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By: Sayumi Take

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[PBBM calls for immediate climate finance action](#)

By: Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has emphasized the importance of scaling up financing to help developing countries adapt to the extreme impacts of climate change, Malacañang said on Tuesday.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

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By: Joy Belmonte

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BUSINESS MIRROR

[‘Philippine Pavillion at COP28 tells PHL story of resiliency to climate change’](#)

By: Jonathan L. Mayuga

The Philippine Pavillion, formally launched on December 1 at the Dubai Expo in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) at the ongoing 28th Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), showcases the story of how one of the most vulnerable countries in the world struggled to address climate-change impacts.

POLITIKO

[Albert Dela Cruz Named As ‘Clean Air Champion’](#)

By: Prince Golez

Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. has been recognized as Clean Air Act Philippine Champion 2023 by the Clean Air Philippines for his untiring initiative to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the promotion of non-mechanized vehicles and green transition of the Philippine National Railways (PNR).

Information and Knowledge Management Division

CNN

[PH follows Indonesia in move to unlock blue carbon potential](#)

The Philippines has signed a partnership with the World Economic Forum (WEF) to boost the country's coastal ecosystem restoration and conservation efforts to tap the rapidly rising demand for carbon credits.

The cooperation agreement was announced at the COP 28 in Dubai by the World Economic Forum.

In a statement, the WEF said the Philippines is the second nation after Indonesia to join the World Economic Forum's so-called Blue Carbon Action Partnership that helps countries craft a national roadmap on blue carbon that will allow them to access climate financing.

Indonesia signed that cooperation agreement with the WEF in Davos, Switzerland in January this year.

Blue carbon is the carbon from the atmosphere and the ocean stored in coastal and marine ecosystems like mangrove forests, tidal marshes and seagrass meadows.

According to the Blue Carbon Project by the University of the Philippines, these "[m]angrove forests, tidal marshes and seagrass meadows sequester carbon hundred times faster than terrestrial forests and store more permanently in their sediments."

"Blue carbon ecosystems are widely recognized for their critical role in regulating greenhouse gas levels and in climate change mitigation," it added.

"When blue carbon benefits are recognized and valued by governments and businesses, who commit and invest in the restoration of mangrove, seagrass and salt marsh ecosystems around the world, everybody wins – people, nature, climate and ultimately, the planet," Alfredo Giron, Acting Head of the Ocean Action Agenda and Friends of Ocean Action at the World Economic Forum, said in a statement released on Monday.

Environment Secretary Antonia Loyzaga said in the same statement that the Philippines will work with the WEF in "unlocking the Philippines' potential to provide nature-based climate solutions for the rest of the world whilst supporting our programs for protected areas and preparing the country for participating in the new blue economy."

In a live streamed panel discussion on the sidelines of COP28 in Dubai, Environment Undersecretary Analiza Teh said the country is studying its carbon policy.

"We are in the process of formulating our blue economy roadmap and also the blue carbon economy in partnership with UNDP and Canada," she said.

"Right now, we have already issued guidelines on carbon accounting verification certification system. But we want to expand this by developing a carbon policy regulatory framework and the carbon pricing policy."

Meanwhile, the Asian Development Bank said it would allot \$10 million in climate support to help the Philippines reach its climate action goals.

"The battle against climate change will be won or lost in Asia and the Pacific and nowhere is this more evident than in the Philippines," ADB president Masatsugu Asakawa said at a dialogue during the COP28 on Monday.

The High-Level Dialogue on Finance Coalitions was attended by the ADB, Finance Secretary Benjamin Diokno, and Secretary Loyzaga, among other delegates.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has continuously rallied for support in the fight against the effects of climate change.

While Marcos was not present at COP28, in his speech read by Special Assistant to the President, Antonio Ernesto Lagdameo Jr. said he wanted support for the country to host the climate 'loss and damage' fund designed to help nations most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

According to the ADB, the Philippines is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change.

GMA NEWS

Marcos: PH as host of climate disaster fund to symbolize 'inclusivity'

By: Giselle Ombay

President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. said that allowing the Philippines to host the climate disaster fund known as “Loss and Damage Fund” would symbolize inclusivity.

