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BUSINESS WORLD

[Manila needs long-term EV incentive plan, analysts say](#)

By: Kyle Aristophere T. Atienza

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By: Arjay L. Balinbin

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CLIMATE CHANGE NEWS

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By: Matteo Civillini and Reuters

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CNN

[Brazil to host COP30 climate summit in the Amazon in 2025](#)

By: Mia Alberti

The United Nations has chosen Brazil to host the international climate meeting, COP30, in the Amazonian city of Belém do Pará in 2025, the country's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva announced on Friday.

KHALEEJ TIMES

[The climate loss and damage fund is coming](#)

By: Sameh Shoukry

Last November's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, concluded on a historic high note, with the last-minute agreement to establish a "loss and damage" fund. The decision to offer financial support to vulnerable countries suffering the worst effects of global warming was a remarkable achievement that has resonated worldwide. But as we move from establishing the fund to implementing it, important questions remain.

GULF NEWS

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By: William Ruto

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MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT

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MANILA BULLETIN

[ADB, World Bank and Fitch Ratings commend PH's stable economy](#)

Three international institutions extended support and commendation to the Philippines over the past week.

MANILA STANDARD

[Global temperatures to break records in the next five years](#)

Global temperatures are likely to surge to record levels in the next five years, fueled by heat-trapping greenhouse gases and a naturally occurring El Niño weather pattern, a new update issued by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said.

[GN Power committed to create beneficial environmental impact](#)

By: Butch Gunio

GN Power Dinginin Ltd. Co (GNPD) is committed to creating beneficial environmental impact.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

[Pacific islands, in spotlight, to push climate change in South Korea summit](#)

By: Reuters

Pacific island leaders will meet South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol in Seoul on Monday, May 29, their third summit in a week with a large economy as the region seeks stronger action on climate change as it becomes a focus of geopolitical power attention.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[DA, EU explore agri dev't, investment opportunities](#)

By: Anna Leah Gonzales

Officials of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and delegates of the European Union-ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) and the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) recently met to discuss possible areas of cooperation.

[European Investment Bank lends €3.4B to circular economy projects](#)

The European Investment Bank (EIB) lending to circular economy projects has consistently increased over the years, amounting to €3.4 billion over the past five years, with a record level of €1.1 billion alone in 2022.

[PH, Korea ink water resources management project](#)

By: Anna Leah Gonzales

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) signed Friday the Record of Discussions to implement the Capacity Building for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Sustainable Development project.

RAPPLER

[Enough with fossil fuels, Pope Francis says in latest climate appeal](#)

The world must rapidly ditch fossil fuels and end "the senseless war against creation," Pope Francis said on Thursday, May 25, in a fresh plea over climate change that called on people to repent for their "ecological sins."

THE MANILA TIMES

[NEDA, Korea partner for \\$2.5-M water project](#)

By: Niña Myka Pauline Arceo

THE National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) have forged a partnership for a \$2.5-million water resource management project.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

[\[Opinion\] Climate change trips](#)

By: Marichu A. Villanueva

By God's graces, our country was just grazed by the super typhoon called "Betty" over the weekend. With the international name "Mawar," it could have brought another catastrophic magnitude of damages, especially to a disaster-prone country like the Philippines. We heave a collective sigh of relief that we got spared from major destruction and almost zero loss of lives.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

HATAW

[KSMBPI susuportahan Climate Change Awarenes ng MTRCB, CCC](#)

By: Pilar Mateo

CCC lauds MTRCB's Climate Change Reduction Efforts. The Climate Change Commission (CCC) Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz and Kapisanan ng Social Media Broadcasters ng Pilipinas, Inc. (KSMBPI) Chairman Dr. Michael Raymond Aragon paid a courtesy visit on MTRCB Chairperson Lala Sotto.

MAHARLIKA TV

[CCC, AFP agree to conduct climate change activities nationwide](#)

Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. (left) shakes the hand of Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief-of-staff Lieutenant General Andres Centino (right) after the CCC official hammered out an agreement with the country's military to conduct climate action activities that include tree-planting, carbon sequestration, and even promoting food security through urban gardening and other efforts for agricultural productivity.

[We are the solution to the climate problem — Dela Cruz](#)

“We have a climate problem but we also have the solution amidst the problem.” So said Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. in his speech during the Climate Change Summit at the Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) attended by the university's president Dr. Ruby Santos-Matibag, vice president Dr. Thelma Manansala, school administrators, campus and department heads and faculty recently.

Information and Knowledge Management Division

BUSINESS WORLD

Manila needs long-term EV incentive plan, analysts say

By: Kyle Aristophere T. Atienza

THE PHILIPPINES needs a long-term incentive program to encourage electric vehicle (EV) companies here and overseas to set up local manufacturing hubs, a public investment analyst said.

“There needs to be a specific manufacturing incentive program to encourage the shift to electric vehicles in the country,” Terry L. Ridon, convenor of InfracorePH, said in a Facebook Messenger chat.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. has extended by five more years a P27-billion incentive program for three foreign automakers to encourage production of at least 600,000 traditional vehicles in the Philippines.

Only Toyota and Mitsubishi joined the program. Toyota produces the Vios compact car, while Mitsubishi produces the Mirage model. Toyota has until 2024 to meet its commitments, while Mitsubishi’s deadline is this year.

“Japanese companies are lagging behind their Chinese and European counterparts in the focus shift to EV manufacturing,” Mr. Ridon said. “Toyota has focused more on improving its hybrid systems instead of competing in EV technology.”

The CARS program was implemented to make the Philippines at par with regional rivals and lift its shrinking car output, which was the lowest in Southeast Asia months before the executive order was issued.

The auto sector was hit hard by the pandemic, forcing the government of former President Rodrigo R. Duterte to impose import safeguards on passenger cars and light commercial vehicles in 2021.

Last year, Mr. Duterte signed a law that seeks to accelerate the EV shift by requiring operators to use electric cars for at least 5% of their fleet.

Global leaders have been considering a shift to EVs as a solution to climate change, despite claims that battery-powered cars are bad for the environment.

Mr. Marcos Jr. in January issued an order temporarily lifting tariff rates on certain electric vehicles such as passenger cars, buses, minibuses, vans, trucks, motorcycles, tricycles, scooters and bicycles for a five-year period.

He also cut tariffs on certain EV parts and components to 1% from 3%.

Mr. Ridon said the CARS program is “not mutually exclusive to incentives that may be granted to EV manufacturers in the future.”

