

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS OFFICE
News and Information Bureau

PUBLIC BRIEFING #LagingHandaPH
HOSTED BY PCOO SECRETARY MARTIN ANDANAR AND UNDERSECRETARY ROCKY IGNACIO
FEATURING “TATAK NG PAGBABAGO 2020 THE PRE-SONA FORUM:
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION & PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE
CLUSTER FORUM”
JULY 15, 2020

USEC. IGNACIO: Magandang umaga sa lahat ng ating mga kababayan sa loob at labas ng ating bansa. Ngayon pong araw ay July 15, 2020, Miyerkules. Maya-maya po ay muli nating masasaksihan ang ikalawang ulat ng ating Secretaries of the Cabinet bago ang nakatakdang State-of-the-Nation-Address ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa July 27.

Ako po ang inyong lingkod, Usec. Rocky Ignacio mula sa Presidential Communications Operations Office at ito ang Public Briefing #LagingHandaPH.

Silipin muna natin ang pinakahuling tala ng COVID-19 sa bansa. Kahapon ng alas kuwatro ay nakapagtala ng kabuuang bilang 57,545 confirmed COVID-19 cases sa bansa matapos itong madagdagan ng 634 cases; anim ang nadagdag sa bilang ng mga nasawi na ngayon po ay nasa 1,603 total deaths; habang nadagdagan naman ng 88 recoveries ang mga gumaling sa sakit sa kabuuang bilang na 20,459.

Inyo pong mapapansin sa ating line graph na kahapon ay muli na naman pong bumaba ang reported cases na umabot lamang sa 634, malaki ang diperensiya nito sa mga nakalipas na araw kung saan mahigit sa dalawang libong kaso ang naitala.

Sa mga kasong naiulat kahapon, karamihan sa mga ito ay mula sa Metro Manila kung saan mayroong 360 recorded cases, pangalawa ang Lalawigan ng Laguna na mayroon na namang 58 cases, 32 cases naman mula sa Cebu, 23 cases sa Bulacan at 21 reported sa Cavite.

Out of 57,545 total cases, mahigit 60% dito po o 35,483 ang aktibong kaso. Hindi na po kasama diyan ang bilang ng mga gumaling at pumanaw dahil sa sakit. Palagi nating tandaan na sundin ang minimum health standards na recommended ng ating health experts – wear mask, wash hands, keep distance, stay at home.

Para po sa inyong mga katanungan at concerns tungkol sa COVID-19, maaari ninyo pong i-dial ang 02-894-COVID or 02-894-26843. Para naman sa mga PLDT, Smart at TNT subscribers, i-dial ang 1555. Patuloy po kayong makibalita sa mga pinagkakatiwalaang sources ng impormasyon tungkol sa COVID-19, maaari ninyo pong bisitahin ang covid19.gov.ph.

Para naman po sa ikalawang bahagi ng 'Tatak ng Pagbabago 2020 The Pre-SONA Forum' ngayong araw, ito po ay nakasentro sa pagpapatunay ng pagkalinga ng administrasyong Duterte sa ating mga Pilipino.

Makakasama natin maya-maya sa Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster Forum sina Secretary Rolando Bautista ng Department of Social Welfare and Development.

At para naman po sa Participatory Governance Cluster Forum, makakasama natin sina Secretary Wendel Avisado ng Department of Budget and Management, at si Secretary Eduardo Año ng Department of Interior and Local Government.

At para bigyan tayo ng kasagutan sa mga katanungan ng ating mga kababayan, makakasama na rin po natin ang ilan pang mga kalihim ng iba't ibang kagawaran ng ating pamahalaan. Bibigyan din po tayo ng paunang mensahe ni Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles, at mamaya ang pahayag ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Silipin na natin ang mga kaganapan sa Philippine Information Agency kasama si PCOO Secretary Martin Andanar.

Pasalamatan din po natin ang Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas sa kanila pong pagsuporta dito sa Laging Handa at siyempre dito po sa ating isinasagawang Pre-SONA Forum. Maraming salamat din po sa ating mga partner agencies sa patuloy nilang pagbibigay-suporta sa ating programa, kasama na rin po dito ang Filipino Sign Language Access Team for COVID-19. Mabuhay po kayo.