The President said this will also ensure that the needs of the countries most affected by climate change would be addressed.

“It would symbolize a commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that the voices and experiences of the most affected countries are heard and considered in shaping global climate policies,” Marcos said in a statement read by Environment Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyazaga during the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) in Dubai.

Marcos also reiterated the country's willingness to host the Board of the Fund “and to confer to such Board the legal personality and legal capacity as necessary for the discharge of its roles and functions.”

The country, according to Marcos, is qualified to host the Fund as it “stands at the forefront of those directly affected by climate devastation and advocates an inclusive, transparent and accountable approach to address the climate crisis.”

He also said that the Philippines “advocates an inclusive, transparent, and accountable approach in addressing climate change and its repercussions.”

Loyzaga, meanwhile, said that the Philippines is also vying for a seat in the Loss and Damage Fund Board.

Marcos earlier called for the “immediate operationalization” of the Fund “to assist developing and vulnerable countries to respond to droughts, floods, and rising sea levels exacerbated by climate change.”

The United Nations climate summit delegates adopted this new fund to help poor nations cope with costly climate disasters.

Marcos said it is imperative for COP28 to ensure that the outcomes of the Global Stocktake will sufficiently inform parties in enhancing climate actions and international cooperation based on equity and climate justice.

He also called for the formulation of a New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance that is “reflective of evolving needs and priorities of the most vulnerable nations.”

“This must encompass sub-goals aligned with the public sector, ensuring predictability in funding amounts and timelines,” he said.

Marcos further urged developed countries to show more support in terms of finance, technology transfer, and capacity building for developing countries in the form of specific programs aimed at emission reduction and avoidance.

“We further call for substantial support for National Adaptation Plans and the Global Goal on Adaptation, emphasizing the necessity for a clear framework and targets to be defined and adopted,” he said.

“The Philippines stresses the need for a universally agreed-upon definition and framework for Just Transition within the Paris Agreement to avoid ambiguity and ensure unified implementation,” Marcos said

JOURNAL ONLINE

[Making PH the host of Loss and Damage Fund to ensure countries most affected by climate change are heard – PBBM](#)

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has reiterated his call for the Philippines to host the Loss and Damage Fund saying doing so will symbolize inclusivity as it will ensure that the needs of countries most affected by climate change will be addressed.

In the country statement delivered by Environment Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga during the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai, President Marcos said the Philippines is willing to host the Board of the fund “and to confer to such Board the legal personality and legal capacity as necessary for the discharge of its roles and functions.”

“Doing so will serve as a poignant reminder of the pressing need to address the disproportionate impacts faced by developing nations. It would symbolize a commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that the voices and experiences of the most affected countries are heard and considered in shaping global climate policies,” he said.

Loyzaga, in a separate statement, said the country’s hosting of the Loss and Damage Fund is similar to the country’s hosting of the Asian Development Bank for over 50 years and the regional headquarters of World Bank since the 1970s.

The Philippines, according to Loyzaga, is also vying for a seat in the Loss and Damage Fund Board.

The President, in the country statement, said the Philippines is qualified to host the Fund as it stands at the forefront of those directly affected by climate devastation and advocates an inclusive, transparent and accountable approach in address climate crisis.

The President also stated that the Philippines “advocates an inclusive, transparent, and accountable approach in addressing climate change and its repercussions” reiterating the Philippines’ commitment to the G77 and China, and strong support to Cuba’s chairmanship.

He said it is imperative for COP28 to ensure that the outcomes of the Global Stocktake will sufficiently inform parties in enhancing climate actions and international cooperation based on equity and climate justice.

He also urged the formulation of a New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance “reflective of evolving needs and priorities of the most vulnerable nations. This must encompass sub-goals aligned with the public sector, ensuring predictability in funding amounts and timelines.”

“We must now acknowledge that we are off-track, and immediately operationalize the means of implementation of the Paris Agreement by mobilizing and scaling up climate finance for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage,” he said.

