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DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



Cimatu: Magkaisa vs problema sa kalikasan

PARA bigyan solusyon ang problema sa kalikasan, nana-wagan si Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu ng pagkai-sa para matulungan ang pamahalaan sa pangangala-ga sa kalikasan.

Sa kanyang talumpati sa pagbubukas ng 3rd Philippine Environment Summit na gin- nap sa Cagayan de Oro City kamakalawa, sinabi ni Cimatu na napapanahon na upang mag- kaisa ang sambayanang Filipi- no dahil na rin sa ginagawang pagtutok ng Duterte administra-

tion sa pagpapatupad ng envi- ronmental laws.

Batay sa keynote address ni Cimatu na binasa ni DENR Undersecretary Juan Miguel Cuna, binanggit nito ang rehabi- litasyon ng Boracay kung saan anim na buwan itong isinara sa publiko noong 2018 dahil na rin sa polusyon at "overdevelop- ment". Bagama't marami ang kumontra sa pagpapasara dahil na rin sa kanilang pansanling interes ay itinuloy pa rin ito ng kalihim.

Ayon kay Cimatu, kung

hindi pansamantalang isinara ang Boracay para sa rehabi- litasyon, malamang na hang- gang ngayon ay mananatili itong marumi hanggang sa tu- luyan itong magsara dahil na rin sa walang patumanggang pagdumi ng tao sa kapaligi- ran.

Kinondena rin ng DENR chief ang mga kumontra sa pagpapatupad ng environmen- tal laws at nagmamaliit sa gobyerno sa ginagawang re- habilitasyon sa mga nasirang kapaligiran. **SANTI CELARIO**

IN GOV'T OFFICES

Single-use plastic banned

BY JED MACAPAGAL

THE National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), chaired by secretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), has approved a resolution imposing a ban on single-use plastics in all government offices all over the country.

Under NSWMC's Resolution No. 1363, Series of 2020, the DENR is directed to "prepare and implement" the ban on the use of "unnecessary" single-use plastic products by national government agencies, local government units (LGUs) and all other government-controlled offices.

Plastic products covered by the ban are cups less than 0.2

millimeter in thickness, drinking straws, coffee stirrers, spoons, forks, knives, thin and translucent plastic bags as well as thin-filmed sando bags lower than 15 microns.

Cimatu said the DENR will come up with specific guidelines for the implementation of the plastics ban, which forms part of the government's solid waste avoidance and minimization strategy.

"The NSWMC resolution is a major step to curb the use of single-use plastic items that pollute our waterways, kill marine life and contribute to our country's increasing solid waste," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Benny Antiporda, DENR undersecretary for solid waste management and LGU

concerns, defended the NSWMC for initially including only eight single-use plastic items in the ban.

"It was the decision of the NSWMC to come up with a balanced judgment on the use of single-use plastics by taking into consideration that we can only ban those that have available alternatives," he explained.

Antiporda cited Section 29 of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, which provides that "non-environmentally acceptable products shall not be prohibited unless the NSWMC first finds that there are alternatives which are available to consumers at no more than 10 percent greater cost than the disposable product."

NSWMC is an inter-agency body under the Office of the

President mandated to oversee the implementation of solid waste management plans and prescribe policies to achieve the law's objectives.

Aside from the DENR, other members of the body include the Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Trade and Industry, League of Cities of the Philippines, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Philippine Information Agency, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, and representatives from the recycling and manufacturing and packaging sectors.



TIME:

PAGE 17

DATE

Single-use plastics banned in gov't offices

BY GABBIE PARLADE
@tribunephil_gabs

The National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) signed a resolution imposing a ban on single-use plastics across government offices in the country.

NSWMC Resolution 1363 directs the Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR) to prepare and implement the ban on the use of "unnecessary" single-used plastic products by all government-controlled offices including national government agencies and the local government units (LGU).

DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu emphasized that this measure is

in line with the ongoing problem of solid waste in the country affecting animals.

"The NSWMC resolution is a major step to curb the use of single-use plastic items that pollute our waterways, kill marine life and contribute to our country's increasing solid waste," Cimatu said.

The ban on plastic products includes cups that are less than 0.2 millimeters in thickness, straws, coffee stirrers, spoons, forks, knives, plastic *labo* or thin translucent plastic bags and thin sando bags that are lower than 15 microns.

Cimatu added that the DENR will come up with guidelines on

the implementation of the plastic ban as part of the government's strategy on solid waste avoidance and minimization.

Meanwhile, DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and LGU Concerns Benny Antiporda explained why only eight types of single-use plastic items were initially included.

"It was the decision of the NSWMC to come up with a balanced judgment on the use of single-use plastics by taking into consideration that we can only ban those that have available alternatives," he said.

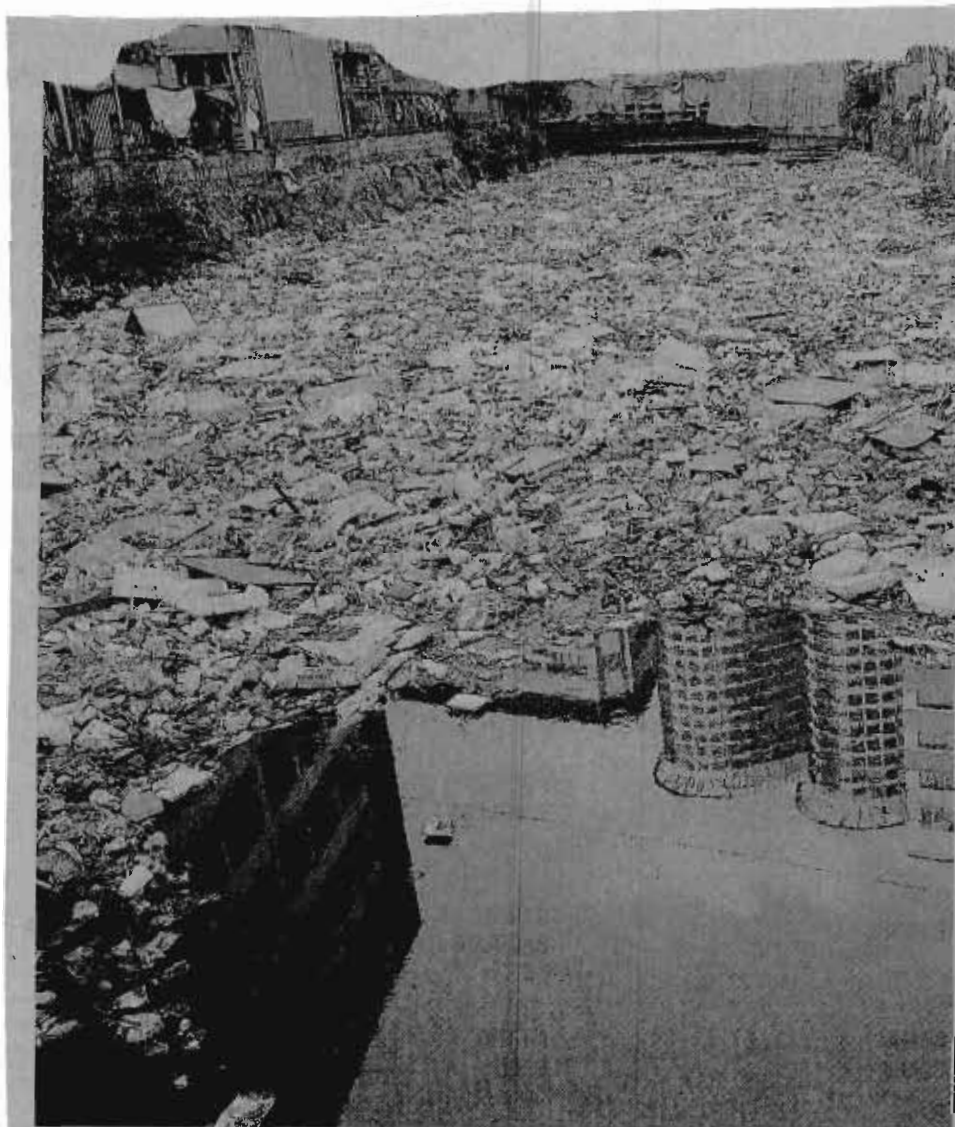
Antiporda cited that Section 29 of Republic Act 9003, or

