



## NEWS ROUNDUP

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### BUSINESS WORLD

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By Edwin O. Fernandez

KABACAN, North Cotabato – Two have died due to drowning in North Cotabato while about 80,000 individuals have been displaced by floods in two Maguindanao towns on Thursday, disaster officials said.

### **PHILIPPINE STAR**

## [Marcos lauds important contributions of Filipino seafarers to country's progress](#)

By Gaea Katreena Cabico

MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. lauded Sunday the invaluable contributions of Filipino mariners as the world commemorates the annual Day of the Seafarer.

### **RESILIENCE.ORG**

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By Kurt Cobb

Ploughing and seeding wheat in the American West (1881)

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## **CCC IN THE NEWS**

### **DAILY TRIBUNE**

## [Climate-induced health risks rise](#)

By Lade Jean Kabagani

The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control or ECDC said there is an increased risk of mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue and chikungunya amid the frequent heat waves, flooding, and severe weather conditions.

## **MAHARLIKA TV**

### **[Dela Cruz fully backs PBBM's food security agenda](#)**

MANILA — Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. has expressed full support to President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr.'s call for a priority agenda on soil and water management that would ensure proper soil use and management and address land degradation, enhance crop productivity and improve farmers' income.

## **MANILA STANDARD**

### **[Marcos renews call to protect environment vs. climate change](#)**

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has highlighted the importance of pursuing more environmental protection programs to beef up the country's fight against climate change.

## **PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

### **[Swift action needed as health risks rise due to climate change](#)**

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

MANILA – Europe has reported an increasing risk of mosquito-borne diseases, more frequent heat waves and flooding, and severe weather conditions like summers getting longer and warmer.

## **Information and Knowledge Management Division**

## **BORNEO BULLETIN**

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The impacts of climate change cannot be mitigated within geographical territories alone as global action is imperative, said Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) Secretary Marcial Amaro Jr who served as the meeting chair at the 33rd Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Nature and Conservation and Biodiversity (AWGNCB) from June 20 to 21.

“There are targets such as restoration of degraded ecosystems requiring connectivity to enhance ecosystem functions and services.

The use, harvest and trade of wild species necessitate cross-border cooperation to minimise overexploitation and reduce risk of pathogen spillovers. Monitoring, assessing, and reporting compliance of large, transnational companies and financial institutions entail cooperation among ASEAN member states for full disclosure of risks, dependencies, and impacts on biodiversity,” he added.

The 10-nation political and economic bloc, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), met in Pasay City, Philippines for a two-day meeting to map out its actions for nature in line with the new set of global biodiversity targets or the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The meeting was hosted and chaired by the Philippines through the DENR-BMB to discuss how the rich biodiversity in the region can be protected and sustainably used to contribute to the resiliency, recovery, and economic development in Southeast Asia.

## **BUSINESS WORLD**

### **[Climate change may have stimulated plankton bloom behind Thai mass fish die-off](#)**

BANGKOK — Climate change might have stimulated a plankton bloom that caused thousands of dead fish to wash up along a 3- to 4-kilometer stretch of beach in Thailand’s southern Chumphon province, an expert said.

Thon Thamrongnawasawat, deputy dean of the Faculty of Fisheries at Kasetsart University, attributed the fish deaths on Thursday to the bloom — a natural occurrence that lowers oxygen levels in the water and causes fish to suffocate.

“Various natural phenomena, such as coral bleaching or plankton bloom, have naturally occurred for thousands to tens of thousands of years. However, when global warming occurs, it intensifies and increases the frequency of existing phenomena,” he said.

According to local authorities, plankton bloom happens one or two times a year and typically lasts two to three days.

Officials have collected seawater for further assessment and analysis.

Worldwide, marine heatwaves have become a growing concern this year, with thousands of dead fish washing up on beaches in Texas and experts warning of algal blooms along the British coast as a result of rising sea temperatures.

Global sea surface temperatures for April and May were the highest on record for those months, according to the British Met Office.

“Whether it’s Australia and places like the Great Barrier Reef or even places around England which are experiencing quite bad marine heatwaves at the moment, it’s really going to be detrimental to those local ecosystems,” said Sarah Perkins-Kirkpatrick, a climate scientist with the University of New South Wales in Australia.  
— Reuters

## **NDBC NEWS**

### **[2 die due to flashfloods in North Cotabato; 80K residents in Maguindanao Sur affected](#)**

By Edwin O. Fernandez

KABACAN, North Cotabato – Two have died due to drowning in North Cotabato while about 80,000 individuals have been displaced by floods in two Maguidnanao towns on Thursday, disaster officials said.