The President also called on developed countries to roll out intensified support in terms of finance, technology transfer, and capacity building for developing countries in the form of specific programs aimed at emission reduction and avoidance.

“We further call for substantial support for National Adaptation Plans and the Global Goal on Adaptation, emphasizing the necessity for a clear framework and targets to be defined and adopted,” President Marcos stated.

“The Philippines stresses the need for a universally agreed-upon definition and framework for Just Transition within the Paris Agreement to avoid ambiguity and ensure unified implementation,” he added.

Before concluding the statement, the President reiterated the urgency for climate finance to flow from developed to developing countries “in blended but principally grants-based approach that is accessible, transparent, predictable, and efficient, while not burdening already vulnerable nations.”

NIKKEI ASIA

[What COP28 vow to triple renewable energy means for Asia](#)

By: Sayumi Take

Asian economies will be under renewed pressure to cut coal and boost their green-power targets after nearly 120 nations pledged to triple renewable energy capacity in just seven years, analysts say.

On the weekend, the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) saw a milestone pact to supercharge the world's installed renewable energy infrastructure by 2030. The International Energy Agency called it the "single most important lever" to curb carbon emissions and avoid a tipping point in global warming.

The deal, formally supported by 118 countries, is expected to provide industry and investors with "clarity and predictability," as well as mobilizing "much needed private capital all across the world," said Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission and a key advocate of the agreement.

Progress on the pact -- jointly proposed by the U.S, Europe and conference host the United Arab Emirates -- will be tracked and reported to ensure it "gets done," she added at the talks in Dubai.

Australia, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Bangladesh are among the Asia-Pacific countries that supported the goal, which also commits to doubling energy efficiency by the end of the decade, according to the European Commission.

Supporting nations are not obliged to individually triple their domestic renewable power, but they must "take comprehensive domestic actions to contribute to the achievement of this pledge," the statement said. "Ambitious actions should be taken by every country, taking into consideration different starting points, national circumstances and the unique realities of different regions."

India and China, major coal-dependent nations, have not signed the deal. But they've both separately announced plans to commit to a global target seen as crucial to the 2015 Paris Agreement, which aims to limit a rise in global temperatures to 1.5 C above pre-industrial levels.

Achieving the tripling target requires the world to hit 11,000 gigawatts of renewable energy, or adding about 7,800 GW over the next seven years, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). Solar and wind power would account

for most of the additional capacity with over 4,000 GW and 2,600 GW, respectively, up fivefold and fourfold from 2022 levels.

A November report by climate think tank Ember said the target was "in sight."

Ember said its review of national targets among 57 countries and the European Union -- which accounted for over 90% of today's global renewable capacity -- showed the world is already on course to double capacity by 2030, with room for quicker growth. Meeting the tripling goal would require 17% average annual growth in renewables deployment, which was achieved in the preceding seven years to 2023, it said.

But priorities differ among countries boosting renewable energy.

Australia, Japan and South Korea can "do more" to meet ambitious renewable targets reflecting existing potential or renewed policy support, Ember said. As industrialized, high per-capita emitters, they "have the responsibility to move fastest," the think tank added.

The three economies, however, are struggling to move away from coal power, the most carbon-intensive fossil fuel which is widely seen as an environmental and public-health hazard.

China is on track to double its renewable capacity by 2030, while India, Indonesia and the Philippines aim to more than triple their renewables capacity by the same year.

Renewable capacity in many Southeast Asian countries is also expected to go beyond the 2030 target as their current capacity is "quite low" with untapped potential, according to Ember analyst Dinita Setyawati.

"We should also note that other renewable energy sources, such as hydropower and geothermal [power], are also equally important for the region," she said.

The priority for developing economies with ambitious targets lies in speeding up the deployment and construction of relevant infrastructure. Domestic power grids will need to expand, modernize and operate more flexibly to cope with the increase in renewables, whose output is variable due to weather conditions, IRENA said.

"The global financial architecture must be reformed to support the energy transition in the Global South," by ramping up development finance and redirecting public capital from fossil fuels to renewables, the agency's October report said.