“In fact, in the event that local manufacturers shift to EV production, they should still be able to enjoy similar incentives.”

He said the main challenge now is how to encourage US, European and Chinese EV manufacturers to set up manufacturing hubs in the Philippines to serve the Asia-Pacific market. Rene S. Santiago, a public transport expert, said it is unjust for a developing country like the Philippines, which is also struggling to decarbonize its grid, to pursue a shift to electric vehicles.

‘TRANSPORT OPTIONS’

“The rich global north is stampeding countries of the global south to accelerate EV, on the pretext of climate change, only because they want us to be captive markets of their products,” he said in text message. “Carbon emissions per capita is very high in the global north, and very minimal in developing countries.”

There has also been a global push to give buyers of second-hand electric vehicle units tax credits amid issues of affordability.

“I don’t favor tax credits for used electric vehicles,” Mr. Santiago said. “It is only the rich who benefit because they are the only ones who can afford to buy EVs. Let the market decide if they want EVs — without special privileges.”

Meanwhile, the Center for Energy, Ecology and Development noted that instead of promoting the use of private vehicles, the Marcos administration should “create more pathways toward advancing sustainability in the public transport sector.”

“The glaring lack of available transport options for commuters has been a long-standing problem,” it said in an e-mail.

“Conversations about mobility should not just be about the comfort of the few who can afford it, but about a better and cleaner mass transportation system for all,” it added.

Gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles remain overwhelmingly preferred in the Philippines, with Filipinos reluctant to adopt electric vehicles based on the dearth of charging stations, consulting firm Deloitte said in May, citing the results of its poll.

It said 72% of respondents in the Philippines preferred internal combustion engine vehicles.

This was down 10 percentage points from a year earlier, but was the highest in the region, ahead of Indonesia (59%) and Vietnam (49%), Deloitte said.

Only 25% of respondents in the Philippines showed interest in electric vehicles. The highest level of interest was recorded in Singapore (62%) and Thailand (60%).

The study was conducted between September and October and involved more than 26,000 consumers in 24 locations including Southeast Asia. At least 1,000 responses were incorporated into the study for each country in the region.

PHL roads, railways and ports highly vulnerable to climate risks — experts

By: Arjay L. Balinbin

Road, railway, and port infrastructure in the Philippines are among those most at risk of multihazard damage caused by climate change, according to experts at the International Transport Forum (ITF).

“In the Philippines, up to 25,000 kilometers of roads are exposed to increased flooding by 2050 if global emissions continue to rise,” said Sudhir Gota, co-team leader of Asia Transport Outlook, in an interview with BusinessWorld on the sidelines of the ITF Summit 2023 on May 25.

Citing data from the latest Asia Transport Outlook report, he said that the projected annual damage to roads and railways in the Philippines may reach as much as \$410 million a year.

To compare, Indonesia may incur up to \$730 million worth of damage to roads and railways, while Vietnam may face up to \$465 million worth of damage.

Projected annual damage to roads and railways are also significant in other Southeast Asian countries such as Myanmar (\$293 million), Thailand (\$149 million), and Malaysia (\$99 million).

Mr. Sudhir said the Philippines also needs to strengthen its ports against the impact of climate change, as the projected damage may reach up to \$196 million — the highest among its peers. To compare, Vietnam’s ports may face up to \$128 million in damage, followed by Indonesia (\$70 million), Thailand (\$31 million), Malaysia (\$27 million), and Myanmar (\$15 million).

The Philippines accounts for 42% of potential damage due to hazards in Southeast Asia, he said.

He also noted that disruptions caused by climate hazards can result in downtime at ports, which would hamper the flow of goods.

Among countries in Asia, the Philippines has the highest share of trades at risk due to climate hazards, at 1.3%, followed by China and Vietnam with less than 1.2% each, he said.

While Philippine ports are improving, Mr. Sudhir said there is a need to build resilience due to future threats arising from climate change.

“Resilience means developing a green port plan, a climate adaptation strategy, particularly to make the ports resilient against rising sea levels... You need to strengthen your ports against these risks, which implies that for building resilience for your ports, you will require a significant investment,” he said.

In a presentation, Stefanie Sohm, a transport consultant for the Asian Development Bank (ADB)-United Nations Centre for Regional Development, said that the transportation sector in Asia may hinder the attainment of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the objectives outlined in the Paris Agreement.

Sought for comment, James A. Leather, the chief of the Transport Sector Group at the Asian Development Bank, said: “If we don’t take better action, we won’t achieve those goals, whether it’s aligning with the Paris Agreement, addressing climate change, or meeting the SDGs.”

One of the challenges is fulfilling the substantial investment requirements, he noted.

“Let’s take the Philippines, for instance, where numerous rural communities lack adequate access due to the country’s archipelago nature,” he said.

“The question arises: Where should the investment be directed? Should it be focused on Manila or spread across rural areas? The investment needs to be widespread, but the available capital for such ventures is limited, considering that the needs outweigh the available funding.”

Mr. Leather said this presents a roadblock because, unless investments increase, these projects will be competing with power generation, hospitals, schools, and other sectors.

Mr. Leather noted that the significant underinvestment in infrastructure over the last two to three decades has been addressed by both the previous and current administrations.

“The continuity between the last administration and the current administration’s shift from ‘Build, Build, Build’ to ‘Build, Better, More’ is absolutely fantastic because a long-term goal in infrastructure investments is essential,” he said.

The Philippine government is targeting an infrastructure spending-to-gross domestic product (GDP) ratio of 5-6% annually through 2028.

This year, the government plans to spend 5.3% of GDP on infrastructure, equivalent to P1.29 trillion.

CLIMATE CHANGE NEWS

[Governments fall short in UN's East Africa drought appeal](#)

By: Matteo Civillini and Reuters

A United Nations fundraiser for aid operations in the drought-stricken Horn of Africa has fallen short as donor countries pledged only a third of the \$7 billion sought.

The UN warned against a “catastrophe” in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, which it described as the epicentre of the world’s worst climate emergencies.

Donor countries have pledged a total of \$2.4 billion for 2023, but only \$0.8 billion in new financial support was announced at this week’s event. The US will provide nearly two-thirds of the money, followed at some distance by the European Commission, Germany and the UK.

The money raised at a pledging conference this week will help humanitarian agencies provide food, water, healthcare and protection services to over 30 million people across the three countries.