All the 11 villages of Pagalungan, Maguindanao del Sur have been underwater while most part of Datu Montawal were also flooded.

Two persons, a farmer and a 14-year-old boy, were separately killed in Magpet and Matalam, respectively, when they tried, but failed to cross rivers with swollen flood water. Their remains were fished out downstream.

The two provinces have experienced heavy downpour on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

No casualty was reported due to flash floods in Maguindanao but many valuables were damaged when flood waters enter their homes at past midnight.

Even the municipal grounds of Pagalungan was under water but municipal workers continue to report for work with a payloader hauling them from the highway to the municipal hall building as shown in the photo.

## PHILIPPINE STAR

### [Marcos lauds important contributions of Filipino seafarers to country's progress](#)

By Gaea Katreena Cabico

MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. lauded Sunday the invaluable contributions of Filipino mariners as the world commemorates the annual Day of the Seafarer.

Marcos expressed his gratitude to Filipino seafarers, who comprise the majority of the sea-based workers in the global shipping and transport market.

“Since time immemorial, our ancestors had long relied on seafaring to sustain their livelihood and forge economic and trade relations with people from other towns and countries. Over the centuries, our seafarers have explored far horizons to provide food, produce energy and build the foundation of our nation’s progress,” Marcos said in a video message.

“The courage and resilience that you demonstrate despite all the adversities and challenges that come your way show that the centuries-long tradition of Filipino seafaring remains strong and still drives each and every one of you today,” he added.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo also expressed appreciation for the important contributions of Filipino seafarers to the continuing flow of commerce and trade across the globe and to sustainable development.

“We also celebrate the invaluable contributions of women seafarers who have excelled in different maritime professions, demonstrating their competence, dedication, and resilience. We are committed to fostering an environment that empowers and supports women’s participation in all areas of the maritime industry, ensuring equal opportunities for everyone,” Manalo said.

In late March, the European Commission decided it will continue recognizing certificates for seafarers issued by the Philippines. It cited “constructive cooperation” with Philippine authorities and their “efforts to improve the system for training and certifying seafarers.”

### **Protection of the world’s oceans**

The theme of this year’s Day of Seafarer is “MARPOL at 50—Our commitment goes on.” The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) is the main global treaty for the prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes.

“Seafarers have always played a critical role in helping to protect the health of our ocean and planet, and that role is increasingly important,” International Maritime Organization Secretary General Kitack Lim said.

“As the shipping industry accelerates its support of the global efforts to combat climate change by moving towards decarbonization, seafarers' voices and actions are key to ensuring a just transition to a zero-carbon future,” he added.

In preparation for the decarbonization — reducing emissions through upgrades, better technology and more efficient processes — of the shipping industry, seafarers will need to be equipped with adequate skills and training to operate new technologies and handle alternative fuels like ammonia, which could pose a significant health and safety risk to them.

According to scientists and experts, emissions from ships must be halved by 2030 and must reach net zero by 2050 to meet the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.



## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### [Puerto Princesa embarks on tree planting in urban areas](#)

By Izza Reynoso

PUERTO PRINCESA, Palawan – Residents here trooped to several locations over the weekend to take part in an annual mass planting of trees to celebrate the 30th Pista Y Ang Cagueban (Feast of the Forest) and the launch of its urban version intended to alleviate the heat in the city.

Mayor Lucilo Bayron oversaw the planting of around 6,000 endemic tree seedlings at Holy Trinity University (HTU) campus in Barangay Tiniguiban, one of several urban forestry sites selected by the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (City ENRO) for the purpose.

This year's Cagueban feast is taking place in this city for the first time, driven by a collective effort to combat the urban heat island effect that is linked to the challenges posed by climate change.

Bayron said due to the reported increase in the city's heat index, the City ENRO proposed hosting the event in the población (town proper).

“On this last Saturday of June, we are holding the Pista Y Ang Cagueban for the very first time in an urban area. We used to hold these events in more forested areas, such as watersheds. This time, we are holding its urban edition,” Bayron said in his speech.