Regulatory measures are needed to incentivize green energy takeup, as well as building resilient supply chains for equipment and a workforce to support the industry, according to the agency.

"This pledge is a wake-up call for governments in Asia to focus on facilitating a just, full and 1.5 degree-compatible transition to renewable energy," said Gerry Arances, executive director of Philippines-based Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Fossil fuel 'phase out' put on table for COP28 climate talks

Countries at the United Nations' COP28 climate conference are considering calling for a phase-out of fossil fuels as part of the summit's final deal, according to a draft negotiating text seen on Tuesday.

Research published on Tuesday showed global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels are set to hit a record high this year, exacerbating climate change and fueling more destructive extreme weather.

A draft of what could be the final agreement from COP28, published by the U.N. climate body, kicks off negotiations around what is considered the summit's defining issue: whether countries will agree to eventually end the use of fossil fuels.

The draft text includes three options, which delegates from nearly 200 countries will now consider.

The first option in the draft is listed as "an orderly and just phase-out of fossil fuels". In U.N. parlance, the word "just" suggests wealthy nations with a long history of fossil fuel burning would phase out faster than poorer countries that are developing their resources now.

The second option calls for "accelerating efforts towards phasing out unabated fossil fuels". A third option would be to avoid mentioning a fossil fuel phase-out.

The United States, the 27 countries of the European Union and climate-vulnerable small island states are pushing for a fossil fuel phase-out to drive the deep CO2 emissions reductions scientists say are needed this decade to avert disastrous climate change.

"We're not talking about turning the tap off overnight," German Climate Envoy Jennifer Morgan said. "What you're seeing here is a real battle about what energy system of the future we are going to build together."

Major oil and gas producers including Saudi Arabia and Russia have resisted past proposals for a phase-out.

Russia's energy ministry and Saudi Arabia's government communications office did not respond to requests for comment on their positions.

On Monday, United Arab Emirates' COP28 President Sultan Al-Jaber insisted that he respected the science of climate change, and said a fossil fuel phase out was "inevitable".

"I have said over and over that the phase down and the phase out of fossil fuels is inevitable, that it is essential," Jaber, who is also CEO of state-owned oil firm ADNOC, told reporters.

Fossil fuel emissions rising

The Global Carbon Budget report, published on Tuesday said that CO2 emissions from coal, oil and gas are still rising, driven by India and China.

Countries are expected to emit a total 36.8 billion metric tons of CO2 from fossil fuels in 2023, a 1.1% increase from last year, the report by scientists from more than 90 institutions including the University of Exeter concluded.

The world's overall emissions for this year, which reached a record high last year, have plateaued in 2023 due to a slightly better use of land, including a decline in deforestation. Emissions including land use are set to total 40.9 billion tons this year.

China's fossil fuel emissions rose after it lifted COVID-19 restrictions, while India's rise was a result of power demand growing faster than its renewable energy capacity, leaving fossil fuels to make up the shortfall.

The year's emissions trajectory pulls the world further away from preventing global warming exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times.

"It now looks inevitable we will overshoot the 1.5C target of the Paris Agreement," said Exeter Professor Pierre Friedlingstein, who led the research.

"Leaders meeting at COP28 will have to agree rapid cuts in fossil fuel emissions even to keep the 2C target alive," he said.

For daily comprehensive coverage on COP28 in your inbox, sign up for the Reuters Sustainable Switch newsletter [here](#).

[PH, WEF sign agreement on blue carbon ecosystem, plastic pollution](#)

By: Jean Mangaluz

The Philippines and the World Economic Forum (WEF) has signed an agreement managing a blue carbon ecosystem and plastic pollution, according to the Palace on Monday.

Environment Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga signed the agreement on behalf of the Philippines at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Neo Gim Huay, the managing director of the WEF Center for Nature and Climate, co-signed it.

“The Philippines is a very important economy being an archipelago. So, we hope that these agreements can catalyze a lot more communities, initiatives, public policy, and corporate involvement in addressing and protecting our ecosystems,” Gim Huay said, according to a Palace statement.