Tinebeb Berhane, country director for ActionAid in Ethiopia, told Climate Home News she was “extremely disappointed” and “saddened” with the outcome. “The pledges do not even touch the surface of the level of support needed on the ground”, she added.

Oxfam has called the commitments “dismally inadequate”.

The shortcomings of UN pledging events like this one will put the spotlight on the implementation of the landmark loss and damage deal struck at Cop27. Governments agreed to create a fund for vulnerable communities hit by climate impacts.

Climate-induced drought

The Horn of Africa has been suffering its worst drought in 40 years since October 2020. Five consecutive seasons of rainfall below normal levels have led to crops failing and farm animals dying.

A group of scientists estimated that human-driven climate change has made these events “much stronger” and “about 100 times more likely”.

The World Weather Attribution group said the drought was made much more severe because of the low rainfall and increased evaporation caused by higher temperatures in the world.

Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia combined now contribute less than 0.5% of the greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change despite having 2.5% of the world's population.

“People in the Horn of Africa are paying an unconscionable price for a climate crisis they did nothing to cause,” UN chief Antonio Guterres told the pledging event in New York.

The crisis has been made worse by conflicts and rising global commodity prices as a result of the war in Ukraine. More than 32 million people are facing acute food insecurity and 2.7 million people have been displaced.

The United States made the top pledge – an additional \$524 million on previous announcements, taking its total for 2023 to some \$1.4 billion. The European Commission committed \$185 million, Germany \$163 million, Britain \$120 million and the Netherlands \$92 million.

“This is a global problem that requires all of us,” U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield told the event.

‘Moral failure’

Andrew Mitchell, the UK minister for development, said “the clear and present threat remains, and we must act now to prevent further suffering”. But aid groups have criticised the pledge made by the UK, branding it a “moral failure”.

A group of organisations led by the International Rescue Committee has called on donors “to take immediate steps to break the cycle of short-term, inadequate funding” in the Horn of Africa.

ActionAid’s Berhane hopes the limited funding promised will be delivered swiftly. “Time is a big factor for these life-saving humanitarian interventions,” she said.

The Eastern African drought is only one of the many climate-induced crises in which financial aid has been slow-moving.

Echoes of Pakistan

Devastating floods struck Pakistan last year, causing \$10 billion in estimated damage. After a UN appeal, wealthy countries pledged a sum roughly sixty times smaller in support. But even those funds were slow to arrive.

Subsequently, at a pledging event last January, a group of 40 countries, multilateral banks and private donors committed more than \$8.5 billion towards Pakistan’s recovery.

But Pakistan's climate minister Sherry Rehman said yesterday that "pledges made at international conferences solely for Pakistan have still not been realised".

"UN flash appeals are no longer capitalised as they used to be," she said, as "at least half of the UN flash appeals go unfunded". She called for the loss and damage fund to be set up as soon as possible.

CNN

[Brazil to host COP30 climate summit in the Amazon in 2025](#)

By: Mia Alberti

The United Nations has chosen Brazil to host the international climate meeting, COP30, in the Amazonian city of Belém do Pará in 2025, the country's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva announced on Friday.

"I've participated in COPs in Egypt, Paris, Copenhagen and all people talk about is the Amazon. So why not have the COP in the Amazon so [people] can get to know the Amazon, see its rivers, its forests, its fauna," Lula said in a video posted on Twitter.

Foreign Affairs Minister, Mauro Vieira, said the UN approved Brazil's bid to host COP30 on May 18 after Lula's request during last year's COP27 meeting in Egypt.

Belém do Pará is a northern Brazilian city located in the fringes of the Amazon forest. It's the capital city of the state of Pará located on the coast of the Amazon river estuary.

The governor of Pará, Helder Barbalho, said in the same video that it is a "great privilege for the whole country" to host the event, saying it "increases the responsibility" of Brazil's climate agenda regarding the rights of indigenous people and the environment.

Lula has promised to tackle Amazon deforestation and repair the damage to the Amazon caused by his predecessor, Jair Bolsonaro, under whose presidency deforestation surged.

But Lula's government has come under fire for seemingly backtracking on its climate-related electoral promises in recent days. His administration helped Congress pass a draft law that strips the environment and indigenous people ministries of some powers, weakening their oversight of environmental protections and the demarcation of indigenous lands in the Amazon.

COP is the yearly United Nations Climate Change Conference, in which states discuss and agree on measures to deal with the environment. This year the 28th edition of the conference will be held in Dubai, according to the UN. The UN's calendar does not include anything after that yet.

Last year's climate summit saw negotiators from nearly 200 countries take the historic step of agreeing to set up a "loss and damage" fund meant to help vulnerable countries

cope with climate disasters and agreed the globe needs to cut greenhouse gas emissions nearly in half by 2030.

However, an attempt to address the biggest source of the planet warming emissions that are causing the climate crisis ended in a fiasco after a number of nations, including China and Saudi Arabia, blocked a key proposal to phase out all fossil fuels, not just coal.

This story was first published on CNN.com, "Brazil to host COP30 climate summit in the Amazon in 2025".

GULF NEWS

[World needs to walk the talk on climate action](#)

By: William Ruto

Last year in Berlin, the great Kenyan long-distance runner Eliud Kipchoge broke the world marathon record, clocking 02:01:09 and beating his previous time by 30 seconds.

His success has made him a legend not only in Kenya but globally. It offers a useful lesson for everyone involved in the fight against climate change. Kipchoge's winning strategy is rooted in the science of running (as well as 120 miles of hard work every week), and our own approach to the climate crisis must involve the same level of commitment and focus.

As temperatures keep rising and emissions soar, the planet, too, continues to break (dangerous) new records. But with determination and follow-through, we — together with institutional partners and other governments — can start to run faster to get ahead of the climate crisis. Success will depend on following the latest science and mobilising a joint, broad-based effort of governments and citizens.

In March, the world's top climate experts and governments signed off on the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change synthesis report. Once again, the IPCC's message was stark: Humans have permanently changed the planet, and global warming is already killing people, destroying nature, and making the world poorer.

Though African countries have contributed the least to the problem, they are bearing the brunt of the damage. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), Africa accounts for less than 3% of the world's energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, and 600 million Africans — an outrageous figure — still do not have access to electricity.

A shared, global problem

Climate change is a shared problem that the global community must solve by working together, especially given the disproportionate burden being placed on those who are least responsible.