Bayron acknowledged that when the City ENRO presented the new greening approach, he initially hesitated considering that people have been accustomed to holding the event in remote areas near rivers and inclines.

Aside from HTU, the other venues selected for tree-planting activities were Seminario de San Jose, also in Barangay Tiniguiban; Plaza Cuartel, overlooking the city harbor; and several schools within the poblacion.

“This is the right time to hold the Pista Y Ang Cagueban urban edition. By now, we are all aware of the so-called urban heat island effect. This happens when the concentration of people becomes so dense, and they start being crammed in limited areas surrounded by all sorts of concrete structures. The heat gets trapped within,” Bayron said.

Seven rural barangays to the north of the city, which were devastated by Typhoon Odette in December 2021, hosted the Pista last year.

Bayron said the urban edition of the Cagueban will continue as long as there are locations suitable for tree planting.

Third District Rep. Edward Hagedorn, who also joined the event, congratulated the people of Puerto Princesa for their "unflinching" support for the event.

The Palawan Integrated Area Development Project Office organized the first forest feast in the 1990s with the purpose of creating a sustained dedication to environmental protection and conservation, particularly among the younger population.

The Irawan watershed was the initial site for tree planting.

“It has been three decades since we started this activity and I’m so happy that through the years, the support of the people of Puerto Princesa for this program has remained the same. This is really an important activity as it has become a model program throughout the country, showing our unity in protecting our environment,” Hagedorn said.

This forest feast took a pause in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. (PNA)

## RAPPLER

### [\[OPINION\] How the climate crisis affects persons with disabilities](#)

By John Leo Algo

'Many LGUs have not been able to comply with disability-related policies, with around half of them without a Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office'

When we hear the statement, "The Philippines is one of the most vulnerable countries to the climate crisis," several groups immediately come to mind. We think of indigenous peoples, women, youth, and farmers as among those that would be hit the hardest by its impacts.

Rarely do we instantly think of persons with disabilities as among the most vulnerable.

There are nearly 1.5 million Filipinos classified as persons with disabilities, or 1.5% of the general population. This sector is disproportionately affected by the numerous impacts of the climate crisis, given their inherent vulnerabilities and the difficulties in accessing knowledge related to said issue.

Yet there is so much for us to understand about how exactly said sector is impacted by the climate crisis. A project of the Oscar M. Lopez Center called "Climate Resilience of the Deaf: Signs for Inclusive Governance and Development" (Project SIGND) recently convened a workshop to shed some light on the issue. Some key takeaways from the discussions are detailed below.

The climate crisis as a topic is difficult to communicate in simpler terms largely because of its scientific nature and the numerous factors that influence how different stakeholders perceive it. There are currently issues that prevent its full integration into formal education systems, which compounds the issue of communicating it. As a result, a large portion of Filipinos still have misconceptions about said crisis, ranging from the source of the problem to who should be accountable for addressing it.

Most of the available climate-related surveys cover people with access to education. If these surveys have shown how far behind the Philippines is regarding its knowledge and understanding of the climate crisis, it is safe to say that the situation is worse for persons with disabilities, who have limited access to formal education.

Communicating with the Deaf, for instance, requires the use of the Filipino Sign Language. However, there are a limited number of schools in the country capable of formally educating the Deaf, and these institutions may not be as affordable for them. Certain climate terminologies may also be lost in translation, which requires a more thorough review by experts.

Without proper knowledge of the climate crisis, its impacts, and solutions, their vulnerabilities would further increase. For example, a person with disability has more difficulties accessing basic necessities, like food and water, and securing livelihoods. When an extreme weather event like a drought hits his community, he is further disadvantaged in getting these necessities. This is indicative of how the persons with

disabilities are more susceptible to falling into poverty and another reflection of climate injustice that is becoming too familiar in the Philippines.

### **Lack of data**

According to the policy assessment of Project SIGND, data management has been one of the most common issues encountered across all levels of governance in the Philippines. In the case of climate-related information, this unfortunately applies as well. Many local government units (LGUs) encounter issues related to generating, collecting, and storing data, which limits or prevents their capacity to develop the proper solutions to address climate-related issues.