the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, states that no ban shall be imposed on plastic products with no alternatives.

"Non-environmentally acceptable products shall not be prohibited unless the (NSWMC) first finds that there are alternatives which are available to consumers at no more than 10 percent greater cost than the disposable product," the law states.

According to the United Nations, about 60 percent of plastics have already ended up in either the landfills or in the natural environment and 8-million tons of plastic end up in the ocean every year.

The NSWMC resolution is a major step to curb the use of single-use plastic items that pollute our waterways, kill marine life and contribute to our country's increasing solid waste



NOEL CELIS/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

Mirror of trash Buildings are reflected in the waters of a rubbish-filled river in Manila as solid waste management remains to be a perennial problem in the country.



Iginiit sa Kamara

TOTAL BAN SA PLASTIC

PANAHON na para maisabatas ang panukala na nagbabawal sa paggamit ng single-use plastic sa buong bansa, ayon kay House Minority Leader Benny Abante.

Ginawa ni Abante ang pahayag kasunod ng pag-iisyu ng National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) ng resolusyon na nagba-ban sa paggamit ng unnecessary single-use plastic products sa mga ahensiya ng pamahalaan, local government units (LGUs), at iba pang government-controlled offices.

Nanawagan si Abante sa kanyang mga kapwa mambabatas sa Kamara na aprubahan na at isa-

batas ang permanenteng pagbabawal sa pag-manufacture, pag-aangkat, pagbebenta at paggamit ng single-use plastic sa bansa.

Sa kanyang House Bill 3773, isinusulong ni Abante ang pagbabawal sa paggamit ng mga single-use plastic o yaong mga disposable plastic products na karaniwang ginagamit sa packaging ng mga produkto na isang gamitan lang at agad ding itina-tapon.

Kabilang sa mga tinukoy na single-use plastic ang grocery bags, food packaging containers at bags, pet bottles, plastic straws at stirrers, styrofoam, cups, sachets, at plastic spoons

and forks.

Iginiit ni Abante na matagal na sanang naisabatas ang kanyang panukala dahil sa lawak ng pinsala ng paggamit ng single-use plastic sa kapaligiran.

Batay sa datos, ang bansa ay nagpoprodyus ng 2.7 milyong metriko tonelada ng plastic at pumapangatlo ang bansa sa mis-managed plastic waste sa buong mundo.

Aabot din sa 163 million plastic sachet packets sa isang araw o 60 billion sachets kada taon ang nagagamit ng mga Filipino kung saan 80% ng mga ito ang napupunta sa mga karagatan.

CONDE BATAO



94.2% sa Manila Bay clean-up compliance, nakuha ng Navotas

NAKATANGGAP ang swimming level. Ngunit, pamahalaang lungsod ng Navotas nitong Miyerkoles ng 94.2% marka sa 2019 Assessment of Compliance of Local Government Units to Manila Bay Clean up, Rehabilitation and Preservation Program (MBCRPP).

Kasama ang Navotas sa top five LGUs na nagtaguyod ng Supreme Court mandamus na nag-uutos sa mga ahensiya ng gobyerno na linisin, ayusin at ipreserba ang Manila Bay at ibalik ang water quality nito para pwedeng paglanguyan o gamitin sa contact recreation.

Hinikayat ni Mayor Toby Tiangco ang mga Navotefio at opisyal ng barangay na ipagpatuloy ang pagsisikap na manatiling malinis ang mga 'tubig' sa lungsod.

"Ang pangingsida ang ating pangunahing pinagkuhaan ng kabuhayan at bilang fishing community, dapat binibigyan natin ng lubos na pagpapahalaga ang kausugan at kondisyon ng ating mga dagat at ilog," aniya.

"May mga polisiya at programa tayong para mapanatiling malinis ang ating mga dagat at ilog at ibalik ang water quality nito sa

kailangan natin ang suporta at pakikilahok ng lahat para magtagumpay ang mga polisiya at programang ito," dagdag niya.

Ipinapatupad ng Navotas ang mga ordinansa ukol sa anti-littering, maayos na sewage at septage sa mga kabahayan, opisina at establisimiyento, at iba pa.

Aktibo rin silang nakikilahok sa Battle for Manila Bay clean-up drive at nakakolekta ng 2,267,087 kilo ng basura noong Enero hanggang Disyembre 2019.

Dagdag rito, patuloy na nagsisikap ang lungsod na makapagbigay ng bagong tahanan sa mga informal settler families na nakatira sa tabing-dagat o ilog.

Ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources at San Miguel Corp., sa kabilang banda, ay nagsimula nang mag-sagawa ng sustainable dredging program para sa Tullahan-Tinajeros river system.

Maliban sa pagtanggaling ng silt, debris at basura sa ilalim ng ilog, inaasahang makatutulong ang dredging program para maiwasan ang pagbaha sa Bulacan. (JUN DAVID/ROMMEL SALES)



DENR leads 'Tayo Ang Kalikasan' campaign

By Angelica Villanueva

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources continues to encourage Filipinos to participate in an environmental campaign that will help and contribute to preserving the country's natural resources and environment.