We are currently a long way from limiting global warming to 1.5° Celsius or even 2°C, as envisaged by the Paris climate agreement. The climate crisis will not solve itself. On the contrary, we must ensure that global greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions peak before 2025 at the latest, and then fall by at least 43% by 2030.

This is the year to drive that transformation. The United Nations Climate Change Conference this November-December (COP28) offers an opportunity to accelerate the energy transition, supercharge the growth of renewables, and commit to phase out all fossil fuels — starting with coal.

We can make significant contributions to decarbonisation and the global transition to a net-zero economy. We must unlock climate finance and investment, so that we can harness our potential for green economic growth. But to do that, we will need to fix the current international financial system, which has proven inadequate for dealing fairly with multifaceted global crises, from the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate emergency to debt distress across the Global South.

Ensuring win-win outcomes

Next month's Summit for a New Global Financial Pact, in Paris, provides an opportunity for Europe to galvanise support for reforming the international financial system. The international community must recognise our potential to help solve global problems and take steps to ensure win-win outcomes. That means providing access to affordable, adequate, and sustainable financing that is delivered in a timely manner.

As we reduce emissions, we also need to prepare our people and our housing, agriculture, and food systems for rising temperatures and extreme weather events. Meeting the 2021 COP26 commitment to double global climate-adaptation financing by 2025 remains crucial for protecting people and nature. The latest IPCC report is clear: climate change and insufficient adaptation and mitigation efforts are reversing development gains and undermining economic stability.

But we also must remember that adaptation has limits, and that climate change is already threatening millions of peoples' lives today. As the IPCC shows, reducing GHG emissions by 43% this decade and stabilising global warming at or below 1.5°C is still our best chance to keep the problem at a manageable scale.

Kenya's climate summit in September will provide a key opportunity to showcase Africa's commitment, potential, and opportunities to deal with the climate crisis. We need all governments to step up and agree to phase out unabated fossil-fuel use. We need reforms to make our financial institutions and systems fit for purpose. And we need to take climate action seriously. In the words of Eliud Kipchoge, the key to success is to "walk your talk."

KHALEEJ TIMES

The climate loss and damage fund is coming

By: Sameh Shoukry

Last November's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, concluded on a historic high note, with the last-minute agreement to establish a "loss and damage" fund. The decision to offer financial support to vulnerable countries suffering the worst effects of global warming was a remarkable achievement that has resonated worldwide. But as we move from establishing the fund to implementing it, important questions remain.

What is a realistic funding target? Who will receive financial assistance? Which entities will have final say over the fund?

As we near the halfway mark between COP27 and COP28 in Dubai, the international community must address these critical questions in the spirit of constructive multilateralism that animated the proceedings in Sharm El Sheikh.

Governments, activists, and affected citizens were able to agree on this key plank of climate justice, and we must now demonstrate the same level of collaboration in making it a success.

In March, the COP27 presidency held the first Transitional Committee meeting in Luxor, Egypt, to begin addressing the operationalisation of the fund. The composition of the committee ensured a diverse range of voices, and complex issues were discussed in a constructive spirit of cooperation.

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change defines loss and damage as the harm caused by human-generated climate change. Solutions to postpone, minimise, or prevent such harm to vulnerable communities worldwide must also be human-generated. It is our collective responsibility to implement effective policies to combat global warming, as well as to alleviate suffering and provide financial support to people whose lives have been upended by rising temperatures.

The Transitional Committee meetings are designed precisely for this purpose: To discuss effective methods and modalities that will turn the concept of the loss and damage fund into a tangible reality while identifying gaps in the existing climate-finance system. Requests and demands are currently being analysed and considered before finalizing the mechanics to ensure proper implementation.

Backed by a broad range of government, civil-society, and private-sector stakeholders, the fund is designed to consider the short-, medium-, and long-term effects of climate change on developing countries. It will supply financial and technological resources for responding to loss and damage caused by both immediate and slow-onset events. That could mean early-warning systems, disaster-risk reduction, or ecosystem restoration.

As the architect of the fund, Egypt is committed to ensuring its effectiveness, transparency, and accessibility. We strongly believe that all stakeholders must fully collaborate to fulfil its objectives and make a significant change in the communities hit hardest by global warming. The burden of climate change is unequal, and we have the chance to create a much fairer and stability-enhancing balance.

The loss and damage fund represents a major step forward, but it is not enough. We must continue to work tirelessly to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions – the root cause of climate change. This can be achieved by accelerating the transition to clean energy, empowering communities to adapt their livelihoods, and adhering to scientific recommendations in line with internationally agreed principles.

At the same time, the need to create a working loss and damage fund that delivers on the promises made at COP27 is acute. East Africa and the Sahel are currently experiencing severe droughts caused by human-induced climate change, which has resulted in meagre rain levels as well as increased evapotranspiration in plants and soil. Plagued by food insecurity, many people in the affected countries are internally displaced or have been forced to migrate, underscoring global warming's disruptive effects and the increasingly limited ability of both nature and humanity to adapt to them.

The newly created fund will remain a top priority in climate discussions, and it is crucial to enter COP28 with a clear strategy for its effective implementation. We must approach the task with a unified sense of purpose – only by working together and getting the details right can we begin to address the vast inequities of the crisis. But given the significance of the task at hand, I am confident that we will succeed.

MALAYA BUSINESS INSIGHT

[DA eyes tie ups with EU, SoKor](#)

By: Jed Macapagal

The Department of Agriculture (DA) is optimistic about forging more partnerships with the European Union (EU) and South Korea following recent meetings.

Domingo Panganiban, DA senior undersecretary, met with delegates of the EU-Asean Business Council and the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines last week to discuss matters of mutual interests in agricultural development, foreign trades and investments, economic growth and other potential areas of cooperation.

In a statement, Panganiban said among those discussed were the need to address the high prices of sugar in the local market as well as efforts toward food security in the Philippines, which include promoting opportunities in agriculture among the youth.

The DA also discussed the current review on key commodity investment plans through the Philippine Rural Development Project and the promotion of accessible and affordable healthcare for local agricultural laborers and their families.

It also cited efforts to improve local food production and competitiveness while opening the country's doors to collaborative activities with the EU and other foreign partners.

The DA mentioned in the meeting with EU representatives that since the Philippines ranked as the top country with the highest disaster risk worldwide under the World Risk Index 2022, immediate mitigations are required to limit the impacts of climate change in its agri-fishery sector.