In the case of persons with disabilities, there has been a lack of updated and disaggregated data not just in the context of the climate crisis, but also in other facets of development. Many LGUs have not been able to comply with disability-related policies, with around half of them without a Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office, which was supposed to be established as stipulated in the Magna Carta for persons with disabilities. Without governance structures like this, the concerns of the sector would likely not reach policymakers, especially those living in far-flung areas.

Compounding this are problems like the lack of equipment needed for data management and communication, the lack of a standardized system across local and national agencies for reporting information, and the negative stigma towards persons with disabilities that makes many from the sector hesitant to participate in data collection.

### **Lack of inclusivity**

It was further noted in the presentations that “at least 1%” of the annual national budget was initially allotted for persons with disabilities and senior citizens under the General Appropriations Act. However, this language was eventually changed to allow budget allocations for these sectors only as needed.

This is only an example of the generally inadequate prioritization and support from the Philippine government on protecting the welfare of the persons with disabilities. According to Carolyn Dagani, President of the Philippine Federation of the Deaf and Project Lead of SIGND, only 10% of persons with disabilities currently receive support to address their needs and concerns, climate-related or otherwise.

While there have been notable laws designed to respond to the needs of the sector, many of them are not being implemented properly, lacking in funding for their operationalization, or part of the mandate of officials without political will. The low penalties for violations also encourage some stakeholders to ignore their responsibilities that accommodate the persons with disabilities (i.e. building infrastructures, pathways).

Without the proper implementation of these laws, it will be difficult for persons with disabilities to feel genuinely included in climate action. Their access to adaptation and mitigation measures, such as early warning systems and emergency news updates, also decreases with insufficient support. The sector is also

underrepresented, if not lacking in representation at all, in several key climate and disaster-related policymaking spaces at the national and local levels.

As you may have noticed, many of the issues that would adversely impact persons with disabilities are the usual governance issues you may have heard of before. But given their relatively unique vulnerabilities and limited access to modes of support, addressing such problems gets a whole new significance for this sector.

If the Philippines is going to utilize a “whole-of-society” approach to address the climate crisis, it needs to stop ignoring and start engaging with persons with disabilities. It is the only way to provide them the support that they need to cope with climate change impacts and pursue development. – Rappler.com

## RESILIENCE.ORG

### [Flash droughts: Are they the new normal?](#)

By Kurt Cobb

Ploughing and seeding wheat in the American West (1881)

The state of Illinois is suffering from its driest conditions in more than a decade. In fact, large swathes of the Midwest and Plains states are suffering from extraordinarily dry conditions according the U.S. Drought Monitor.

But a certain kind of drought is becoming more and more frequent: flash drought. The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration defines flash drought as follows:

Flash drought is simply the rapid onset or intensification of drought. It is set in motion by lower-than-normal rates of precipitation, accompanied by abnormally high temperatures, winds, and radiation. Together, these changes in weather can rapidly alter the local climate.

Illinois had been suffering from flash droughts since mid-April when virtually none of the state suffered from drought conditions.

Flash droughts are occurring more frequently than in the past, probably due to climate change. Researchers are not yet saying that this is the new normal since “slow droughts may also increase.” This change in the frequency of flash droughts “challenges drought monitoring and forecasting capabilities.” We’ll be less able to cope because models used previously to forecast drought will not work as well.

Droughts of any kind have consequences. In this case the consequences may be substantial for food crops such as corn, soybeans and wheat which are grown in large quantities in areas hit by drought so far this year. They represent three of the four main food crops which also include rice. Drought currently affects 64 percent of the U.S. corn crop and 57 percent of the soybean crop. So-called winter wheat, planted in the fall and harvested the following summer, may have suffered as well. The winter wheat harvest is just beginning.

Across the world in Asia, rice is in good supply, but rice-growing nations are wondering whether the emerging El Nino, a warming of the water in the southern Pacific Ocean, will reduce rainfall to India and southeast Asia as it often does. Some farmers in the Philippines are reluctant to plant rice fearing El Nino may hurt the water-intensive crop.

When drought hits wheat stands, they develop fewer harvestable heads and empty kernels. Corn develops what is called “leaf rolling” in which the leaves roll up to reduce water loss. But this also reduces photosynthesis and thus production of corn. Potassium deficiency is often a symptom of drought for corn. At a certain stage kernel rows will be reduced and the number of kernels per row will be limited.