Last April 2019, the DENR, led by its secretary Roy Cimatu, introduced its nationwide environmental campaign "Tayo Ang Kalikasan," that aims to strengthen collaborative efforts among the government, locals, and stakeholders "to protect the natural

resources and maintain the ecological balance for the future generation."

"I believe that our people are capable of change for the better, if not the best. I believe that from being part of the problem, our people can become the solu-

tion. I believe too that people care for clean air, clean water, healthy habitat, and a productive environment," said Cimatu.

In the same month, the agency also partnered with Couples for Christ, a Philippine-based Catholic movement, to lead an initiative of planting one million trees under the Expanded National Greening Program, the government's national reforestation effort project.

The partnership is committed to planting one million forest trees from 2019 to 2021. It also includes maintaining and protecting the seedlings during the said period.

In 2018, DENR said that 125,214 hectares of forest lands were reha-

bilitated as part of the ENGP. Some 144.8 million native and tree species were raised from January until November.

Three months ago, the Environment department also launched an information campaign about responsible mining in the Philippines.

Dubbed as the #MineResponsibility campaign, it aims to have a clearer perception and image of the mining industry in the country.

"Moving forward, our goal is to harness this mineral wealth for progress and development and the key to that is responsible mining," said Cimatu.

Among the priorities of the department is to improve the quality

of air and water and address the solid waste issues in the country.

Also in 2018, DENR has approved the 10-year solid waste management plans of 20 local government units, per Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

A province, city or municipality, through its local solid waste management boards, shall prepare its respective 10-year solid waste management plans, consistent with the 19 National Solid Waste Management Framework.

These are just a few of the several programs of the agency where Filipinos can participate in and contribute to preserving the environment.



PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

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DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

Problema sa plastic, tatapusin ni Mayor Joy sa QC

Tatapusin ni Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte ang problema sa plastic na basura sa lungsod.

Ito ay makaraang buksan ng lokal na pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng Small Business and Cooperatives Development Promotions Office (SBCDPO) ang unang refilling station na tutulong na maresolba ang plastic pollution.

Inilunsad ng SBCDPO ang "Bring Your Own Bote (BYOB) Store" na isang zero-

waste facility kung saan ang mga taga-QC ay magdadala ng kanilang sariling reusable bottles na maaaring makapag refill ng condiments tulad ng suka, toyo at langis.

Ang BYOB store na gawa sa eco-bricks ay nailunsad sa pakikipag tulongan ng NutriAsia Inc. at ng QC Environment Protection and Waste Management Department.

"This initiative is part of the city's strong commitment to environmental sustainability. We are glad that NutriA-

sia chose us to be the first local government unit to engage with in this eco-friendly initiative," pahayag ni Mayor Belmonte.

Ang BYOB store ay matatagpuan sa Quezon City Hall compound at bukas sa mga refill bottles mula alas-8 ng umaga hanggang alas-5 ng hapon.

Mayroon din sa BYOB Store ng plastic collection drop box para sa discarded plastic bottles, containers, sachets, snack packs, plastic utensils at iba pang plastic materials. (Angie dela Cruz)



MAYOR JOY NIREOLBA ANG BASURANG PLASTIC

Matatapos na ang problema sa plastic na basura sa Quezon City makaraang buksan ng lokal na pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng Small Business and Cooperatives Development Promotions Office (SBCDPO) ang unang refilling station na tutulong na maresolba ang plastic pollution sa lungsod.

Inilunsad ng SBCDPO ang "Bring Your Own Bote (BYOB) Store" na isang zero-waste facility na kung

saan ang mga lungsod ang magdadala ng kanilang sariling reusable bottles na maaaring makapag-refill ng condiments tulad ng suka, toyo at langis.

Ang BYOB store na gawa sa eco-bricks ay nailunsad sa pakikipag-tulungan ng NutriAsia Inc. at ng QC Environment Protection and Waste Management Department.

Una nang naaprubahan ni Mayor Joy Belmonte ang Ordinance No. 2876 na

nagbabawal sa paggamit at distribution ng single-use plastics at iba pang disposable materials partikular sa mga restaurants at hotels upang hindi na ito makadagdag sa basura na sanhi ng mga pagbaha at pagsara ng mga estero at kanal. - *Angie dela Cruz*



FILE:

PAGE 17

Garbage crisis: Possible solutions

By Jimbo Gulle

(Part 2, continued from last week)

FOR Metro Manila to defuse its ticking time bomb of garbage, several things need to happen—more sanitary landfills need to be built, more recycling centers need to be operated, environmental laws must be enforced to the letter, and political systems running the business of trash have to change or improve.

The first point is perhaps the most crucial, as sanitary or engineered landfills are the modern world's basic waste disposal system, never mind the open dump sites and bodies of water that trash often end up in.

On numbers alone, if the country's current ratio of sanitary landfills (186) to the local government units (407) they serve is extrapolated, the National Capital Region's 16 cities and one town need at least seven such landfills—not just the two they are currently using in Navotas City and Rodriguez, Rizal.

They keep using these facilities (or may have no other recourse but to do so) in part because the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority pays for the "tipping fees"—the amount the government pays a landfill owner for the right to dump trash in its facility. LGUs typically would pay

out of their own pockets.

As of 2019, the tipping fee rate was P600 a ton of trash—or a whopping P7.2 million a day from the MMDA if Metro Manila's 12,000 tons of daily refuse were to be dumped in just one landfill.

But setting aside the billion-peso financial aspect of garbage, building more landfills and operating them more efficiently is a solution Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu endorsed in an event last January.

He said accessible and affordable sanitary landfills must be established to allow more LGUs to have their own solid waste management facility, noting that building and maintaining a sanitary landfill "can be costly and somewhat complicated."

"Make the establishment and operation of a sanitary landfill simpler and less costly without sacrificing the main objec-

tive of proper garbage disposal, which is to prevent leachate from going to waterways," Cimatu said.

The former Armed Forces chief of staff proposed that neighboring towns or cities should band together and pool their resources to establish a common sanitary landfill.

If they need funds, Cimatu said, LGUs could avail themselves of government loans, particularly the one being offered by the Development Bank of the Philippines under its green financing program.

"LGUs can come up with a scheme to pay back the loan, such as through collection of tipping fees," Cimatu said.

Then again, the cost that would entail an environment-friendly and engineered landfill is not cheap and would take time to build, not to mention the limited space of areas that is not too far from Metro Manila and other key urban centers, particularly in the fringe areas of Northern and Southern Luzon.

Unless the LGUs put up their landfill sites and facilities that are just similar to the existing and traditional landfills in Navotas and Rizal province, that would eventually end up as not that "environmentally safe," an exercise in futility.

