bansa para gawing tambakan. At sino namang matinong gobyerno ang papayag maliban na lang kung may mga bantay-salakay na puwedeng painan ng pera para palusutin ang anumang epektos na illegal.

Kay sagwang siste! Sana ay masugpo ng administrasyon ang ganyang klase ng katiwalian.



Viral na dumpsite sa Siargao target ng DENR

Nagkakasa na ng operasyon ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) upang tugunan ang sitwasyon ng basura sa Siargao, matapos mag-viral ang isang larawan sa social media.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, gumagawa na sila ng mga plano at hakbang upang matugunan ang isyu ng basura sa isla.

G a y u n p a m a n tumanggi munang ide-talye ang plano ng kaga-waran ngunit malala-man umano ito sa mga

susunod na araw.

Nag-ugat ito sa isang Instagram post ni Siargao local at surfer Rafael Nogalo na ipinakita ang problema sa basura sa isla na isinisisi sa pag-lobo ng turismo at ne-gosyo.

"While tourists sip cocktails on Siargao's picture perfect beaches, mountains of rubbish are piled in our back roads - poisoning the ground water and creating irreversible damage to our beloved island home" ani No-lago. (Mina Aquino)



IMMINENT DANGER

**MGB: LOOSENE
ARAYAT ROCKS
THREATEN 2 TOWNS**

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

—Close to 50,000 truckloads of rocks are strewn along creeks draining from Mt. Arayat and 22,000 of these might be loosened by intense rains, a Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) official warned.

Noel Lacadin, MGB chief geologist in Central Luzon gave the projection to reiterate an advisory on rockslides hitting communities in Arayat and Magalang towns in Pampanga province this rainy season.

"These rocks are ready to go down," Lacadin said in a meeting with provincial government officials on Monday.

The active channels are creeks that local folk call Maeyagas, Takwi, Madalumdum and Oliva.

The rows of sandbags placed last year to slow down the descent of water and rocks had been eroded and needed to be replaced, Lacadin said.

Takwi, on the side of Magalang town, was where a policeman died in 2013 due to rockslides.

More than 5,000 residents at Purok 6 and 7 in Barangay San Juan Baño are in direct path of harm's way and had been declared under "state of imminent danger."

During typhoons, they have been advised to move to an evacuation center built in 2014 by the Pampanga Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (PDR-RMC) behind the town hall, according to Angelina Blanco, PDR-RMC Office executive director.

The office of Rep. Aurelio Gonzales, provincial government and the National Housing Authority have built a relocation site for families displaced by Typhoon "Ondoy" in 2009. The landslides then killed 12 people.

Engineering solutions to hold back the rocks or retrieve these have not been done by the Department of Public Works and Highways, local officials said. —TONETTE OREJAS INQ.



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Angat Dam water level drops despite rains

By **RAMON EFREN LAZARO**

CITY OF MALOLOS – Despite the rains experienced in late afternoon and early evening in Bulacan over the past several days, the water level at Angat Dam continues to decline.

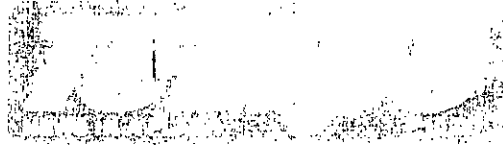
Data provided by Maricel Cruz, chief of the provincial public affairs office of Bulacan, showed that water level in the dam since last Saturday was recorded at 170.70 meters, going down to 170.49 meters on Sunday, 170.19 meters on Monday, 169.88 on Tuesday, 169.79 meters on Wednesday and 169.63 meters Thursday morning.

Last Tuesday Angat Dam water level went down to 169.88 meters or more than 10 meters below the 180 meters critical level of the dam that supplies 97 percent of potable water to Metro Manila residents.

Earlier, Sevillo David Jr., executive director of the National Water Resources Board, confirmed to **The STAR** that the water level in Angat Dam has breached its critical water level of 180 meters on April 28 this year when it hit 179.97 meters.

Mary Joy David, project development officer II of the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM), earlier said the agency started conducting cloud seeding operations since April 10 this year in an effort to bring rains in the vicinity of La Mesa Dam in Quezon City to help replenish the dwindling water level in the water reservoir that supplies the bulk of potable water to Metro Manila.

However, it is not clear if the BSWM is still continuing to conduct cloud-seeding operations as rains have been falling inside the watershed areas of Bulacan in the last several days.



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Angat Dam dips below critical level

Despite recent rains in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces, water elevation in Angat Dam in Bulacan continues to dip below the 180-meter critical mark on Friday.

In a data from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration's (PAGASA) Hydro-meteorological Division, the water level in Angat Dam on Friday was at 169.41 meters, slightly below than the 169.63 meters recorded on Thursday.

The current water level in Angat Dam is still significantly lower than the normal high water level of 212 meters and had also breached its 180 meter-low water level.

The Angat Dam, located in Norzagaray, Bulacan, is the major water source of households in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Earlier, the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) said it will reduce the domestic water allocation in Metro Manila starting June 1.

According to the NWRB, domestic water allocation will be slightly reduced to 46 cubic meters per second (cms) beginning this month from the 48 (cms) in May.

Water elevation among reservoirs supplying Metro Manila continues to decline as the weak El Niño phenomenon still persists and affects the country.

El Niño, as described by PAGASA, is a weather pattern associated with reduced rainfall resulting in dry spell and drought conditions in some provinces.

PAGASA earlier said that the weak El Niño phenomenon will continue through June to August period but may still persist until the end of the year, despite the expected start of the rainy season next month.

The state weather bureau announced that the onset of the wet season is predicted on the first half of June for areas under Type 1 climate or those areas with distinct wet and dry seasons.

With this, at least one or two

tropical cyclones may enter or make landfall over the country in June.

Currently, a frontal system or the boundary where cold and the warm air masses meet will still affect Northern Luzon.