“Increased cooperation and foreign investments spell more jobs, higher incomes, better access to basic commodities, less inflation collaboration and partnership over confrontation.

The more unbounded the flow of both, the stronger the momentum for economic prosperity and peace among nations,” Panganiban said.

The DA met separately with officials of the Korea Agricultural Machinery Industry Cooperative (KAMICO), a federation of Korean agricultural machinery manufacturers with about 700 companies as members.

The DA said the meeting with KAMICO is meant to discuss the proposed establishment of a 20-hectare farm machinery and equipment assembly plant in the Philippines.

According to KAMICO, apart from machineries, it can assist the Philippines by sharing technology or innovations for cultivating fruits like mango and strawberries as well as the Korean orchard farming method.

MANILA BULLETIN

[ADB, World Bank and Fitch Ratings commend PH's stable economy](#)

Three international institutions extended support and commendation to the Philippines over the past week.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced a \$4-billion grant during President Marcos' visit to its headquarters. The grant covers major infrastructure projects such as the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge Project, the Davao Public Market Modernization Project, and the Integrated Floor Resilience and Adaptation Project. Also included is financing support for the pilot testing of the national food stamp program which fortifies the social protection portfolio of the Department of Social Welfare and Development. Additionally, the ADB is providing support to climate change adaptation and mitigation programs.

The ADB has increased its assistance to the Philippines four-fold between 2018 and 2022, reaching P12.7 billion. Japan, the biggest ADB equity contributor, has been the country's number one source of official development assistance (ODA) since 2001, accounting for 72 percent of the Philippines' total bilateral loan portfolio as of 2021.

The World Bank (WB) reaffirmed its support for the Philippines' drive toward becoming a prosperous, inclusive and poverty-free nation by 2040 during the bank's Managing Director for Operations Anna Bjerde's call to President Marcos in Malacañang. She said the WB is committed to supporting the country's development agenda including climate change, renewable energy transition, food and agriculture development, water and sanitation, digitalization and innovation. Noteworthy, too, are the WB's Teacher Effectiveness and Competencies Enhancement Project (TEACEP) and the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) Step-Up.

The World Bank is the Philippines' third largest ODA partner, with active loans and grants amounting to \$6.8 billion.

The third commendation came from credit rating agency Fitch Ratings which affirmed the Philippines 'BBB' credit rating and upgraded its outlook from "negative" to "stable." This represents a significant change from the downgrade it made in July 2021 on account of "downside risks to medium-term growth prospects as a result of potential scarring effects" of the pandemic-induced recession. The revision of the outlook to 'stable' reflects Fitch's improved confidence in the Philippines' return to strong medium-term growth. Recent developments indicate that the country could attain a six percent economic growth, which is higher than the median "BBB" growth rate of three percent.

Buttressing these commendations, Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines Koshikawa Kazuhiko said the Group of Seven (G7) leaders of the world's largest industrialized countries expressed their support for a free and open Indo-Pacific region and for the observance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) as the governing framework for resolving disputes. This affirms the Marcos' administration's foreign policy which the President has actively espoused in his interface with world leaders. India and Australia, together with the US and Japan, are also part of the Quad alliance which, according to Japan's Ambassador, has similarly declared support for the Philippines' foreign policy posture.

In sum, positive affirmation from the world's leading multilateral financial institutions and recognized credit rating agency, bodes well for the country's continuing march toward attaining an upper middle-income country within the next few years, and ultimately a prosperous middle-class country by 2040.

MANILA STANDARD

[Global temperatures to break records in the next five years](#)

Global temperatures are likely to surge to record levels in the next five years, fueled by heat-trapping greenhouse gases and a naturally occurring El Niño weather pattern, a new update issued by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said.

There is a 66-percent likelihood that the annual average near-surface global temperature between 2023 and 2027 will be more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for at least one year.

And there is a 98-percent likelihood that at least one of the next five years, and the five-year period, will be the warmest on record.

“A warming El Niño is expected to develop in the coming months and this will combine with human-induced climate change to push global temperatures into uncharted territory,” said WMO secretary-general Jukka Petteri Taalas.

“This will have far-reaching repercussions for health, food security, water management and the environment. We need to be prepared,” he said.

El Niño typically increases global temperatures in the year after it develops, in this case, in 2024.

There is a 98-percent chance of at least one in the next five years beating the temperature record set in 2016, when there was an exceptionally strong El Niño.

Arctic warming is disproportionately high, the report said. Compared to the 1991-2020 average, the temperature anomaly is predicted to be more than three times as large as the global expected anomaly when considering the next five northern hemisphere extended winters.

Predicted rain patterns for the May to September 2023-2027 average, compared to the 1991-2020 average, suggest increased rainfall in the Sahel, northern Europe, Alaska and northern Siberia, and reduced rainfall for this season over the Amazon and parts of Australia, the report said.

Water is becoming increasingly scarce in arid and semi-arid parts of Sudan.

In addition to increasing global temperatures, human-induced greenhouse gases are leading to more ocean heating and acidification, sea ice and glacier melt, sea level rise and more extreme weather.

The Paris Agreement sets long-term goals to guide all nations to substantially reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to limit the global temperature increase in this century to 2°C while pursuing efforts to limit the increase even further to 1.5°C, to avoid or reduce adverse impacts and related losses and damages.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says climate-related risks for global warming are higher than 1.5 °C but lower than 2 °C.

The new report was released ahead of the World Meteorological Congress on May 22 to June 2, which will discuss how to strengthen weather and climate services to support climate change adaptation.

Priorities for discussion at Congress include the UN's Early Warnings for All initiative to protect people from increasingly extreme weather and a new Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure to inform climate mitigation.

GN Power committed to create beneficial environmental impact

By: Butch Gunio

GN Power Dinginin Ltd. Co (GNPD) is committed to creating beneficial environmental impact.

The company in fact has participated in the recent 24th Philippine Coal Plant User's Group forum with the theme "Philippine Coal Plants: Coping Up with Climate Change", which

was attended by 19 coal power plants operating in the country and 270 individuals all sharing the same goal of finding ways to mitigate the impact of coal power plants on the environment.

The company presented the state-of-the-art facilities and innovation for more efficient and clean energy production resulting in lower emissions and a reduced impact on the environment.

The company gives importance to reforestation initiatives and corporate social responsibilities, and recognizes the need to balance energy production with environmental protection.