Not to mention the fact that LGUs will fall short in maintaining the proposed

landfills, as local politicians have to run for re-election every three years with a maximum three-year term, or nine years.

Experts believe that to build a sanitary landfill is the easy part—but maintaining it is entirely a different story. They say it will always be best for LGUs to just dispose their municipal wastes in a privately-operated landfill facility rather than investing tons of money and venture into the operations and maintenance of such facilities.

One landfill shouldn't just serve two or three LGUs for that matter, as the ideal NCR ratio would indicate.

Metro Manila's mayors only need to look north to Capas in Tarlac, where the sanitary landfill operated by Metro Clark Waste Management Corp. is serving over 100 local governments in Central and Northern Luzon, including the Clark and Subic free port zones.

In operation since 2002, Metro Clark currently handles 3,000 tons of waste per day—about a fourth of Metro Manila's trash output—including garbage from the cities of Cabanatuan in Nueva Ecija, Angeles in Pampanga and Tarlac City.

It even takes in refuse from Baguio City and towns as far north as Pangasinan and La Union, as the company is poised to handle more trash with the growth of New Clark City.



EO creates new task force vs animal-borne diseases

By SAMUEL P. MEDENILLA [@sam_medenilla](#)

PRESIDENT Duterte has formed a new interagency task force which is mandated to bar the entry of animal-borne diseases in the country.

Executive Order (EO) 105 creates the National Task Force on Animal-Borne Diseases (NTFAD) to ensure animal-borne disease, such as the African swine fever (ASF) will no longer infect the local livestock industry.

"To effectively address the current outbreak and to prevent or resolve similar incidents in the future involving other animal-borne diseases, there is an urgent need to create an interagency task force which will formulate, oversee and implement effective and coordinated policies and strate-

gies to manage, contain and control the spread of such diseases," Duterte said.

Foremost of the mandate of NTFAD is the development of a national risk reduction program and a comprehensive framework to manage, contain and eradicate animal-borne disease.

The task force will also formulate zoning and movement plans to prevent the spread of such animal-borne diseases and develop programs granting financial aid, livelihood alternatives, and skills training to those who will lose their

livestock from the said illness.

It will also submit regular reports to the President related to animal-borne diseases.

"The private sector, nongovernment organizations and other stakeholders are encouraged to participate and support the implementation of the programs and activities to be formulated [by NTFAD]," Duterte said.

NTFAD will be chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture with the Secretary of Health as vice chairman.

Its members will include the Executive Secretary as well as the secretaries of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR); Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); Department of Finance (DOF); Department of Budget and Management (DBM); Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA); Department of Transportation

(DOTr); Department of National Defense (DND); Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE); Department of Justice (DOJ); Department of Tourism (DOT).

It also includes the Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) and Director General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda).

The secretariat of the NTFAD will be composed of representative from the said government agencies and supported by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The DBM is tasked to identify the funds needed for the operation of the NTFAD.

Duterte created the task force as ASF continued to spread in many parts of the country despite stringent measures taken by authorities, led by the Department of Agriculture. The DA reported more than 67,000 hogs have been culled in the country as part of the government's attempt to stop the spread of the disease.



Duterte forms task force vs animal-borne diseases

President Duterte has ordered the creation of the National Task Force on Animal-Borne Diseases (NTFAD) to prevent the entry of illnesses like the African Swine Fever (ASF) in the country.

In his Executive Order (EO) No. 105 signed on February 21 but was only made public Thursday, Duterte said the current outbreak of ASF in the country poses "catastrophic" effects on the pig industry and requires drastic control and preventive measures.

The Philippines confirmed its first case of hog disease in September 2019, prompting a ban on meat products from countries where it was first reported. The outbreak was first confirmed in Luzon where thousands of pigs have been culled to contain the disease.

FUNCTIONS

Duterte, in his EO, ordered the NTFAD to formulate policies and measures to address issues relating to animal-borne diseases. He also required them to form a framework to control and eradicate such diseases which can include protocols concerning quarantine, surveillance, and proper waste disposal.

The task force is likewise directed to develop programs to help hog raisers affected by ASF by granting financial assistance or providing livelihood alternatives and skills

training.

Members of the task force are also tasked to develop and implement a national public awareness campaign on animal-borne diseases.

MEMBERS

Under the EO, the NTFAD will be chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture (DA) while the Secretary of Health (DoH) will serve as the vice-chairperson.

Other members of the task force are the executive secretary; and the secretaries of the departments of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Trade and Industry (DTI), Finance (DOF), Budget and Management (DBM), Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and Foreign Affairs (DFA).

The secretaries of the departments of Transportation (DOTr), National Defense (DND), Labor and Employment (DoLE), Justice (DoJ), and Tourism (DoT) are also members of the task force.

The NTFAD will also be composed of the Bureau of Customs commissioner, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority director-general.

President Duterte on Tuesday met with Agriculture Secretary Dar, Interior Secretary Eduardo Año, and local government officials at Malacañang to discuss the ASF outbreak.



Pinabubuo ni Duterte

TASK FORCE VS ASF

INIUTOS ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang pagbuo ng isang national task force para pigilan ang pagpasok ng animal-borne diseases sa bansa.

Ang direktiba ay tugon ng pamahalaan para makontrol ang pagkalat ng African Swine Fever (ASF) sa bansa.

Ang pagbuo ng task force laban sa ASF ay nakapaloob sa executive order no. 105 na nilagdaan ni Pangulong Duterte noong Pebrero 21.

Ang task force ay pinabalangkas ng mga polisiya at re-

gulasyon para matugunan ang animal-borne diseases, gayundin ng national risk reduction program at comprehensive framework para matiyak na hindi kakalat ang anumang sakit na nagmula sa hayop.

Ang kalihim ng Department of Agriculture (DA) ang magsisilbing chairman ng task force, habang vice chairman naman ang kalihim ng Department of Health (DOH).

Kasama rin sa task force ang Executive Secretary; Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Govern-

ment (DILG); Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR); Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF); Secretary, Department of Budget and Management (DBM); Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA); Secretary, Department of Transportation (DOTr); Secretary, Department of National Defense (DND).



Duterte declares state of calamity in Calabarzon

BY CATHERINE S. VALENTE

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte on February 21 signed Proclamation 906 declaring Region 4A (Calabarzon) in a state of calamity because of the "widespread damage" caused by the eruption of Taal Volcano in January.

Calabarzon is composed of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon.

"The volcanic activity of Taal Volcano has caused widespread damage to properties and poses great risks and danger to the health and safety of the people living near the region around Taal Volcano," Duterte said in the proclamation.

"About 129,171 families or

483,389 persons in the provinces of Batangas, Quezon, Laguna and Cavite were affected by the Taal Volcano eruption," he added.