Cloudy skies with scattered rains and thunderstorms will be felt over the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Apayao, Batanes, Cagayan including the Babuyan Group of Islands.

Same weather conditions is also expected to prevail over Eastern Visayas, Palawan and Mindoro provinces due to the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ).

While Metro Manila and the rest of the country will experience partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers caused by localized thunderstorms.

The agency warned residents to be affected by the said weather systems on possible flash floods or landslides during severe thunderstorms. **(Alexandria San Juan)**



PAGKATUYO NG ANGAT DAM PATULOY

PATULOY na bumaba ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam sa Bulaçan o sampung metro na mas mababa sa required minimum operating level na 180 meters.

Ayón sa PAGASA, ang antas ng tubig ng Angat Dam ngayon na 169.63 meters ay pinakamababa na para sa buwan ng Mayo, kumpara sa tala sa kaparehong buwan sa nakalipas na 10 taon.

Itinuturing dahilan ng weather bureau sa patuloy na pagbaba ng tubig sa dam ay ang epekto ng umliral na El Niño.

Ayón kay weather specialist Richard Orendain, and

pinakamababang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay noong July 2010 na 157.56 meters.

Dahil dito, sinuspinde na ng National Water Resources Board (NWRB) ang alokasyon para sa Irigasyon at babawasan na rin simula Hunyo ang alokasyon para sa domestic use sa Metro Manila.

Patuloy ang pagbaba ng tubig sa Angat Dam sa kabila ng halos araw-araw na nararanasang pag-ulan.

Ayón sa Bureau of Soil and Water Management (BSWM), patuloy silang nagsasagawa ng cloud seeding operations ngunit hindi pa ito nagdudulot ng magandang resulta.

DANNY GRAVADOR



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P12.3-M tilapia lost n Taal Lake fish kill

BFAR monitoring waters off 3 lakeshore towns

By Maricar Cinco
@maricarcincoINQ

SAN PEDRO CITY—At least 150 tons or P12.3 million worth of cultured tilapia turned belly-up in fish cages in Taal Lake in Batangas province due to a low level of dissolved oxygen in the water.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the local government of Laurel town in Batangas continued to closely monitor the remaining fish cages after the fish kill oc-

curred in the villages of Gulod and Buso-buso in the last two days.

As of Friday, provincial environment officer, Jose Elmer Bascos, said they had yet to dispose all of the dead fish as they needed a larger area to bury them.

Natural phenomena

Bascos said fish and other marine animals required a certain level of oxygen in the water to thrive.

While the decreasing oxygen level is considered a natu-

ral phenomenon that usually occurs this time of the year, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) has advised cage operators to immediately move the cages from the affected areas.

"But some [fish cage operators] were not able to harvest on time," Bascos told the Inquirer by telephone.

He said they were also looking at "wrong practices" such as overstocking and overfeeding that may have worsened the situation.

Growing of tilapia and "bangus" (milkfish) is a multimillion peso industry in Taal Lake.

BFAR Regional Director Wilfredo Cruz, in a May 31 advisory, said the water quality remained "poor" in the villages of Manalao, Bañaga and Bilibinwang in Agoncillo town; Leviste and Buso-busó in Laurel town; and San Isidro, Quiling and Sampaloc in Talisay town.

The BFAR also advised unaffected cage owners to begin harvesting their stocks. INQ



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SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019
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BELLY-UP At least 150 tons of tilapia in fish cages died due to low level of dissolved oxygen in Taal Lake. — PHOTO FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES BATANGAS



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150 TONELADA NG TILAPIA PATAY SA 'FISH KILL' SA TAAL LAKE

TINATAYANG nasa 150 tonelada ng tilapia ang namatay matapos tamaan ng fish kill sa Taal Lake sa Batangas.

Apektado ng fishkill ang Barangay Gulod at Buso-buso sa Laurel, Batangas.

Ayon sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), parehong natural at man-made ang dahilan ng pagkamatay ng mga isda sa fish cages sa paligid ng Taal.

Ayon kay Batangas Environment Officer Elmer Bascos, madalas na

nangyayari ito tuwing buwan ng Mayo kung saan bumabagsak ang oxygen level sa tubig dahil sa papalit-palit na panahon.

Malaking bahagi rin niya ang overstocking at overfeeding sa mga isda kaya nangamatay ang mga ito. **DWIZ882**



Dutch expert: Managing Manila Bay to cost \$1B a year

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

MANILA Bay, a region currently populated by around 30 million people from Cavite to Bataan, will require a budget of \$1 billion a year for it to be sustainably managed, a Dutch expert working with Filipino counterparts in crafting the Manila Bay Sustainable Development Master Plan said.

Manila, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has approved the dredging of garbage and silt from the bay.

Estero cleanup is also being done within the Manila Bay region, following the order of the Department of the Interior and Local Government directing barangay units to conduct cleanup operations in their respective jurisdictions.

Jaan Jap Brinkman, team leader for the Netherlands Study Team for the Manila Bay master plan, said the bay, which is projected to have one of the most populated urban centers in the world, needs to be managed. The BUSINESSMIRROR interviewed Brink-

man at the sidelines of a policy forum organized by the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) at the Philippine International Convention Center on Wednesday.

In the next 30 years, based on conservative population growth estimate, the population in areas around Manila Bay is estimated to reach 50 million, underscoring the need to sustainably manage one of the country's most economically important urban areas.

In the next three months, Brinkman said the study team from the Philippine and Dutch sides would try to reach out to various stakeholders around Manila Bay to promote the concept of program co-

A project being spearheaded by the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) in partnership with the Netherlands, the master plan aims to ensure the sustainability of the pollution-challenged Manila Bay, one of the most important bodies of water in the Philippines.