GNPD is a prominent player in the Philippine energy sector, operating the country's largest coal-fired power plant.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

[Pacific islands, in spotlight, to push climate change in South Korea summit](#)

By: Reuters

Pacific island leaders will meet South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol in Seoul on Monday, May 29, their third summit in a week with a large economy as the region seeks stronger action on climate change as it becomes a focus of geopolitical power attention.

The Pacific islands span 40 million square kilometers of ocean between the United States and Asia, and Western allies have moved to boost their engagement amid concerns over China's security ambitions for the strategic waters and economic leverage among the small island states.

Australia's Defense Minister Richard Marles will attend the first Korea-Pacific Islands Summit, his office said Saturday, adding it would show cooperation between the 18 members of the Pacific Island Forum and South Korea for a secure region.

"Australia welcomes Korea's interest in deepening ties with the Pacific, and looks forward to building on our foundation of shared values to promote our mutual interest in a prosperous and resilient Pacific," he said in a statement.

South Korea is Australia's third-largest export market, with trade dominated by exports of gas and coal. Marles will also hold a bilateral meeting with Korean Minister of National Defense Lee Jong-sup.

Australia and New Zealand are the largest members of the forum, a bloc of mostly small island countries at risk from rising sea levels caused by climate change and reliant on aid from development partners.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged more trade and development assistance in a summit with a dozen Pacific island leaders in Papua New Guinea (PNG) on Monday. The United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken signed a defense agreement with PNG after a Pacific summit there on the same day.

The back-to-back meetings with major economies were a "massive boost for recognition of our priorities", said Pacific Islands Forum Secretary General Henry Puna in a statement.

The island states, which are seeking greater funding for climate change mitigation, have taken a collective approach to dealing with major powers.

“Forum Leaders see this as vital to addressing the challenges facing the Blue Planet, to planning and owning our development agenda, and to deepened climate resilience,” Puna said.

In Seoul, climate change, investment and fisheries are expected to feature in talks.

The Pacific islands has the world’s largest tuna fishery, where South Korea’s long distance fleet has been fishing since 1958, catching 255,226 tons in 2021 under license schemes controlled by the forum members.

France, which has Pacific overseas territories, will also join the Seoul meeting.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

DA, EU explore agri dev't, investment opportunities

By: Anna Leah Gonzales

Officials of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and delegates of the European Union-ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) and the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) recently met to discuss possible areas of cooperation.

In a statement Friday, the DA said the meeting which was attended by DA Senior Undersecretary Domingo F. Panganiban and officials from the EU-ABC and ECCP, was held last May 24 to identify mutual interests in agricultural development and trade and investments.

Among those discussed were the need to address the high prices of sugar in the local market.

The DA also highlighted the government's efforts toward food security which include the promotion of opportunities in agriculture among the Filipino youth, reviewing key commodity investment plans through the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), promoting accessible and affordable healthcare for local agricultural laborers and their families and improving local food production and competitiveness.

Aside from this, the DA also cited the need to mitigate and address climate change's impact on the agri-fishery sector.

To address this, the agency earmarked PHP1 billion for its Quick Response Fund.

The DA is also developing climate-resilient crop varieties and advocating for eco-friendly agricultural practices.

The Department is also aiming to build climate-resilient livelihoods and communities through the implementation of the Adaptation and Mitigation Initiative in Agriculture (AMIA) Program, the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency (FishCoRe) Project and the Mindanao Inclusive Agriculture Development Project (MIADP), among many others.

“Increased cooperation and foreign investments spell more jobs, higher incomes, better access to basic commodities, less inflation, and collaboration and partnership over

confrontation. The more unbounded the flow of both, the stronger the momentum for economic prosperity and peace among nations,” Panganiban said.

During the meeting, EU-ABC Vice Chairman Tassilo Brinzer said European businesses are ready to share the best practices in agriculture and expertise in innovation to support the country's growth.

"By leveraging our expertise in agribusiness management, sustainable farming techniques, and market access, we hope to uplift the livelihoods of Filipino farmers and contribute to poverty reduction in rural areas,” Brinzer said.

ECCP Executive Director Florian Gottein, for his part, commended President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s initiative to invite investors to come in the Philippines.

"The Philippines is now on the map and I think that this is a new era, a golden age for investments into the Philippines. We are very much optimistic that we will see more European companies coming here, supporting your efforts, and maybe reckon trying to work with you to bring the agriculture in this country to the next level,” Gottein said.

European Investment Bank lends €3.4B to circular economy projects

The European Investment Bank (EIB) lending to circular economy projects has consistently increased over the years, amounting to €3.4 billion over the past five years, with a record level of €1.1 billion alone in 2022.

The figures were released ahead of the World Circular Economy Forum 2023 (WCEF 2023) slated for May 30 to June 2 in Helsinki, Finland.

Nevertheless, the financing gap remains huge for the plastics recycling sector alone, the EIB study “Cutting plastics pollution – Financial measures for a more circular value chain” found an estimated investment gap of at least €6.7 billion to achieve Europe’s plastics recycling targets.

The EIB has also been building strong partnerships with multilateral development banks and civil society organizations to accelerate the transition to a circular economy.

Ambroise Fayolle, EIB Vice-President responsible for financing environment, climate action and the circular economy said: “It is very clear today that there can be no transition to a carbon-neutral economy without a transition to a circular economy, one where we keep resources in use for as long as possible and significantly reduce waste. Financial institutions have an important role to play as one of the drivers of the transition to the circular economy. In the last five years, the EIB provided €3.4 billion to co-finance 118 circular economy projects in a variety of sectors and stands ready to do more to help meet the lending needs of its partners in this domain.”

PH, Korea ink water resources management project

By: Anna Leah Gonzales

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) signed Friday the Record of Discussions to implement the Capacity Building for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Sustainable Development project.

The USD2.5-million capacity development project, which will continue until 2024, aims to increase the management and technical skills of institutions involved in the water resources sector.

“This momentous occasion holds great promise for the improvement of vital services, such as water supply, sanitation, irrigation, and flood control under the framework of Integrated Water Resources Management or the IWRM. By ensuring equitable, efficient, and sustainable management and allocation of our water resources, we can embark on a path of progress,” NEDA Secretary Arsenio M. Balisacan said in a statement.

Under the agreement, NEDA will implement the project in coordination with the National Water Resources Board, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Local Water Utilities Administration and the National Irrigation Administration.