While the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DoST-Phivolcs) lowered Taal Volcano's alert status, Duterte said the "stream-driven explosions, volcanic earthquakes, ashfall and lethal

volcanic gas expulsions can still occur and threaten areas within the Taal Volcano Island and nearby lakeshores."

As of February 5, the President bared that a total of 2,070 volcanic earthquakes had been recorded in the regions surrounding the volcano.

"The DoST-Phivolcs has strongly recommended that entry into the Taal Island, as well as into areas over Taal Lake and communities west of the island within a seven-kilometer radius from the main crater be strictly prohibited," he added.

Duterte said the declaration "will, among others, afford the national government, as well as local government units, ample lati-

tude to utilize appropriate funds for the rescue, recovery, relief and rehabilitation of, and to continue to provide basic services for, affected populations in accordance with law."

"All departments and other concerned government agencies are hereby directed to implement and execute rescue, recovery, relief and rehabilitation work in accordance with pertinent operational plans and directives," he continued.

"Law enforcement agencies, with the support from the Armed Forces of the Philippines, are hereby directed to undertake all necessary measures to ensure peace and order in affected areas, as may be neces-

sary," he said.

The state of calamity will remain in effect for one year or unless the President lifts it sooner, according to the proclamation.

The alert level on Taal Volcano remains at Level 2, reflecting "decreased unrest" since it belched hot steam and gray ash on January 12 and 13.

Set in the center of a lake 60 kilometers south of the capital, Taal left some P3.4 billion worth of damage in agriculture and infrastructure following its eruption, according to the government.

Earlier on Thursday, state seismologists reported that Taal's moderate steaming was caused by rising magma under the volcano.



Calabarzon placed under state of calamity due to Taal's unrest

By GENALYN KABILING

The entire Region IV-A or CALABARZON is now under a state of calamity after nearly half a million persons have been affected by the unrest of Taal Volcano.

President Duterte issued Proclamation No. 906 on the calamity declaration to speed up rescue and rehabilitation efforts, mobilize funds, as well as to implement price control of basic goods and commodities in the affected places.

The calamity declaration will remain in force for one year unless sooner lifted in accordance with the law, according to the President.

"I, Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and

existing laws, do hereby declare a State of Calamity in Region IV-A (CALABARZON)," the proclamation read.

"All departments and other concerned government agencies are hereby directed to coordinate with and provide or augment the basic services and facilities of affected LGUs," it said.

Duterte also directed law enforcement agencies, with the support of the military, to implement all necessary measures to ensure peace and order in affected areas as may be necessary.

"The declaration of State of Calamity will hasten the rescue, relief, and rehabilitation efforts of the government and the private sector including any international humanitarian assistance and will effectively control the prices of basic goods and commodities in the af-

ected areas," the proclamation read.

"This declaration will, among others, afford the National Government as well as local government units, ample latitude to utilize appropriate funds for the rescue, recovery, relief, and rehabilitation of, and to continue to provide basic services for affected populations in accordance with law," it added.

The latest presidential order was made upon the recommendation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. The proclamation was signed by the President last February 21 and released by the Palace Thursday.

In the proclamation, the President noted that the volcanic activity of Taal Volcano has caused "widespread damage" to properties and poses "great risks

and danger" to the health and safety of the people living near the region around the volcano.

Around 129,171 families or 483,389 persons in Batangas, Quezon, Laguna and Cavite have been affected by the Taal Volcano eruption, according to the President.

Meanwhile, between Wednesday night and Thursday morning, Taal Volcano's unrest continued after it emitted "moderate" steam rising up to 300 meters high, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said.

"In the past 24 hours, activity in the Main Crater was characterized by moderate emission of steam-laden plumes that rose 300 meters high before drifting southwest between

9 p.m. yesterday and 3 a.m. [Thursday]," Phivolcs said in its latest bulletin. According to state volcanology agency, "intermittent weak steaming activity" occurred in Taal's Main Crater throughout the rest of the observation period. Phivolcs added that a total of 34 volcanic quakes associated with rock fracturing processes beneath and around the edifice was recorded by the Taal Volcano Network within the volcano island.

State volcanologists explained that the volcano's latest activity is normal given its current alert level status. Taal has been under Alert Level 2 since February 14, over a month after its January 12 'phreatic' or steam-driven eruption. (With a report from Alexandria San Juan)



Calabarzon under state of calamity

**By Julie M. Aurelio
and Jhesset O. Enano**
@Team_Inquirer

President Duterte has placed Calabarzon under a state of calamity in the wake of Taal Volcano's eruption in January that affected nearly half a million people in the region.

The President released on Thursday Proclamation No. 906, which he signed on Feb. 21, putting the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon under a state of calamity "(to) hasten the res-

cue, relief and rehabilitation efforts of the government and the private sector ... and effectively control the prices of basic goods and commodities for the affected areas."

On Wednesday night up to early Thursday morning, Taal Volcano emitted "moderate" steam plumes of up to 300 meters high and generated 34 volcanic quakes that the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said was still normal for the volcano that remains on alert level 2.

INQ



FILE:

IPINAHAYAG ng World Health Organization na mas marami na ang nahahawaan ng COVID-19 sa labas ng China, kasama ang Hong Kong at Macau.

Ginawang basehan ng WHO ang pahayag makaraang lumitaw na may 411 lamang na bagong kaso sa China habang mayroon nang 427 sa ibang mga bansa nitong nakaraang Martes.

Kaya naman, hindi maiiwasang maalarma o kabahan ang ibang mga bansa at kasunod na nito ang mga lockdown sa mga boundary ng mga bansa, maging ang pagbiyahe-biyahe ng mga tao palabas o papasok sa isang bansa sa kahit anong uri ng transportasyon mula sa pandagat, panlupa at panghimpapawid.

Ang lockdown ay remedyo laban sa pagkalat ng sakit at walang kaibhan ito sa lockdown na pinailir sa kaso ng African Swine Fever sa mahal kong Pinas.

Bawal magbiyahe papasok o palabas ng may COVID-19 na lugar o bansa maliban lang ang mga mamamayang pauwi sa kanilang sariling bansa at mga dayuhang naisyuhan ng permanent visa mula sa mga pupuntahan nilang bansa.

MGA MAY COVID-19

Heto ang listahan ng mga bansa o lugar na may COVID-19, ayon sa WHO o sa mga bansang umaamin na meron na sila nito.