Now the subject of massive rehabilitation, Manila Bay is covered by a continuing mandamus by the Supreme Court ordering 13 government agencies to clean up, rehabilitate and preserve the bay and maintain its waters to SB level to make them fit for swimming, skin diving, and other forms of contact recreation.

Along Roxas Boulevard in

ownership in developing and implementing its action programs.

The NAST policy forum, where Brinkman was among the resource persons, aimed to discuss the current status of Manila Bay, including the geological, physical, chemical and water quality, biodiversity, fisheries and aquaculture; learn about the development and management plans for the bay, and gather science-based recommendations relating to its sustainability.

An attached agency of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the NAST is mandated by Executive Order 818, Series of 1982, to serve as an adviser to the President of the Philippines and

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Dutch expert: Managing Manila Bay to cost \$1B a year

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the Cabinet on policies concerning science and technology in the country.

According to Brinkman, Manila Bay management would entail huge investment that will take into consideration the various factors—such as water distribution, wastewater treatment, sewerage system and solid-waste management disposal.

By a conservative estimate, he said the population in the region in the next 30 years would reach 50 million people from various sectors—all of whom will demand space—with Manila Bay having multiple uses and functions.

“For the 50 million people that will be living around Manila Bay in the next 30 years, for solid-waste management, water and wastewater treatment, we are looking at an initial \$1-billion annual budget,” Brinkman said.

the master planners, he said, will have to cope with the various activities and support the ongoing action programs in planning how to implement them, including the weekly cleanup, and garbage collection and disposal.

Kevin Gilbert M. Manzano, senior economic development specialist at Neda who gave an overview of the formulation of the master plan, said the target is to come up with a final report in May 2020.

“So far, all our deliverables have been delivered,” he said, citing the Strategic Plan component to come up with an Inception Report including Work and Financial Plan.

By March 2020, the study teams are expected to come up with an Action Plan and Investment Report that will be the basis for the development of the Updated Final Master Plan by May 2020.

By July 2020, the Final Action

This is a far cry from what the Duterte administration has initially allocated—P47 billion for a seven-year rehabilitation program.

Such a huge amount of money, he said, should be considered as a long-term investment to ensure the sustainability of Manila Bay.

He said master planners will come up with a zoning plan that will ensure inclusive growth vis à vis the multiple uses and purposes of the Manila Bay area—including ship navigation, seaports operation, fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.

Brinkman, who works for Deltares, an independent institute for applied research in the field of water and subsurface, said the study team is expected to complete the first draft of the master plan by October this year.

“Then we will have another year for reality check if the plan is good,” he said.

According to Brinkman, cli-

Plan and Investment Report will be submitted to the Office of the President.

Manila Bay area covers eight provinces and 178 local government units in three regions of the country, namely: National Capital Region (NCR), Central Luzon and Calabarzon.

Of the eight provinces, four are coastal (Bataan, Bulacan, Cavite and Pampanga); and four are non-coastal (Laguna, Nueva Ecija, Rizal and Tarlac). Its drainage area covers 1,994 km², or 199,400 hectares. Its coastline measures some 190 kilometers.

On January 27, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu led the launching of “Battle for Manila Bay,” an ambitious program to rehabilitate Manila Bay and restore the water to its pristine state. The target is to make the water quality in Manila Bay “swimmable” and fit for recreation.

During the NAST forum, Ja-

mate-change effects like sea-level rise, storm surges, flooding, even earthquake and external factors like economic crisis, will have to be taken into account in crafting the Manila Bay master plan.

The crafting of the master plan has a broad stakeholders’ participation and is being done in consultation with various national government agencies—such as the DENR, Philippine Reclamation Authority, Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) and Laguna Lake Development Authority.

Brinkman, who discussed the salient features of the master plan at the NAST forum, underscored the need to bring in various stakeholders in the crafting of a sustainable management plan, rather than simply coming up with a development plan, considering the many challenges that need to be addressed.

Since the government had already started the rehabilitation,

cob F. Meimban Jr., deputy executive director of the Manila Bay Coordinating Office of the DENR, discussed the environmental management in Manila Bay, while Eligio P. Fortajada, acting manager of the Project Management Office, NCR South of the PPA, discussed the port’s development plan in Manila Bay.

Atty. Joseph John M. Literal, assistant general manager for Reclamation and Regulation of the Philippine Reclamation Authority, briefed the participants on the pending land-reclamation project applications in Manila Bay.

Academician Cesar L. Villanoy, member of the Mathematics and Physical Sciences Division of the NAST, tackled Physical Oceanography of Manila Bay, while Dr. Gil S. Jacinto, a professor at the Marine Science Institute of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, discussed the Chemical Oceanography of Manila Bay.



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DU30 TO CHINA: WHY CLAIM ENTIRE SEA?

STORY BY JULIE M. AURELIO

The President says Manila remains Beijing's friend but for the first time questions publicly whether the Asian powerhouse has the right to call the whole South China Sea its own.

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FEELING PLAYFUL BEFORE TURNING SERIOUS President Duterte banters with the Filipino community in Tokyo during his four-day working visit to Japan this week. But the President turned serious in a later speech at the 25th International Conference on the Future of Asia, confronting China's extensive claims over the South China Sea and publicly denouncing Beijing's aggressive stance in the region. —MALACAÑANG PHOTO



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DUBO TO CHINA: WHY CLAIM ENTIRE SEA

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By Julie M. Aurelio
@JMAurelioINQ

TOKYO—President Duterte on Friday said he loved China as an ally but questioned the claim by the Asian economic powerhouse over the whole South China Sea.

It was the first time that Mr. Duterte directly confronted China publicly on whether it had the right to claim the strategic waterway.

The President made the remarks in a speech at the 25th International Conference on the Future of Asia in Tokyo organized by Nikkei Inc.

"I love China," he said. "it has helped us a bit. But it behooves upon us to ask: Is it right for a country to claim the whole ocean?"