NEDA will also coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Water Management Office (WRMO) to make sure that the implementation is aligned with the WRMO's mandate on integrating and harmonizing all government efforts towards ensuring sustainable management of water resources in the country.

The Philippines-Korea IWRM Cooperation Roadmap will also be established to achieve the project's objectives.

The project, likewise, aims to offer training to personnel in the Philippines and dispatch experts from Korea to provide technical advice.

Balisacan said the project will help address the issues in the country's water sector.

“We must address these shortcomings by embracing effective water governance through integrated water resources management. By harmonizing the planning and management of land, water, and coastal resources, we can overcome these obstacles and create a brighter future for all,” he said.

KOICA Philippines country director Kim Eunsub, meanwhile, said the project will help the Philippine government achieve its goal to provide universal access to safe and sustainable water and sanitation for Filipinos.

“KOICA recognizes the need to enhance the capability of the Philippine government in dealing with challenges and threats in the water sector. Our project was designed to help water agencies implement IWRM reforms and address issues on increasing water demand, insufficient water infrastructure, and rising climate change threats,” Kim said.

RAPPLER

[Enough with fossil fuels, Pope Francis says in latest climate appeal](#)

The world must rapidly ditch fossil fuels and end “the senseless war against creation,” Pope Francis said on Thursday, May 25, in a fresh plea over climate change that called on people to repent for their “ecological sins.”

Francis has made the protection of the environment a cornerstone of his pontificate, noting in his landmark 2015 “Laudato Si” (Praised Be) encyclical that the planet was “beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.”

In a message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, he said a UN climate summit meeting in Dubai on November 30 to December 12 “must listen to science and institute a rapid and equitable transition to end the era of fossil fuel.”

“According to the commitments undertaken in the Paris Agreement to restrain global warming, it is absurd to permit the continued exploration and expansion of fossil fuel infrastructures,” he added.

“The unrestrained burning of fossil fuels and the destruction of forests are pushing temperatures higher and leading to massive droughts,” Francis said, also criticizing oil and gas fracking and “unchecked mega-mining projects.”

Francis, an Argentine who is the first pope to hail from the so-called Global South, denounced global inequalities and said that “consumerist greed, fueled by selfish hearts, is disrupting the planet’s water cycle.”

Through the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Catholics are urged to offer special prayers for the planet. It is observed on September 1, but it is customary for the papal message linked to it to be released months in advance.

As well as quoting from “Laudato Si,” the document cites previous popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI, indicating that Francis’ pro-environment focus stands in continuity with his more conservative predecessors.

THE MANILA TIMES

[NEDA, Korea partner for \\$2.5-M water project](#)

By: Niña Myka Pauline Arceo

THE National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica) have forged a partnership for a \$2.5-million water resource management project.

The partnership was formalized through the Record of Discussions signed by NEDA and Koica on Friday to implement the Capacity Building for Integrated Water Resources Management and Sustainable Development project.

"This momentous occasion holds great promise for the improvement of vital services, such as water supply, sanitation, irrigation and flood control under the framework of Integrated Water Resources Management, or the IWRM," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said.

"By ensuring equitable, efficient and sustainable management and allocation of our water resources, we can embark on a path of progress," said Balisacan, also the NEDA secretary general.

The capacity development project is estimated to cost around \$2.5 million and will run until 2024, with a goal of improving the managerial and technical capabilities of institutions working in the water resources industry.

The program complements the policies outlined in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, which asserts that integrated water and resource management is an avenue for enhancing the rehabilitation, protection and management of the country's ecosystems.

Balisacan emphasized the importance of the project in solving problems in the water sector caused by weak governance and fragmented systems.

"We must address these shortcomings by embracing effective water governance through integrated water resources management. By harmonizing the planning and management of land, water and coastal resources, we can overcome these obstacles and create a brighter future for all," he added.

For his part, Koica Philippines Country Director Kim Eunsub acknowledged the need to strengthen the Philippine government's capabilities to cope with risks and challenges in the water sector.

"Our project was designed to help water agencies implement IWRM reforms and address issues on increasing water demand, insufficient water infrastructure and rising climate change threats," Eunsub said.

The Koica official expressed optimism that the initiative will help the government achieve its objective of providing Filipinos with universal access to safe and sustainable water and sanitation.

To ensure efficient implementation, NEDA will work closely with the National Water Resources Board, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Local Water Utilities Administration and the National Irrigation Administration.

As part of its efforts to attain the project's objectives, according to NEDA, the implementing organizations will collaborate to develop the Philippines-Korea IWRM Cooperation Roadmap.

The NEDA stated that it will also collaborate with the Water Resources Management Office (WRMO) within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. This will ensure that the capacity-building project is successfully implemented in accordance with WRMO's mandate of integrating and harmonizing all government efforts in attaining sustainable management of water resources.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

[\[Opinion\] Climate change trips](#)

By: Marichu A. Villanueva

By God's graces, our country was just grazed by the super typhoon called "Betty" over the weekend. With the international name "Mawar," it could have brought another catastrophic magnitude of damages, especially to a disaster-prone country like the Philippines. We heave a collective sigh of relief that we got spared from major destruction and almost zero loss of lives.

Credit goes to the so-called "whole of government" early preparations and pre-positioning of men, equipment and resources. Even if "Betty" moved far away from our country, it is better to be safe than sorry.

Typhoon "Betty" is just the second tropical cyclone that hit and crossed the Philippines this year. Our country is visited by an average of 20 typhoons each year. In March this year, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) declared that the dry season is expected to last until May.

"Betty" passed us by despite PAGASA predictions of early onset of the El Niño phenomenon. PAGASA projected the long dry spell will develop in our country in the third quarter of 2023 and "may persist until 2024." El Niño increases the likelihood of below-normal rainfall conditions. PAGASA warns this could lead to droughts in some areas of the Philippines even while habagat pulls in tropical storms to enter our country.

That's how erratic climate change has drastically altered our normal weather patterns.

Thus, we cannot solely blame PAGASA weather experts for the faulty weather predictions. As the primary weather monitor, climate change is no excuse though for PAGASA to be woefully way off the mark in tracking the erratic movements of super typhoon "Betty."