Following this agreement, both the Philippines and the WEF will share best environmental practices with the communities, civil societies, and corporate sector.

PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

[PBBM calls for immediate climate finance action](#)

By: Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has emphasized the importance of scaling up financing to help developing countries adapt to the extreme impacts of climate change, Malacañang said on Tuesday.

Marcos made the call for immediate climate finance action in the country statement delivered by Environment Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga during the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai.

“The President reiterated the urgency for climate finance to flow from developed to developing countries ‘in blended but principally grants-based approach that is accessible, transparent, predictable, and efficient, while not burdening already vulnerable nations,’” Presidential Communications Office (PCO) Secretary Cheloy Garafil said in a statement.

Marcos also underscored the need to establish a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance, which is “reflective of evolving needs and priorities of the most vulnerable nations.”

The NCQG, he said, must encompass sub-goals aligned with the public sector, ensuring predictability in funding amounts and timelines.

Marcos also called on developed countries to roll out intensified support for financing, technology transfer and capacity-building for developing countries in the form of specific programs for emission reduction and avoidance.

“We further call for substantial support for National Adaptation Plans and the Global Goal on Adaptation, emphasizing the necessity for a clear framework and targets to be defined and adopted,” he said in the country statement, as quoted by the PCO.

“We must now acknowledge that we are off-track, and immediately operationalize the means of implementation of the Paris Agreement by mobilizing and scaling up climate finance for mitigation, adaption, and loss and damage,” Marcos added.

Marcos also cited the importance of having a “universally agreed-upon definition and framework for Just Transition within the Paris Agreement to avoid ambiguity and ensure unified implementation.”

'Qualified' host

Marcos also reiterated the Philippines' bid to host the "Loss and Damage Fund," saying the country would help the most affected nations in addressing the effects of climate change.

Loyzaga, in a separate statement, said the country's hosting of the Loss and Damage Fund would be similar to the country's hosting of the Asian Development Bank for over 50 years and the regional headquarters of World Bank since the 1970s.

Marcos said the Philippines is qualified to host the Fund, as the country stands at the forefront of those directly affected by climate devastation, as well as pushes for an "inclusive, transparent and accountable" approach in addressing climate crisis.

He added the Philippines is willing to host the Board of the fund and "confer to such Board the legal personality and legal capacity as necessary for the discharge of its roles and functions."

"Doing so will serve as a poignant reminder of the pressing need to address the disproportionate impacts faced by developing nations. It would symbolize a commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that the voices and experiences of the most affected countries are heard and considered in shaping global climate policies," Marcos said.

Loyzaga said the Philippines is also vying for a seat in the Loss and Damage Fund Board.

Marcos said the Philippines seeks an "inclusive, transparent, and accountable approach in addressing climate change and its repercussions," reiterating the country's commitment to the G77 and China, and strong support to Cuba's chairmanship.

He said it is imperative for COP28 to ensure that the outcomes of the Global Stocktake will sufficiently inform parties in enhancing climate actions and international cooperation based on equity and climate justice.

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

[\[Opinion\] QC climate change actions humakot ng parangal](#)

By: Joy Belmonte

Masaya akong ibinabahagi sa inyo na umani na naman ng parangal ang kampanya ng ating lungsod para protektahan at alagaan ang kalikasan.

Kamakailan, kinilala ang Quezon City ng global non-profit organization CDP bilang isa sa 119 na siyudad sa buong mundo na nangunguna sa pagsusulong ng mga pagkilos ukol sa klima sa kabila ng mga hamon sa ekonomiya.

Pinarangalan din tayo ng Department of Transportation (DOTr) at Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) sa ating kontribusyon sa pagsusulong ng mga programa at polisiya ukol sa active transportation.

Ikatlo, nakamit ng ating lungsod ang Gold Award at Bike Lane Infrastructure Quality Award sa 2023 National Bike Day Awards and Recognition sa Iloilo City.

At ikaapat, nakuha rin ng Quezon City ang Gold Award bilang Most Bicycle-Friendly City sa katatapos na Mobility Awards 2023.