Aggressive actions

Philippine defense and military officials have been wary of China's aggressive actions in the South China Sea, particularly its expansion and militarization of the strategic waterway despite protests from other claimant nations.

China has built artificial islands on seven reefs claimed by the Philippines, turning them into virtual military outposts

with runways for jet fighters, soldiers' barracks and missile emplacements.

The President noted that the South China Sea was "at stress" but he assured China that the Philippines remained its friend.

He warned, however, that as long as the conflicting territorial and maritime claims remain unresolved between China and other countries over the waterway there would always be "a flashpoint for trouble."

China and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), which includes the Philippines, have been for years trying to craft a code of conduct in the South China Sea to prevent the overlapping maritime and territorial claims from escalating into violence.

Absence of code

China claims sovereignty over nearly the entire South China Sea, putting it in conflict with the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei.

"Not only that, because of the absence of the [code of conduct], France, Britain, America are testing the waters," Mr. Duterte added, jesting that it wasn't to check the water temperature.

"My God, it is really testing who can fire the first shot. And I am sad and bewildered, not angry, because I cannot do anything," he said.

Digressing, Mr. Duterte said "somebody should reach out to the United States because if you leave it to them to talk nothing will happen," he said, referring to the trade war between the two countries and US naval freedom of navigation operations in the South China.

"There is so much animosity covered by sweet talking about

how they desire to have an agreement. But nobody is pushing, and the intrusions [in the South China Sea], as far as China is concerned, [is that] it's in their waters," Mr. Duterte said.

The President highlighted his role as the moderator in the dialogue between China and Asean in the formulation of the code of conduct in the disputed waters.

"The last thing I heard was the [code of conduct] is just about two years away," he said.

Mr. Duterte added that if given a chance to visit Beijing, he would talk to Chinese President Xi Jinping about the territorial dispute.

In his speech, the President also slammed the "lousy politicians in my country" who would

like him, he said, to push the arbitral ruling "because we won."

He was referring to the 2016 ruling by the international arbitral tribunal nullifying China's expansive claims over the South China Sea.

That case filed against China by the Philippines under former President Benigno Aquino III frayed ties between the two countries. When Mr. Duterte took office, he set aside the ruling in exchange for warmer relations with Beijing and Chinese aid and investments.

Can't afford a war

"My country is very small. It has progressed a little over the years, I do not know why. But I cannot afford a war with anybody. Not only with China. And the moment I send out my Marines beyond 6 kilometers, they will be—they will all be wiped out in one or two military strikes," he said.

Mr. Duterte said the Philippines was "deeply concerned about the ongoing trade war between the US and China."

"It is creating uncertainty and tension. It is causing downward stressors on the global economy. It is becoming a protracted war on the global and trade investments everywhere," the President warned.

He called for a resolution of the trade dispute as soon as possible. INQ



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Duterte asks China: Is it right for a country to claim a whole sea?

By ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS

TOKYO, Japan – President Duterte expressed the need to speedily craft a sea code in the South China Sea, asking China if it is right for the Asian superpower to claim the entire sea. ▶ 9

FUTURE OF ASIA – President Rodrigo Duterte delivers a speech at a special session of the International Conference on 'The Future of Asia' Friday, May 31, in Tokyo. (AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

Duterte asks...

Duterte made the statement in his speech at Nikkei's 25th International Conference on the Future of Asia here Friday afternoon. In his speech, Duterte, who also heads the ASEAN-China Summit, noted that there is tension in the disputed waters because there is no code to follow.

"There is so much animosity covered by sweet talking about how they desire to have an agreement. But nobody is pushing and the intrusions, as far as China is concerned it's in their waters," he said.

"I love China, it has helped us a bit. But it behooves upon us to ask: Is it right for a country to claim the whole ocean? Only just leave the high seas as it was during the old days of international law," he added.

He also said that while the South China Sea is at stress, the sea code in the disputed waters will not be finished for another two years.

"China Sea is at stress. We are friends with China. I am the moderator country for China and the ASEAN. And the last thing I heard was the conduct of the sea is just about two years away," he said.

He said that he will try to talk to Chi-

nese President Xi Jinping about the issue because there will only be trouble the longer the sea code is crafted.

"I would not want to impose my own – it would be my last word, but if I get to get a chance to visit Beijing again, I'll try to talk to President Xi Jinping," Duterte said.

"And the longer it takes for the issue to be there, it is always a flashpoint for trouble. Not only that because of the absence of the conduct of the sea, France, Britain, America are testing the waters," he added.

"I am sad and bewildered not angry because I cannot do anything. But I just hope that China would come up with conduct of the sea soon and somebody should reach out to the United States. Because if you leave it to them to talk, nothing will happen," he continued.

Duterte opted to set aside the arbitral ruling for now in order to build better relations with China.

In his visit to Japan in 2017, both Duterte and Prime Minister Abe Shinzo expressed the need for a peaceful resolution in the disputed waters.



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Duterte to China: 'Is it right to claim the whole ocean?'

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte has again criticized China over its territorial ambitions in the South China Sea (West Philippine Sea) even as he called for a code of conduct to reduce tensions in the area.

"I love China, it has helped us a bit. But it behooves upon us to ask: Is it right for a country to claim the whole ocean?" he said in a speech at the Nikkei's 25th International Conference on the Future of Asia on Friday in Tokyo.

Stressing the need for a code, he added, "This is not a testing of waters ... it is really testing who can fire the first shot. And I am sad and bewildered ... because I cannot do anything."

He also warned against US meddling in the dispute, saying, "[S]omebody should

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Duterte

reach out to the United States, because if you leave it to them to talk nothing will happen."

Duterte, who has courted Beijing's favor by setting aside an international tribunal's ruling that rejected China's South China Sea claims, recently warned of "suicide attacks" following reports that Chinese vessels were massing off Philippine-held Pag-asa Island.