Soybeans under drought stress can lose blossoms and pods and/or have both reduced seed numbers and size.

Grains may seem like a substantial, but not overly large part of the human diet. But it is important to remember that grains and oilseeds such as soybeans make up almost all of the feed for dairy, meat and egg-producing animals and are important sources of cooking oils. Hence, they are the basis of the vast majority of calories humans consume each day.

Droughts of the slow and fast kind are becoming more frequent. For those of us living in the city, clear skies might seem like a blessing in summer as long as it is not too hot. But to farmers clear skies with no rain day after day are a known danger to crop yields. Given the accelerating pace of climate change, drought and threats to crop yields are likely to move from being an occasional concern every few years to a frequent concern. And, that could challenge the very structure and viability of the worldwide food system we have built.

## CCC IN THE NEWS

### DAILY TRIBUNE

#### [Climate-induced health risks rise](#)

By Lade Jean Kabagani

The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control or ECDC said there is an increased risk of mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue and chikungunya amid the frequent heat waves, flooding, and severe weather conditions.

Hence, the Climate Change Commission warned that similar situations can also happen to the Philippines, as it is considered one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change and global warming.

In a statement on Saturday, CCC Commissioner Albert dela Cruz Sr. emphasized the need for immediate climate action to address the serious health risks among the general population, particularly the critically vulnerable and marginalized sectors.

“We realize that there is no disease group that is immune to the effects of climate change. And this is why we need to act now so we can respond to the threats to maintain a healthy population and with that attain economic stability through resiliency and sustainability,” he said, reacting to the ECDC report published on 22 June.

The ECDC said more cases and possibly deaths from diseases, such as dengue, chikungunya, and West Nile fever, are expected on the continent.

It added that the warming trend is creating more favorable conditions for invasive mosquito species, such as the *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*.

Based on ECDC data, a total of 162,214 cases and 974 dengue deaths have been reported globally, as of 8 June this year.

#### **More disease deaths**

“Among the elderly who experience heat stroke due to exposure to extreme heat, or indirectly, when climate change alters the environmental conditions for mosquito-borne diseases, like dengue and malaria, are examples of those health threats induced by the changing weather pattern,” De la Cruz said.

The World Health Organization has projected that between 2030 and 2050, climate change will cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year because of heat stress, malaria, diarrhea, and malnutrition alone.



It added that direct damage costs to health are estimated to be between \$2 billion and \$4 billion per year by 2030, noting that areas with weak health infrastructure, mostly in developing countries, will be the least able to cope without assistance.

CCC Secretary Robert Borje earlier called for urgent delivery of a global commitment to climate action, particularly the funding for climate-related loss and damage.

Borje highlighted the need to utilize the “best available science and best available technology” to guide the work on averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage amid climate change.

The Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 devotes an entire chapter to climate change and disaster resiliency.

Borje said the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is firm on putting a premium on relevant programs and policies that would sustain climate change adaptation not only for the Philippines but also for the global community.

The government, he added, has allocated about \$8.2 billion, or 8.82 percent of its national budget this year, for climate change adaptation and mitigation programs “towards meeting the unconditional nationally determined contribution targets.”

## MAHARLIKA TV

### [Dela Cruz fully backs PBBM's food security agenda](#)

MANILA — Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. has expressed full support to President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr.'s call for a priority agenda on soil and water management that would ensure proper soil use and management and address land degradation, enhance crop productivity and improve farmers' income.

According to the climate official, food security has always been a priority agenda even when the president was senator and governor and now as con-current Secretary of Agriculture, he is pushing to fast-track his administration's agricultural programs to achieve self-sufficiency for the Philippines.

The chief executive has mentioned consolidating farmers' cooperatives and associations as one of the national government's thrusts as well as the introduction of new technologies and machinery to Filipino farmers in order for them to gain access to more efficient practices.

In this, Commissioner Dela Cruz remarked that the Philippines is fortunate to be blessed with rich and fertile lands but while that has been the case, we will still find ourselves burdened by grave and urgent issues in providing quality and sufficient food for our people—some of which are caused by factors beyond our control, like climate change, and others within our control.

"We in government cannot solve the issues affecting our agriculture sector and food security by ourselves. As such, it is an opportune time for all of us to collaborate and share our wisdom and experience to boost our agricultural productivity while promoting sustainability and environmental protection," the climate official pointed out.