Mula sa 900 siyudad na sinuri ng CDP, nakasama ang ating lungsod sa A List cities batay sa datos na kinalap ng CDP-ICLEI ukol sa ating pinaigting na climate action plan.

Nakumpleto rin ng siyudad ang climate risk and vulnerability assessment at taglay natin ang climate adaptation goal kung paano matutugunan ang mga panganib na dulot ng klima.

Susi sa ating tagumpay ang suporta ng Quezon City Council sa laban kontra climate change sa pamamagitan ng kanilang City Resolution No. SP-7999 na nagdeklara ng climate emergency noong 2019 at iba pang ordinansa na naglaan ng sapat na pondo para sa ating climate action.

Hanggang 13 porsyento ng ating taunang budget ang magagamit natin para sa pagbuo ng mga programa at proyekto ukol sa climate change.

Natutuwa rin tayo na nabigyang pagkilala ang ating mga programa na layong itaguyod ang paggamit ng bisikleta na matagal na nating isinusulong.

Kabilang na rito ang pag-convert ng dating Payatas dumpsite bilang bike park kung saan maaaring magbisikleta at ma-enjoy ng QCitizens ang magandang tanawin.

Alay ko sa ating mga kasama sa QC Hall ang mga parangal na ito. Kung hindi sa inyong napakahalagang tulong at pagkilos, hindi natin makakamit ang mga ito.

Tuloy-tuloy lang tayo sa pagbuo at pagpapatupad ng mga makabuluhang programa para sa ikagaganda ng ating siyudad at ikauunlad ng QCitizens.

CCC IN THE NEWS:

BUSINESS MIRROR

['Philippine Pavillion at COP28 tells PHL story of resiliency to climate change'](#)

By: Jonathan L. Mayuga

The Philippine Pavillion, formally launched on December 1 at the Dubai Expo in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) at the ongoing 28th Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), showcases the story of how one of the most vulnerable countries in the world struggled to address climate-change impacts.

Hosting the Philippine Pavilion during the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) that runs until December 12 under the theme, "Together Today for Tomorrow," illustrates how the country combines climate change adaptation and mitigation, resilience and sustainable pathways strongly rooted in equity, the DENR said in a statement.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has designated DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga as head of the 150-member Philippine delegation.

The Philippine delegation will be joined by local chief executives and legislators, as well as representatives from development partners and the youth sector.

According to the DENR, the Philippine Pavillion will host 32 Side Events throughout the 13-day conference.

On December 6, panel discussions will focus on the theme "Multilevel Action, Urbanization and Built Environment/Transport." The DILG, DENR, DOE, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will lead discussions on topics such as the Philippine-Australia Partnership Model for Disaster and Climate Resilience, Circular Economy and the Extended Producers Responsibility, Investment opportunities related to the Electrical Vehicle industry and Battery Supply Chain and examining how the global stocktake can help parties enhance national commitments.

December 8 is dedicated to the youth, children, education, and skills sector as the National Youth Commission and youth delegates lead panel discussions and presentations on climate action. Further, the National University of Singapore and the

DENR Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) will discuss the vital role of the ocean for climate change adaptation and mitigation by identifying opportunities and highlighting the latest international policy developments on the ocean and climate change nexus.

On December 9, Pavilion events focus on Nature Land Use and Oceans. USAID Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL) will showcase how the country has adopted natural capital accounting principles that adhere to international and scientific standards. The Philippine experience in using the GA-GRP Framework as a new, progressive solution that measures how climate change is affecting natural capital, coupled with nature-based solutions in restoring what has been destroyed, will also be on focus. The Philippines and the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity will also cohost a side event highlighting perspectives and experiences on the ways and actions to harmonize climate change and biodiversity policies at the ASEAN national, and community levels. Other topics on this day include nature-based solutions and experiences of and responses to Loss and Damage in coastal and island communities.