The President, however, has not dropped his criticism of the US, telling Filipinos in Japan a day earlier that the Philippines would be fine without American support.

"So, as long as we will not be left by Japan, Korea and China, we will be okay," he told representatives of the Filipino community.

He asked Filipinos in Japan to continue toiling, as the country was good to the Philippines and its migrant workers.

"Sweat [it] out because they are kind to us and they provide us with so many things, free," Duterte said.

"Japan is a good country ... and our workers here are not offended. You are really treated here as a human being," he added.

Duterte dismissed the US for being too "bossy" and failing to live up to promises.

"You do not have a word of honor. The country with the most word of honor, Japan," he said.



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Duterte: Mahal ko China pero wala silang 'K' angkinin buong dagat

Kinuwestiyon ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte kung bakit inaangkin ng China ang buong South China Sea.

Ipinahayag ito ng Pangulo sa kanyang talumpati sa Nikkie International Forum on the Future of Asia na ginahap sa Japan nitong Biyerhes.

"I love China, it has helped us a bit but it behooves upon us to ask, is it right for a country to claim the whole ocean?" sabi ng Pangulo.

Nilinaw ni Pangulong Duterte na hindi naman

siya nagagalit pero umaangkin sa umano siya na pangunahan ng China ang pagbuo ng Code of Conduct (COC) sa pagitan ng mga bansang may inaangkin na teritoryo sa South China Sea.

Maaari aniyang makumbinsi ang China para tapusin na ang COC kung magkakaroon ng high-level talks tungkol dito.

Ipinunto ng Pangulo na maaaring kumuha ng third party mediator sa pag-uusap para makabuo ng COC sa South China Sea. (PNA)



100 tarantula, moose at stingray, nasabat sa NAIA

Ni ARIEL FERNANDEZ

Nasabat ng Bureau of Customs (BoC) ang iba't ibang illegal shipments ng wildlife trade products, na idineklarang registered mail at laruan, sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA), iniulat kahapon.

Ang shipment, na naglalaman ng balat ng stingray, ulo ng moose, prineserbang fox, at 100 tarantula, ay dinala sa Wildlife Trafficking Management Unit (WTMU-DENR), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), at Bureau Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

Ayon kay Customs district collector Carmelita Talusan, ang shipment ng illegal wildlife gaya ng balat ng stingray mula Jakarta, Indonesia ay nadiskubre sa package ay nakapangalan sa isang taga-Talisay, Cebu City, habang ang ulo ng moose at prineserbang fox mula Norway at France na nakapangalan sa mga taga-Cavite at Quezon City, ayon sa pagkakasunod.

Ang isa pang shipment na 100 tarantula, nakapaloob sa plastic containers, ay mula sa Poland at Malaysia ay nakapangalan sa mga

taga-Sto Tomas, Batangas, Naga City, at Cebu.

Ayon kay Talusan, ang shipment ay nadiskubre sa Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC), sa pamumuno ni Customs collector Nora Cawili.

Sinabi niya na ang mga lumabag sa illegal wildlife trading ay makukulong ng isa hanggang dalawang taon at multang P20,000 hanggang P200,000, base sa RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protective Act in relation to RA 10863 (Customs Modernization and Tariff Act).



BISTADO Ipinakita ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BoC) ang mga nasamsam na illegal shipments ng wildlife trade products sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA). **ARIEL FERNANDEZ**



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BOC intercepts illegal wildlife shipments

STINGRAY skins, a moose head, preserved fox and some 100 big spiders were intercepted by the Bureau of Customs at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

NALA-Customs district collector Mimel Talusan said the shipment of stingray skins from Jakarta, Indonesia, was found in a package consigned to a resident of Talisay, Cebu City, while the moose head and preserved fox shipped from Norway and France were consigned to a resident of Cavite and Quezon City, respectively.

Another shipment of 100 spiders in plastic containers from Poland and Malaysia was consigned to three residents of Sto. Tomas, Batangas, Naga, and Cebu cities.

Talusan said the illegal shipments of wildlife were declared as registered mail and toys and were discovered at the Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC) headed by customs collector Nora Cawili.

According to her, violators of illegal wildlife trading face imprisonment of one year to two years and a fine of up to P200,000 based on R.A. 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protective Act in relation to R.A. 10863 Customs Modernization and Tariff Act).

Itchie Cabayan



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6 na kahon ng wildlife, nasabat

Nasabat ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) sa Central Mail Exchange Center (CMEC), Pasay City, ilang metro ang layo sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 2, ang anim na paketeng illegal na inangkat na wildlife at agad na inilipat sa pangangalaga ng Wildlife Trafficking Management Unit (WTMU-DENR), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) at Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), kamakalawa.

Sinabi ni NAIA Customs District Collector Mimel Talusan, na dalawang kahon dito ang may laman na 100 pirasong buhay at makamandag na Tarantulas na maaaring ang buhok o balahibo nito ay maging sanhi ng pinsala at pagkabalag ng tao.

Ang Tarantulas ay natagpuan sa loob ng transparent plastic container galing sa Poland at Malaysia at idineklarang mails and toys ng consignee nito para mailusot sa CMEC.

Ayon kay Talusan, nadiskubre rin nila na may 71 piraso ng stingray skin na nakita sa isa pang pakete galing Jakarta, Bukod dito, isang camel hide, stuffed moose head at fox ay galing naman sa United Arab of Emirates, Norway at France.

Ang mga ito umano ay maaaring magdala ng exotic disease at magbanta nang panganib sa kalusugan sa kawalan ng mga Quarantine certificates at import permits.

Ang lumabag sa Illegal Wildlife Trade ay maaaring maharap sa pagkabilanggo ng isang (1) taon at isang (1) araw hanggang dalawang (2) taon at multang P 20,000 hanggang P200,000 batay sa RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act) na may kaugnayan sa RA 10863 (Customs Modernization at Tariff Act). (Butch Quejada).