China, South Korea, Italy, Japan, Iran, Singapore, Hong Kong, USA, Thailand, Bahrain, Taiwan, Germany, Kuwait, Australia, Malaysia, France, Vietnam, Spain, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Canada, Macao, Iraq, Oman, Philippines, Croatia, India, Austria, Finland, Israel, Lebanon, Pakistan, Russia, Sweden, Afghanistan, Algeria, Belgium, Brazil, Cambodia, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, North Macedonia, Nepal, Norway, Romania, Sri Lanka at Switzerland.

Bukas, maaaring may madagdag na ibang bansa o lugar.

Kapag naganap ito, maaaring magdeklara na ang WHO ng pandemic o pagkalat ng sakit sa maraming bansa sabay ng panawagan sa lahat ng bansa na magtulungan laban sa sakit.

Alalahaning may mahigit 197 bansang kasapi ng United Nations at iba pa na may bilang na 32 gaya ng Vatican City, Greenland, Palestine, Kosovo at iba pa.

MGA KASO AT PATAY

Ayon pa rin sa WHO, may kabuuang mahigit sa 81,000 kaso ng COVID-19 sa buong mun-



CBCP, BINALEWALA NG MGA PARI SA COVID-19

do, kasama na ang 78,000 sa mainland China. Umabot na rin ang kabuuang bilang ng patay sa mahigit 2,800, kasama na ang 2,715 sa China.

Sa labas ng China, heto ang may dumaraming patay.

Iran - 19; Italy - 12; South Korea - 11.

Sa labas ng China, itong tatlong bansa ang may pinakaseryoso sa ibang namamatayang bansa dahil sa pagdami ng mabilis na namamatay.

Kaya naman, ang ibang mga bansa ay nagpapatupad na ng travel ban, lalo na ang kanilang mga mamamayang turista, gaya ng ginawa ng Pilipinas.

Ang Qatar at Kuwait, naglabas na ng kautusan naman na iwi na nila ang kanilang mga mamamayan sa Iran.

Ang mga bansa naman sa Europa at United Kingdom, marami na ang nagbawal sa kanilang mga mamamayan na pumunta sa Italy.

May mga bansang nang-haharag na rin ng mga tren galing sa Italy gaya ng Austria.

HOTEL

NA-QUARANTINE

Ang daming nagaganap na nagbubunga ng paghihirap dahil sa COVID-19 na 'to.

Bukod sa lockdown sa mga kalsada at travel ban sa mga eroplano at cruise ship, may nila-lockdown ding mga hotel.

Halimbawa rito H10 Costa Adeje Palace hotel sa South Tenerife, Spain makaraang maging positibo ang isang doctor at asawa niya.

Kasamang na-lockdown o hindi pinalabas sa hotel ang may 1,000 guest at empleyado ng hotel.

Inilagay rin sa quarantine ang lahat ng guest at empleyado ng isang hotel sa Innsbruck, Tyrol, Austria makaraang magpositibo ang isang receptionist ng hotel.

Ang mga eskwela na naroon o malapit sa mga may COVID-19 ay pinagsasara at ipinagbabawal na rin ang mga pagtitipong panreihyon lalo't malinaw na hindi kumikilala ng Diyos ang anak ng tokwang sakit na ito.

May nagaganap na ring panic sa mga bansa o lugar ng may COVID-19 kaya nariryan ang panibuying ng mga pagkain, inumin, face mask at marami pang iba.

Aba, ikaw ba naman

ang ma-lockdown ng hindi mo alam kailan magtatagali!

ANONG CB-CBCP?

Bago mag-Ash Wednesday, katakot-takot nang paalaala ang pinaggagawa ng Catholic Bishops Conference para baguhin ng mga pari at obispo ang kanilang paglalagay ng abo sa mga mananampalataya.

Sabi, dapat maiwasan ang kontak na pisikal ng mga pari at obispo ang mga mananampalataya.

Sa bumbunan na lang umano ibudbod ang abo.

Pero paglabas ng mga mananampalataya sa simbahan, anak ng pitong putakte, sa noo pa rin ang sign of the cross mula sa abo.

Katwiran ng mga mananampalataya, di raw nila feel ang Ash Wednesday kung sa bumbunan ipahid o ibudbod.

Pero marami tala-gang pari at obispo ang hindi sumunod sa kanilang mga amo sa CBCP ginawa nila ang tradisyunal na paglalagay ng abo sa noo.

Sana naman, walang matamaan ng COVID-19 na dala ng mga asymptomatic kung tawagin.

"Yun bang === walang sintomas na nakikita pero sa kalaunan, meron pala.

HUWAG MATIGAS ANG ULO

Ang masasabi lang natin, mga Bro, huwag maging matigas ang ulo.

Ang mga obispo sa CBCP, alam nilang hindi nila mailligtas sa COVID-19 ang kanilang mga manananampalataya kaya gumagawa sila ng paraan na maging ligtas ang mga ito.

Dapat sumunod mismo sa kanila ang mga pari at obispo.

Para sa lahat mamamayan, may mga hablin ang mga wtoridad, lalo na ang Department of Health, kung paano maiwasan ang diyakeng sakit at dapat silang sundin.

Huwag maging pasaway, please, dahil grabe ang kalagayan natin kung matamaan tayo.

Anomang reaksyon o reklamo, maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa bantiporta@yahoo.com.



Responsible mining in PH

BY BEN KRITZ

AS in most countries, mining activities in the Philippines are regarded by most people with attitudes ranging from skepticism to outright hostility. Unfortunately, there is some justification for that; years of poorly-regulated mining in remote areas has scarred both the land and communities. Infamous incidents such as 1996 Marcopper mine disaster in Marinduque, and instances of black sand and nickel ore smuggling throughout the years convinced many that mining is simply exploitative, rather than serving to contribute to economic growth and improve living standards.

Responsible mining companies have come to realize, however, that proper social and environmental management of their operations adds a great deal of value to their businesses, and in response have adopted strong corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs.

CSR, which applies to any industry, in the context of mining refers to voluntary actions carried out by mining companies to improve the standard of living of local communities and to reduce the negative social and environmental impact of mining operations. "Voluntary actions" are what distinguish CSR activities from other business activities, as by definition "voluntary actions" are those that go beyond legal or contract obligations.

Apart from the slightly idealistic positive effects of CSR activities on beneficiary communities, having an effective CSR program benefits a mining company in several practical ways. First, a CSR program that has substantial tangible results helps greatly in improving the image and public acceptance of mining. Second, contributing to improvements in the health, living conditions, and education of nearby communities potentially creates a valuable workforce for the mining company. And third, investing in community service and environmental remediation through CSR programs while mining operations are ongoing saves the company some time and money in the long run, because less will have to be done to properly clean up after a mine when it closes.