No less than President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. (PBBM) himself fully understands and pro-actively addresses the challenges of climate change. PBBM has been espousing the need for climate change adaptation measures in every opportunity to highlight them in his speeches. "We cannot avoid talking about climate change and the effects of climate change and the changes that we have to do or the way we work because we have to adjust to climate change. We have to adapt to the effects of climate

change,” PBBM pointed out in his recent speech at the inauguration of the ACEN windmills farm in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte.

But I can't for the life of me understand why Philippine government officials would go abroad on talk-athon conferences related to climate change. In a press and photo release last Friday, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) bandied about a Philippine delegation flying to New York for a three-day conference held at the United Nations from May 18-20.

The same press and photo release claimed it was PBBM who “designated” DENR Secretary Antonia Loyzaga to head the Philippine delegation to the UN High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). From Google, it reported the High-Level Meeting was convened by the President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) under the theme “Working Together to Reduce Risk for a Resilient Future.”

The DENR photo release showed the Philippine delegation Secretary Loyzaga and several other officials from the DENR who included Undersecretary and Chief of Staff Marilou Erni. Several other officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA); the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA); the Department of National Defense-Office of Civil Defense headed by Assistant Secretary Ariel Nepomuceno, and private sector representatives from the ARISE Philippines comprise the rest of the Philippine delegation to New York.

They were joined at this UN-DRR meeting by New York-based Ambassador Leila Lora-Santos and our country's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Antonio Lagdameo.

According to the same DENR press release “the Loyzaga-led delegation” presented the Philippine papers that reaffirmed the government's commitments to building resilience, especially among the most vulnerable sectors in the country. “The delegation stated how the climate crisis and the pandemic amplified pre-existing social vulnerabilities and overshadowed the country's achievements in significantly reducing disaster-related mortalities, the number of affected populations, and direct economic losses to GDP (gross domestic product) prior to 2020. It further pointed out that majority of all loss and damage between 2010 and 2020 were due to tropical cyclones alone, until COVID-19 came and reversed years of social progress and drove more than three million Filipinos back into poverty.”

Yes, we get it. Other than the hifalutin words contained in the Philippine statement, we totally understand the message that our government would like to tell the world. From

pre-emptive evacuation of people to safer shelters and higher grounds, to the re-positioning of rescue personnel, equipment and relief goods, these are the “best practices” and the “to do” activities on DRR and climate change adaptation measures.

But do we need a Philippine delegation just to present and read the country’s position paper to that event at the UNGA? Isn’t it precisely we have our Permanent Representative to the UNGA who can capably do this simple task? Loyzaga flew there just two weeks after she was also part of PBBM delegation in Washington D.C. She reportedly joined in private and official meetings that – I supposed – required inputs from the DENR Secretary.

To obviously justify this junket, the DENR press release stated in the end: “The New York meeting is seen as a fitting prelude to the Philippine hosting of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in October 2024.”

Loyzaga is reportedly equally if not out-travelled PBBM in foreign trips in one year so far of this administration. It is not unusual if the DFA Secretary, or the Tourism Secretary, or even the Finance Secretary to frequently embark on job-related travels abroad.

But for the DENR Secretary to go on climate change trips abroad, go figure.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

HATAW

[KSMBPI susuportahan Climate Change Awarenes ng MTRCB, CCC](#)

By: Pilar Mateo

CCC lauds MTRCB's Climate Change Reduction Efforts. The Climate Change Commission (CCC) Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz and Kapisanan ng Social Media Broadcasters ng Pilipinas, Inc. (KSMBPI) Chairman Dr. Michael Raymond Aragon paid a courtesy visit on MTRCB Chairperson Lala Sotto.

Commissioner Dela Cruz lauded the initiatives of the MTRCB in relation to climate change reduction efforts incorporated in the programs and activities of the Board.

Meanwhile, KSMBPI Chairman Aragon expressed his full support to the MTRCB and CCC and committed his organization's assistance to promote Climate Change Awareness in the country.

Present in the meeting from the MTRCB are: Board Member and Climate Change Committee Chairperson Rocky Cruz and Executive Director II Atty. Mamarico Sansarona Jr..

The CCC is the lead policy-making body of the government tasked to coordinate, monitor and evaluate government programs and ensure mainstreaming of climate change in national, local, and sectoral development plans towards a climate-resilient and climate-smart Philippines.

Ginanap din ang MOA signing ng CCC sa tanggapan nito sa Malacañang.

Samantala, natutuwa si Doc Aragon na sa pagpapatuloy ng pagpapalaganap niya sa mga kaalaman sa climate change, hanggang sa pelikula rin ay magagawa niya itong ipamalas.

Bukod sa pangunguna sa pagpapahayag ng mga kaalaman sa climate change, hindi lang sa bansa kundi sa buong mundo, isang maituturing na advocacy film ang isinasagawa na ngayon, ang Thanks for the Brokenheart na ilalahok sa darating na The Manila Film Festival (TMFF) 2023.

[CCC, AFP agree to conduct climate change activities nationwide](#)

Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. (left) shakes the hand of Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief-of-staff Lieutenant General Andres Centino (right) after the CCC official hammered out an agreement with the country's military to conduct climate action activities that include tree-planting, carbon sequestration, and even promoting food security through urban gardening and other efforts for agricultural productivity.



CCC, AFP agree to conduct climate change activities nationwide

May 26, 2022, 10:11 am

Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. (left) shakes the hand of Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief-of-staff Lieutenant General Andres Centino (right) after the CCC official hammered out an agreement with the country's military to conduct climate action activities that include tree-planting, carbon sequestration, and even promoting food security through urban gardening and other efforts for agricultural productivity.

We are the solution to the climate problem — Dela Cruz

“We have a climate problem but we also have the solution amidst the problem.” So said Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. in his speech during the Climate Change Summit at the Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU) attended by the university’s president Dr. Ruby Santos-Matibag, vice president Dr. Thelma Manansala, school administrators, campus and department heads and faculty recently.

Commissioner Dela Cruz cited that although our environment does not really need us, we need the environment to sustain our existence “so it is incumbent upon us to promote sustainable and ecological development based on research, empirical data, and collective action.”

He likewise underscored the urgent need for a paradigm shift in environmental protection and climate action because the challenges in food and water security and population control are all anthropogenic or caused by human activities.

“Despite this, we realize that human persons, too, can be the solution to the problem,” he enthused even as he noted that “we did not inherit our planet but rather borrowed it from our children.”

“What we do now will determine the future of our children. So I call on the academe and the education sector to join hands with us and unite in climate action for the common good and for the whole world,” he concluded.

=END=