'BORACAY OF MINDANAO'

700 SECURITY MEN DEPLOYED FOR 'SARBAY' BEACH PARTY

By Bong S. Sarmiento
@inqmindanao

GLAN, SARANGANI—Over 700 security personnel have been deployed to protect thousands of merrymakers attending the Sarangani Bay (SarBay) festival here, which is touted as the “country’s biggest beach party,” officials said on Friday.

Organizers were expecting more than 150,000 revelers to flock to Barangay Gumasa’s white sand beaches, called the “Boracay of Mindanao,” for this year’s SarBay fest themed “Neon Summer.”

The festival opened on Thursday but most tourists were expected to troop beginning Friday afternoon and Saturday, and stay overnight.

Gov. Steve Solon said the security contingent deployed this time was larger than the 500 personnel dispatched last year.

“We want to ensure the event is smooth and orderly and to show to the whole Philippines that in Mindanao we can celebrate securely and properly in different conditions,” he said in a statement.

This year is the 12th edition of the SarBay fest, which started in 2006 under former Gov. Miguel René Dominguez. In

2017, the provincial government canceled the festival after martial law was declared in Mindanao due to the Marawi siege.

Solon said that 10 bomb- and drug-sniffing dogs were used to help secure the event this year.

Orderly celebration

Police Lt. Col. Jose Teody Condesa, Sarangani police spokesperson, said they strengthened the festival’s security this year to ensure a peaceful and orderly celebration.

Solon said the Armed Forces of the Philippines deployed two vessels to augment the Philippine Coast Guard in securing the waters against intruding or unregistered ships during the festival.

Top rock bands and deejays were tapped to entertain the party crowd, which was expected to peak on Saturday, the last day of the festival.

Sporting events lined up for the festival include the 15-km Swim Across the Bay relay, SarBay Strongman (weight lifting), beach volleyball and football, skim boarding, frisbee and jet ski race.

Organizers noted that Glan has become the tourism capital of Sarangani, thanks to the white sand beaches in Gumasa. INQ



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THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
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LOFTY PERCH - A hawk eagle is coaxed by passers-by to partake of some meat as it has seemingly found a comfortable perch in one of the tall trees located beside the Police Regional Office at Camp Sergio Osmena in Cebu City. (Juan Carlo de Vela)



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DND MAY P1.5-M UNLIQUIDATED FUND

CAMP AGUINALDO – ANG kakulangan ng personal data ng mga benepisyaryo para sa kanilang financial assistance ang itinurong dahilan ng Department of National Defense (DND) kaya naitala ang unliquidated funds.

Sa official Statement ng DND, inamin nilang mayroon pang P1,545,000 na unliquidated funds ang DND.

Ito ay para sana sa mga tauhan ng DND at mga bureau nito na

naapektuhan ng Bagyong Yolanda at magnitude 7.2 na lindol noong 2013.

Problema ngayon ng DND kulang ang personal data ng mga beneficiaries na ito kaya hindi agad maibigay ang financial assistance.

Nakikipag-ugnayan na ngayon ang Human Resource Office ng DND sa COA para sa tamang proseso.

Sa report ng Commission on Audit (COA), mayroong P19.812 million na unliquidated fund ang

DND para sa taong 2018.

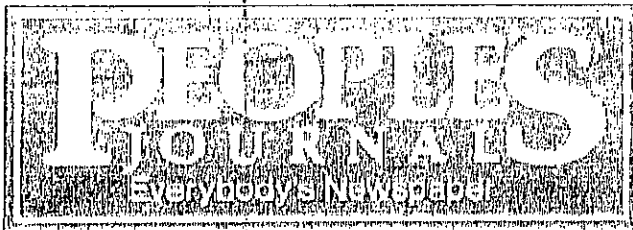
Subalit, ayon sa DND PHP12.9 million sa PHP19.812 million na ito ay mula sa DENR na ipinagawa ng mga bamboo plantation sa Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation Area habang ang iba naman ay ginastos sa iba pang proyekto ng DND.

Tiniyak ng DND sa publiko na nagagastos sa tamang proyekto at benepisyaryo ang mga pondong inilalaan ng gobyerno sa kanilang ahensiya.

REA SARMIENTO



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MMDA hit over Metro garbage problem

LAWMAKERS castigated yesterday the officials of Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) following their failure to solve the garbage problem in Metro Manila despite huge resources.

Quezon City Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo, who chairs the House Committee on Metro Manila Development, questioned the MMDA's failure to implement Republic Act (RA) No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

During the Castelo panel hearing, MMDA Planning and Design Division Engineer Emilio Llavor said

there are 56,052.37 cubic meters garbage per day in 2018 in Metro Manila that require P1.77 billion to be disposed to the sanitary landfill.

"If the money is spent solely for the entire collection of the garbage, it is expected that Metro Manila will be cleansed and absent from any form of thrash," said Castelo.

Negros Oriental Rep. Arnie "Arnulfo" Teves hit Llavor and MMDA legal office chief Crisanto Saruca for failing to answer about his concern on yellow lane violators.

Ryan Ponce Pacpaco



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World Environment Day

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Can we beat air pollution?

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WITH these data from United Nations (UN) Environment — 92 percent of people worldwide do not breathe clean air; air pollution costs the global economy \$5 trillion every year in welfare costs; and ground-level ozone pollution is expected to reduce staple crop yields by 26 percent by 2030 —there is no doubt that our problem on air pollution has never been this pronounced. As one of the pressing environmental concerns, it is just right that this year's theme of the World Environment Day focuses on how we can "Beat Air Pollution."

The World Environment Day is the day designated by UN to encourage worldwide awareness, and for each one of us to do something to take care of our environment. For the past 45 years, it is the day for call to action that has been celebrated in over 100 countries, including the Philippines.