Different types of CSR programs

Because good CSR programs are community-oriented, they vary from place to place as companies seek ways to meet the specific needs of their neighboring populations. In general, mining CSR programs fall into one of three broad areas:

Infrastructure: Mining companies often provide much-needed improvements to local communities such as potable water supplies, school facilities, electricity, roads, health care facilities, drainage and flood control upgrades, and the like.

Building Human Capital: Mining companies help to improve the economic profile of local communities by providing job training for mining jobs or related services, and by supporting training and development in areas such as microbusiness, agriculture, aquaculture, and other trades.

Building social capital: Mining companies can also contribute to better opportunities for local communities by focusing on social capital in areas such as high school and college education, workshops on social concerns such as gender issues, and health promotion in areas such as disease prevention, improved hygiene, and family planning.



FAKE



LOWER



PAGE 1



BANNER
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

TITLE:

RESPONSIBLE MINING

PAGE 1/2

2/2

DATE

Government perspective

In terms of the performance of the mining sector in social and environmental responsibility, the government sets and regulates

policy according to two statements of principle (along with a third, which addresses economic principles). The first addresses the social concerns of mining: "Social Equity and Development: The Philippine government recognizes the rights and participation of the communities and indigenous peoples and ensures the fair and equitable sharing of benefits among the company, the government, and host communities."

The second statement addresses environmental concerns: "Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation: The Philippine government ensures the adequate protection of the environment, before, during mining operations and beyond the life of the mine. The Philippine government promotes the rational exploration, development, utilization and conservation of mineral resources guided by its commitment to responsible minerals development."

According to the MGB, Philippine mining companies are making significant contributions in both these areas. As of February 2019, the MGB said in a presentation last year, mining companies have committed P19.5 billion "for the development of their host and neighboring communities through their approved Social Development and Management Program. Around 837 barangays stand to benefit from the implementation of approved community/social projects of various companies."

In environmental management, the government monitors two different areas, the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program, which covers CSR activities carried out while mining operations are ongoing, and the Final Mine Rehabilitation and/or Decommissioning Plan, which is mandated environmental remediation that is carried out once a mine has been closed. According to the MGB, as of February 2019 mining companies had committed a total P20.39 billion to the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program, and a total of P4.2 billion to post-mining rehabilitation work.

In addition, a third program called the Mining Forest Program was launched in recent years, which gives the mining companies another outlet for environmental activities. Through June of 2018, mining companies have supplied 35.15 million seedlings planted across 27,069 hectares of mined-out areas, or approximately 1,300 new trees per hectare. The MGB reported that the program has been surprisingly successful; as of December 2018, 32.17 million of the trees had survived and were still growing, a survival rate of 91.35 percent.

Standout programs

A World Bank analysis conducted several years ago made an assessment of CSR practices among Philippine mining companies and the government's management of company-community relations, and highlighted the activities of three companies in particular: Philex Mining at its Padcal Mine in Benguet, Silangan Mindanao Exploration Company at its Boyongan Exploration in Surigao del Norte, and Apo Cement Corp. at its cement plant in Naga, Cebu.

To be fair, the World Bank assessment – which it should be noted, was carried out before the imposition of the requirement that mining and mining-related firms secure ISO 14001 certification (see related story) – was not completely positive for any of the three companies, and the report did make a significant number of recommendations in each case as to how CSR programs could be extended and enhanced.

However, in each case, the World Bank highlighted the companies' CSR management framework, suggesting these could serve as models for other companies' own CSR programs. In its Padcal, Benguet location, Philex formed an inter-departmental coordinating division called the Environment and Community Relations Division (ECDR) to handle the environmental and community relations of the company. Silangan Mindanao, which is a Philex joint venture with Anglo American Exploration Philippines Inc., took a slightly different approach, and put its local CSR management in the hands of a Community Technical Working Group (CTWG), formed with the guidance of the MGB-Region 13. Apo Cement, on the other hand, managed its CSR activities through its existing Corporate Communications department, but sought out and formed cooperative relationships with no fewer than seven local community groups for the successful implementation of various projects.



Fast facts about mining

MINING in a small-scale form has existed in the Philippines for thousands of years, and gold was an important commodity for the native inhabitants in pre-Spanish times. Tribes in the Philippines traded with what is now China, India, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia.

It was not until 1864, however, that the first true large-scale mine, the gold and copper Lepanto Mine, was opened in the Philippines. A century and a half later, mining has become a key economic sector for the country. Here are some figures compiled from Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) data that provide a snapshot of the industry as of the end of 2018:

\$4.26 Billion: The total exports of metallic and non-metallic minerals and mineral products in 2018. Copper, gold, and nickel are the Philippines' top mineral exports, with Japan, Australia, Canada, and China being the country's biggest mineral export customers.

212,000: The number of workers employed in the minerals industry as of the end of 2018. The government has conservatively estimated that for each mineral industry job, about four indirect jobs in upstream and downstream sectors are supported.

P25.70 Billion: The total amount of national and local taxes, fees, and royalties paid in 2017.

P121.94 Billion: The total estimated production value for metallic minerals in 2018. The top three mineral products by value were nickel (P55.18 billion); gold (P44.81 billion); and copper (P20.68 billion).

9 million: The number of hectares (out of a total of 30 million) of land in the Philippines which is believed to have "high mineral potential."

702,715: The number of hectares actually covered by mining tenements.

48: The number of metallic mines operating in 2018. These include eight gold mines, three copper mines, 30 nickel mines, three chromite mines, and four iron mines.

61: The number of operating non-metallic mines in the country, including 35 limestone and shale quarries, 15 aggregate (gravel) quarries, three clay quarries, two sand and gravel quarries, and one dolomite quarry.

5: The number of ore processing plants in the Philippines, two each for gold and nickel, and one copper smelter plant.

3,389: The number of small quarries and sand and gravel operations covered by permits issued by local government units.

BEN KRITZ

#nationataglance



NORTHERN MINDANAO: BAUNGON, BUKIDNON

Monitoring station to be set up for Cagayan de Oro River Basin

A MONITORING station will be constructed at the Bubunawan Irrigation Intake Facility in Bukidnon to improve data gathering and flood forecasting for the Cagayan de Oro River Basin. The Telemetered Rainfall and Water Level Gauging Station will be undertaken by the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) and the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), NIA announced on Wednesday as the two agencies signed an agreement for the project. "There is a need to install automatic rainfall and water level gauging equipment and construct repeater/relay towers to enable the speedy transmission of hydrological data... Thus, effectively carrying out flood forecasting and warning activities," NIA said. PAGASA will be responsible for fund sourcing and implementation. The project is part of the government's program to mitigate the impact of flooding through the establishment of early warning systems in all major river basins in the country, NIA said.