On December 10, the side event, “The Role of Sustainable Agriculture Development and Water Management in Ensuring Food Security in the Era of Climate Change” shines a light on sustainable agriculture and water management in ensuring food security amid the challenges of climate change. On the same day, the forum “Strengthening Resilience of CVF (Climate Vulnerable Forum) Member Countries in the Agriculture and Health Sectors through climate information services leveraging from a South-south Exchange” will provide timely and tailored information for policymakers and decision-makers on agriculture and human health in the context of climate variability and resilience.

These events are aligned with the thematic days identified by the UAE COP28 Presidency and include panel discussions and lectures by international experts, government leaders, and other dignitaries. Led by national government agencies, in partnership with development partners, these side events aim to highlight the country’s collective and scalable efforts in addressing climate change and will showcase multistakeholder solutions to climate change centered around three areas: protecting biodiversity, building resilient communities, and low-carbon development.

Side events at the Philippine Pavilion kicked off with a discussion on the forthcoming National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and the Nationally Determined Contribution Implementation Plan (NDCIP), led by the DENR, the Climate Change Commission (CCC), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB); then later, a discussion led by DOST

Secretary Solidum on data governance as a key enabling factor to develop and implement resilience strategies that are suited for risk contexts, vulnerabilities, impacts, and needs. The DOST session will showcase how the Philippines has developed innovative digital solutions to effectively manage disaster data, and efficiently share, analyze, and utilize it for decision-making.

The DOH, World Health Organization (WHO), US Agency for International Development (USAID), and Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International will host discussions on how global health systems can integrate a climate lens and how the Philippines has developed policies, strategies, and measures to ensure climate-resilient health systems.

“We have a number of nature-based panels, especially at the side events. The DENR has taken a role in that. It is extremely important for the Philippines as a climate-vulnerable country to be heard by other nations because what we’re trying to do at this point is really approach our climate resilience by twinning, adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction. That will involve the social, economic, environmental, and scientific efforts of the whole of government,” explained Yulo-Loyzaga.

Meanwhile, the DENR and DOF will lead discussions on innovative climate financing strategies; successful cases of debt restructuring to support conservation programs and climate action; and present the proposed Philippine Sustainable Finance Taxonomy Guidelines (SFTG) of the Financial Sector Forum (FSF), updated sustainability reporting guidelines for publicly listed companies (PLCs) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the forest carbon roadmap and nature-based solutions by the DENR. The DOTr and DOLE, on the other hand, will host discussions centered around right-skilling the Filipino workforce and the technical assistance needed to accelerate renewables and energy efficiency by 2030. Events on this day aim to showcase successful cases in the Philippines of a just transition to clean energy as well as opportunities for financing and partnerships with the private sector.

POLITIKO

Albert Dela Cruz Named As 'Clean Air Champion'

By: Prince Golez

Climate Change Commissioner Albert Dela Cruz Sr. has been recognized as Clean Air Act Philippine Champion 2023 by the Clean Air Philippines for his untiring initiative to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the promotion of non-mechanized vehicles and green transition of the Philippine National Railways (PNR).

Dela Cruz has been a “moving force” behind their advocacy to protect the environment by reducing anthropogenic activities such as the use of petrol and diesel derived from fossil fuels in transportation, Clean Air Philippines Movement chairman Dr. Mike Aragon said in a news release.

“We give recognition to Comm. Dela Cruz and his personal commitment for clean and safe air for all Filipinos to breathe and his unrelenting quest to bring about better protection and preservation of our environment and natural resources in order to help address the climate crisis we are now experiencing,” according to Aragon.

“As our Clean Air Champion, (Dela Cruz) represents the hopes of our people in their aspiration for a better and cleaner quality of life through good governance and righteousness that minimizes, if not eliminate, the moral degradation in public service that contributes to the physical destruction of our only home—the planet Earth,” he added.

Dela Cruz reaffirmed his commitment to pushing for immediate climate action in order to address the challenges posed by the negative effects of climate change and global warming on the everyday lives of people around the world.

“It is a moral imperative that we commit ourselves to action because we are the protectors of our world. We do this to ensure a better future for future generations who inherit the earth from our hands,” he said.

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