Air pollution can be defined as the presence of harmful chemicals in the air we breathe — chemicals that can hamper one's good health — products of myriad anthropogenic activities (Rafael Ambag, June 2018). While the pollution we breathe is dependent on many factors, none of us is safe from air pollution. According to the UN Environment, air pollution is caused by five human activities. These human activities produce a range of substances such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, nitrogen oxide, ground-level ozone, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, hydrocarbons and lead — all of which are considered harmful to human health.

Our health is strongly influenced by the air we breathe. According to the *State of Global Air 2019*, a special report on global exposure to air pollution, "poor air quality causes



ALL ABOUT CHOICES

LUDWIG O. FEDERIGAN

people to die younger as a result of cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, and also exacerbates chronic diseases such as asthma, causing people to miss school or work and eroding quality of life."

The *State of Global Air 2019* further states: "Air pollution is the fifth leading risk factor for mortality. It is responsible for more deaths than many better-known risk factors such as malnutrition, alcohol use, and physical inactivity. Each year, more people die from air pollution-related disease than from road traffic injuries or malaria."

What causes air pollution?

Agriculture

There are two major sources of air pollution from agriculture: livestock, which produces methane and ammonia, and the burning of agricultural waste (UN Environment, 2019). Methane, considered as one of the short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), has a lifetime of 12 years in the atmosphere and is also a more potent global warming gas than carbon dioxide — its impact is 34 times greater over a 100-year period.

Three control measures to address air pollution in the agriculture sector are: banning open-field burning of agricultural waste; intermittent aerating of continuously padded rice paddies; and improving manure management and animal feed.

This is according to the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), a voluntary partnership of more than 120 governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society organizations committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants.

On our part, as an individual, we can contribute in the reduction of air pollution by moving to a plant-based diet and reducing our food waste.

Waste

Open waste burning and organic waste in landfills release harmful dioxins, furans, methane and black carbon into the atmosphere. Globally, an estimated 40 percent of waste is openly burned. The problem is most severe in urbanizing regions and developing countries. Open burning of agricultural and municipal waste is practiced in 166 out of 193 countries (UN Environment, 2019).

Improving the collection, separation and disposal of solid waste reduces the amount of waste that is burned or landfilled. Separating organic waste and turning it into compost or bioenergy improves soil fertility and provides an alternative energy source. Reducing the estimated one-third of all food that is lost or wasted can also improve air quality.

Industry

Energy production is a leading source of air pollution. Coal-burning power plants are a major contributor, while diesel generators are a growing concern in off-grid areas. Industrial processes and solvent use, in the chemical and mining industries, also pollute

the air (UN Environment, 2019).

One of the most notable achievements of the government last month is the signing of a law "institutionalizing energy efficiency and conservation, enhancing the efficient use of energy, and granting incentives to energy efficiency and conservation projects in the country."

Republic Act 11285, or the "Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act," recognizes the need "to institutionalize energy efficiency and conservation as a national way of life geared towards the efficient and judicious utilization of energy by formulating, developing, and implementing energy efficiency and conservation plans and programs." It would "secure sufficiency and stability of energy supply in the country to cushion the impact of high prices of imported fuels to local markets and protect the environment in support of the economic and social development goals of the country."

Transport

The global transport sector accounts for almost one-quarter of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions and this proportion is rising. Transport emissions have been linked to nearly 400,000 premature deaths. Almost half of all deaths by air pollution from transport are caused by diesel emissions, while those living closest to major traffic arteries are up to 12 percent more likely to be diagnosed with dementia (UN Environment, 2019).

In the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2018, a joint project of Yale University's Center for Environmental Law and Policy and Columbia University's Earth Institute, while the Philippines ranked 43rd out of 180



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countries, it ranked 111th in terms of air quality.

A key finding in its "Summary for Policymakers" states "air quality remains the leading environmental threat to public health." In 2016, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation estimated that diseases related to airborne pollutants contributed to two-thirds of all life-years lost to environmentally-related deaths and disabilities.

"The effects of pollution are evident and undeniable, and this is particularly observable in Metro Manila, due in no small part to the sheer volume of vehicular smoke that practically envelops it," said Rafael Ambag in his article "How Bad Is Air Pollution In The Philippines?" On top of that, Ambag wrote that our country continues to depend on energy harnessed from coal power plants, a fact bemoaned by environmentalists due to the known impact of coal-fired power plants on air pollution levels.

We face a real problem in this dire situation, as we have no choice but to breathe in, regardless of the quality of the air where we reside, pollutants that negatively affect the quality of our lives and reduce the time we can spend on this beautiful, albeit polluted, planet.

An important intervention to improve air quality is reducing vehicle emissions. According to the UN Environment, policies and standards that require the use of cleaner fuels and advanced vehicle emissions standards could reduce vehicle emissions by 90 percent or more.

Household

The main source of household air pollution is the indoor burning of solid

fuels such as coal, wood, charcoal, dung and other forms of biomass, like crop waste to cook food, and to heat and light homes. This practice generates high concentration of pollutants in and around the home. In 2017, 3.6 billion people were exposed to household air pollution from the use of solid fuels for cooking.

"Globally, the number of people cooking with solid fuels has declined. However, disparities persist, and population in less-developed countries continue to suffer the highest exposure to household air pollution," the *State of Global Air 2019* states.

The Philippines is ranked ninth in terms of number of people, and the percentage of population exposed to household air pollution covering 13 countries with populations over 50 million, in which more than 10 percent of the population uses solid fuels for cooking.

A shift towards cleaner household fuels is necessary. These may include banning the use of coal for household cooking and heating, and shifting to liquefied petroleum gas instead of biomass fuels.

But not all air pollution comes from human activity — volcanic eruptions, dust storms and other natural processes also cause problems.