ENVIRONMENT SUMMIT

Cagayan de Oro City, the regional center and most urbanized part of Northern Mindanao, suffers from recurrent flooding and was the hardest hit area during typhoon Sendong (international name: Washi) in December 2011. It is hosting the 3rd Philippine Environment Summit, ongoing from Feb. 26-28, which focuses on concerns and solutions relating to food security, healthy environment, and sustainable economy. Cagayan de Oro Mayor Oscar S. Moreno, in his welcome speech for the gathering, presented local initiatives for improving disaster resilience not just in the city but for the entire Northern Mindanao Region. "*Kami rin* (We too) in our small ways, inspired by the Cagayan de Oro River Basin Management Council... We learned many lessons from Sendong... *Ang ating* (Our) battle cry is no more Sendong." The multi-sector Cagayan de Oro River Basin Management Council, created in 2010, has been undertaking rehabilitation and preservation programs for the interlinked watersheds, rivers, forests and seas. — MSJ



TITLE :

PAGE 1/

PASTORAL STATEMENT

STOP KALIWA DAM CONSTRUCTION-CBCP

By **Tina G. Santos**
@santostinaINQ

Stop the construction of the Kaliwa Dam in Quezon province unless a proper review of the China-funded project is done.

So stated the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) in a pastoral statement titled "I Look Up to the Mountains," issued Thursday by CBCP president, Davao Archbishop Romulo Valles.

"We call on the concerned government agencies and other proponents of the Kaliwa Dam project to stop the implementation unless proper review is done to correct its flawed procedures," the statement said.

"For the sake of the common good, we strongly recommend that ecologically sustainable alternatives be carefully considered as proposed by experts in responding to the challenges of the water crisis

in Metro Manila, without destroying the precious culture and sustainable future of our Dumagat-Remontado tribes," the statement added.

According to Valles, the Church is not against development "as long as it does not sacrifice the common good in the name of progress."

The project will also submerge almost 300 hectares of forest ecosystems in the Sierra Madre, endangering 126 endemic and endangered species of plants and wildlife, and destroying the biodiversity of the area, the CBCP said.

It added that more than 100,000 people downstream will also be adversely affected by possible flooding.

President Duterte earlier said that the project was the "last resort" for Metro Manila's water shortage and that those affected by the project would be relocated. INQ



RISING SOON “Balayong” trees were uprooted and replanted along the roads of the 73,461-square-meter Balayong Park to make them part of a greening project of Puerto Princesa City. —PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY INFORMATION OFFICE

SAVED TREES BECOME PART OF PALAWAN’S GREEN SPOT

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY— Earth-balled “balayong” (*Cassia nodosa*) trees that were saved from a road widening project were replanted at a 73,461-square-meter park that could become the local version of the famous Sakura park of Japan.

Mayor Luçilo Bayron had envisioned the park at Barangay Tiniguiban here as another tourist destination that would show the city’s “strong commitment to green and organic architecture.”

“Instead of planting exotic tree species, why not plant native species that we can call our own?” Bayron said.

Balayong trees, which are usually in full bloom from February to May, are considered

Palawan’s cherry blossoms, although some botanists say they are an introduced species.

The trees, which bear light pink and white blossoms, take up to five years before they are considered full-grown.

The P250-million balayong park project was first introduced in 2016. It was designed to house restaurants with a view deck, recreational and children’s parks, a food complex, a museum and library, and an artists’ pavilion, among other facilities.

Since 2005, the city government has been hosting the annual Balayong Festival on March 4 as part of the celebration of the city’s founding anniversary. —ROMAR MIRANDA INQ



Alarm raised over Benguet fires

BAYAN Muna Representative Carlos Isagani Zarate has raised the alarm over the consecutive fires in Benguet, noting that the government should act fast to quell the flames before it reaches the fire levels in the Amazon and Australia.

In a statement, Zarate called on the government to augment the firetrucks in the affected areas immediately. He noted that there were only three fire trucks from Tublay and La Trinidad that the Bureau of Fire Protection use to put out the fires.

The first reported fire started in Kabayan town that razed over 150 hectares of forest land from Feb. 11 to Feb. 18. Another raged in Tublay on Feb. 19, followed by two fires both in Baguio on Feb. 20 and 21, and a grass fire in Sitio Cawat in Barangay Beckel, La Trinidad. Reports say two more fire broke on Saturday, Feb. 22, in the province.

"We must help in preventing these fires and at the very least be ready with more firefighting equipment for firefighters before more forest lands, endemic plants species, animals and even people and their livelihood are affected and devastated," Zarate said. **Willie Casas**



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

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant.

Case No. 19-2839

THIRD NOTICE OF HEARING

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Camella Townhomes Sorrento Subdivision, Barangay Panapaan, Bacoor, Cavite, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience.

Notice is hereby given that this application will be initially heard by the Board on **March 16, 2020, hearing will start at 9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

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

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

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

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

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 21st day of January 2020.

By Authority of the Board:

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



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

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant.

Case No. 20-2875

NOTICE OF HEARING

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Cascade/ Subdivision, Barangay San Luis, Antipolo City, Rizal, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential & Institutional - Pipe Size : ½ inch	
Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.
0-5 /cu.m.	₱ 177.00 (min)
6-10 /cu.m.	39.00
11-20 /cu.m.	40.90
21-30 /cu.m.	43.00
31-40 /cu.m.	45.20
Over 40 /cu.m.	47.40

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **March 16, 2020, hearing will start at 9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

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

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

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

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

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 29th day of January 2020.

By Authority of the Board:

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



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

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant.

Case No. 20-2877

NOTICE OF HEARING

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Tierra Nevada Subdivision, Barangay San Francisco, General Trias, Cavite, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential & Institutional - Pipe Size : ½ inch	
Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.
0-5 /cu.m.	₱ 147.00 (min)
6-10 /cu.m.	32.40
11-20 /cu.m.	34.80
21-30 /cu.m.	37.20
31-40 /cu.m.	39.60
Over 40 /cu.m.	42.00

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **March 16, 2020, hearing will start at 9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

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

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

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

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

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 29th day of January 2020.

By Authority of the Board:

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



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

PRIMEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE CORP.,
Applicant.

Case No. 20-2876

NOTICE OF HEARING

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Woodberry Subdivision, Barangay San Luis, Antipolo City, Rizal, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

PROPOSED TARIFF

Residential & Institutional - Pipe Size : ½ inch	
Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.
0-5 /cu.m.	₱ 196.00 (min)
6-10 /cu.m.	43.30
11-20 /cu.m.	45.50
21-30 /cu.m.	47.70
31-40 /cu.m.	50.10
Over 40 /cu.m.	52.60

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **March 16, 2020, hearing will start at 9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

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

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

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

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

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 29th day of January 2020.

By Authority of the Board:

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