"This is a crucial part in our efforts for recovery and resiliency and in nation-building as a whole and in uplifting the lives of our people," he added.

Dela Cruz likewise stressed that through the sharing of information and enhancing programs related to food production, the Philippines would be able to achieve self-sufficiency that would benefit future generations of Filipinos.

## MANILA STANDARD

### [Marcos renews call to protect environment vs. climate change](#)

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has highlighted the importance of pursuing more environmental protection programs to beef up the country's fight against climate change.

Marcos said initiatives such as tree-planting would help mitigate the impacts on the country.

"We are celebrating Arbor Day to protect the forest. Now that the effects of climate change are worsening, it is important that the new Philippines takes care of the environment," the President said.

The Philippines celebrates Arbor Day every June 25 by planting trees and ornamental plants, as well as conducting other relevant activities that promote a healthier ecosystem.

Under Presidential Proclamation 396 signed in 2003, all government agencies and institutions, private sector, schools, civil society groups, and the citizenry are enjoined to plant trees for the rehabilitation and greening of the environment.

In a separate statement, Climate Change Commission Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. underscored the need for immediate climate action to address the serious health risks among the general population, particularly the critically vulnerable and marginalized sectors.

The Philippines has allocated 9 percent of its total national budget for climate change adaptation and mitigation programs this year.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has projected that between 2030 and 2050, climate change will cause around 250,000 additional deaths per year because of heat stress, malaria, diarrhea, and malnutrition alone.

Direct damage costs to health are estimated to be between \$2 billion to 4 billion per year by 2030, according to a WHO report, adding that areas with weak health infrastructure, mostly in developing countries, will be the least able to cope without assistance.

## PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

### [Swift action needed as health risks rise due to climate change](#)

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

MANILA – Europe has reported an increasing risk of mosquito-borne diseases, more frequent heat waves and flooding, and severe weather conditions like summers getting longer and warmer.

Climate Change Commission (CCC) commissioner Albert dela Cruz Sr. has warned that the situation in Europe could also happen to the Philippines, considering that it is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change and global warming.

In a statement on Saturday, dela Cruz cautioned against the dire impact of climate change on public health and emphasized the need for immediate climate action to address the serious health risks among the general population, particularly the critically vulnerable and marginalized sectors.

“We realize that there is no disease group that is immune to the effects of climate change. And this is why we need to act now so we can respond to the threats to maintain a healthy population and with that attain economic stability through resiliency and sustainability,” he said, reacting to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) report published on June 22.

The ECDC said more cases and possibly deaths from diseases, such as dengue, chikungunya, and West Nile fever, are expected in the continent.

“Efforts need to focus on ways to control mosquito populations, enhancing surveillance and enforcing personal protective measures,” the report said.

That Europe is experiencing a warming trend creates more favorable conditions for invasive mosquito species, such as *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*, according to the ECDC.

As of June 8 this year, a total of 2,162,214 cases and 974 dengue deaths have been reported globally, based on the data from the ECDC.

“The health of populations will be in greater danger with climate change affecting health both directly, for instance, among the elderly who experience heat stroke due to exposure to extreme heat, or indirectly, when climate change alters the environmental conditions for mosquito-borne diseases, like dengue and malaria,” dela Cruz said.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has projected that between 2030 and 2050, climate change will cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year because of heat stress, malaria, diarrhea, and malnutrition alone.

Direct damage costs to health are estimated to be between USD2 billion and USD4 billion per year by 2030, according to the WHO report, adding that areas with weak

health infrastructure, mostly in developing countries, will be the least able to cope without assistance.

The Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 period devotes an entire chapter to climate change and disaster resiliency.

The pioneering chapter identifies key objectives for climate action, including increasing climate and disaster risk resilience of communities and institutions, enhancing ecosystem resilience, and enabling the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The Philippines reiterated the need to expand and enhance international cooperation in adaptation, mitigation, loss and damage, climate finance, and other means of implementation, such as technology transfer and capacity development toward transformative climate action.

“Under the Marcos administration, accelerating climate action and enhancing climate resilience have been more firmly embedded in our development agenda, which we project will lead to more flow of resources, including Means of Implementation,” CCC vice chairperson and executive director Robert EA Borje said at the 58th Sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change held in Bonn, Germany on June 5-15.

**- END -**