I will deliver a presentation on "Engaging Communities on Climate Action" during the Island-Wide Conference on Sustainable Development Goals' Education and Advocacy (Luzon Leg) on June 1 in Lipa City, Batangas. On June 2, I will deliver the keynote address on youth volunteerism and climate action during Mismo: Youth Volunteers Summit 2019 in Tigbauan, Iloilo.



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MINIMAL IMPACT

NO THREAT TO INFLATION SEEN FROM PROLONGED EL NIÑO

The El Niño phenomenon may linger in the country longer than expected, but the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said this would not have an effect on inflation and put "negligible" pressure in the price of rice.

Bruce Tolentino, a member of the policymaking Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, said that even when a much longer drought would persist until 2020 as forecast by the state weather bureau, the affected areas were "not significant for rice," adding that

"rains have already come for Central Luzon and Cagayan Valley" where the bulk of the country's rice production came from.

This means the impact of the El Niño especially in food production would not be drastic and any effects it would have on rice would be minimal.

The latest climate outlook from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said there was a 70-percent chance that dry and warm conditions would

continue until the end of 2019 and persist until 2020 "but with high uncertainty."

It expected 63 provinces to be hit by El Niño in varying degrees.

During the onset of El Niño, the agriculture sector incurred P7.96 billion in damages and losses—the majority of which were on rice and corn—but Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol said the figures represented only 1 and 4 percent of the country's total rice and corn production, respectively.

So far, the effects of the climate pattern were not manifested in the country's inflation rate during the first quarter, which averaged 3.8 percent.

Tolentino, also a former director of the International Rice Research Institute, said prices of rice in the market should continue to moderate especially with the deregulation of rice trade.

The crucial next item to monitor, he noted, would be the movement of international rice prices and any international supply and price shocks in countries where

NO THREAT

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the Philippines would source its imported rice, including Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan and Myanmar.

Economic managers said the influx of cheap imported

rice should bring down the inflation rate by as much as 0.6 percentage point and provide fresh revenue to the national government in the form of import duties. —KARL R. OCAMPO INQ 41

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TRAFFIC, GARBAGE, CRIMES

BAGUIO MAYOR-ELECT CONFRONTS OLD WOES

By Kimberlie Quitasol
@kimberliequitasolINQ



Retired police general Benjamin Magalong spearheaded the fact-finding team that implicated Malacañang and police officials in the botched 2015 Mamasapano operation that killed 44 Special Action Force troopers.

In the May 13 midterm elections, the former chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group defeated eight mayoral candidates, including incumbent Vice Mayor Edison Bilog and Councilor Edgar Avila.

Magalong, 58, is a member of the Philippine Military Academy "Sandigan" Class of 1982. He served the Philippine National Police on various capacities for 38 years and retired as its deputy chief for operations in 2016.

After retirement, he became the senior vice president for operations of Steel Asia, the country's largest steel manufacturer.

Baguio boy

Born and raised in Baguio, Magalong said the problems of traffic, garbage and pollution, among other things, stemmed from the failure of the local government to implement the master development plan of the city.

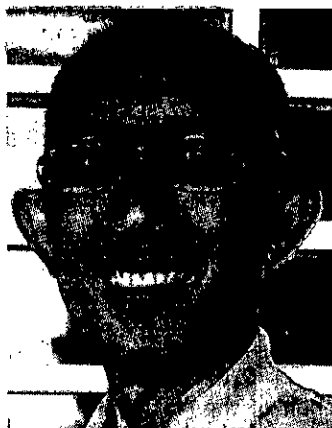
He said the city needed to come up with a strategic plan with short-term and long-term solutions to address these problems.

"We have already gone past our carrying capacity," Magalong said, adding that the city government cannot do it alone and must engage and work with residents.

Lack of space

Magalong said there were 57,000 registered private and public vehicles in the city as of 2018 but the present road system cannot accommodate this volume.

He said he has tapped the Metropolitan Manila Devel-



Benjamin Magalong

opment Authority to help him gather data and analyze the present situation and provide immediate adjustments to the traffic flow.

He said there was also a need to build parking buildings and centralized terminals for public utility vehicles.

Recognizing that there is a lack of open space in the city, he said the roads must be widened. "We need to secure road right of way but that will take time," he said.

Waste disposal

Magalong said the city government spent around P100 million for waste disposal last year. "If we can put up a waste management system at zero cost to the city government, we can save around P100 million that can be used for social services," he said.

According to him, he is also considering building an engineered sanitary landfill and waste-to-energy projects or a biomass plant.

"It will be a challenge but we will need to get the approval of the community," he said.

Sewerage system

The incoming mayor said there was a need to rehabilitate the sewerage system of the city, and build a treatment facility.

"We are looking at the modular type of treatment facilities due to lack of space... The reha-

bilitation of sewer lines will need capitalization, we need to get help from the national government, private groups and foreign entities that provide grants for rehabilitation of the environment," he said.

Crimes and calamities

Magalong said crimes were the biggest threat to the city. He plans to acquire a technology that will consolidate and improve existing anticrime systems and integrate it with emergency response.

He said it would be an integrated command center for traffic, disaster and emergency response. "You have a command center where all [closed-circuit television cameras] are connected for monitoring," he said.

He said there was also a mobile phone application that can quickly report and respond to crimes and calamities. The technology is worth around P170 million and President Duterte has already committed to fund an emergency response system, he said.

Overpopulation

"It is about time to implement the BLISTT (Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba-Tublay) as the only way to depopulate the city," he said.

He said the BLISTT would also benefit the other towns as it would spur their development.

"BLISTT cannot be enforced, it needs social acceptability," he said, adding that these areas' development should become a shared enterprise.

Governance

"We need to develop a strong management team composed of competent leaders and workers who must perform their mandate to meet targets," Magalong said.

He said he would introduce a "kind of leadership that inspires."

"If people are inspired, they innovate. They go the extra mile," he said. INQ