At antabayanan ninyo po ang isasagawang ikalawang Pre-SONA Forum kung saan ay tatalakayin po ang mga mahahalagang katanungan ng taumbayan na ibibigay po ng ating mga miyembro ng Gabinete sa pangunguna na nga po ni DSWD Secretary Rolando Bautista, kasama pa rin po ang DILG Secretary Eduardo Año at iba pa pong mga Cabinet secretaries bago po ang isasagawang SONA ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa huling bahagi po ng Hulyo.

Titingnan na po natin o bibigyan-daan na po natin ang ating mga Cabinet secretaries sa bahagi ng PIA o Philippine Information Agency sa pangunguna pa rin po ni Communications Secretary Martin Andanar.

Ito po ang ikalawang Pre-SONA Forum, nang nakaraang linggo po ay nakasama po natin ang mga sinasabing economic managers para pa rin po sa status ng ating bansa sa harap pa rin po ng nararanasang pandemya.

Babalikan po natin maya-maya ang kaganapan sa Philippine Information Agency. Magbabalik po ang Public Briefing #LagingHandaPH.

USEC. IGNACIO: Nagbabalik po ang Public Briefing #LagingHandaPH. Silipin na po natin ang mga kaganapan sa Philippine Information Agency kasama si PCOO Secretary Martin Andanar.

SEC. ANDANAR: Magandang umaga, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. Maayong buntag. Welcome to Tatak ng Pagbabago 2020: The Pre-SONA Forum. Bago ang ikalimang State-of-the-Nation-Address ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte, kami sa Presidential Communications Operations Office ay narito upang ihatid sa inyo ang mga Cabinet clusters upang ipaliwanag ang mga polisiya at programa ng gobyerno na tutugon sa mga pagsubok na dulot ng pandemya.

Ngayong araw, tunghayan natin ang mga kuwento ng pagkalinga at iba't-ibang pamamaraan na sa pagkakataon na ito ay ipinamalas sa atin ng ating mga kababayan upang makamtan ang ipinangakong tunay na pagbabago. Sa pagpapatuloy ng ating Pre-SONA forum, ating maririnig ang Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster, pati na ang Participatory Governance Cluster. Ano ang mga naka kasang programa para masiguro na ang pangangailangan ng mga Pilipino ay natutugunan at ang boses ng bawat mamamayan ay napapakinggan. Ating alamin dito sa Tatak ng Pagbabago 2020: The Pre-SONA Forum.

[VTR]

“Sa pagbubukas ng taong 2020, kinaharap ng Pilipinas ang mga napakabigat na suliranin. Pinakamatindi na rito ang pandemya ng COVID-19 na nagbigay-banta sa kalusugan at kaligtasan ng sambayanang Pilipino. Sa harap ng pagsubok, tayo ay nagkapit-bisig at nagbayanihan para sa ikagagaling ng lahat.

Sa pangunguna ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte, puspusan ang paghahatid ng tulong at serbisyo ng pamahalaan sa mga mamamayan sa gitna ng dinaranas na public health emergency. Ang maagap at masigasig na pagtugon sa mga pangangailangan ng taumbayan ay patunay ng pagkalinga at pagmamalasakit ng administrasyong Duterte sa bawat Pilipino, sa loob at labas man ng bansa.

Bilang paghahanda para sa State-of-the-Nation-Address ni Pangulong Duterte, muling inihahanda ng Cabinet clusters ang Tatak ng Pagbabago 2020: The Pre-SONA Forums. SA pagkakataong ito, haharap sa sambayanan ang anim na Cabinet clusters upang ihatid ang mga tamang impormasyon at iulat ang katotohanan tungkol sa kalagayan ng ating bansa, bitbit ang temang patunay ng pagkalinga. Layunin nitong sugpuin ang paglaganap ng fake news at disinformation.

Sa unang bahagi ng Pre-SONA Forums, nariyan ang Economic Development Cluster na nagsusulong sa pambansang hangarin na muling umangat, bumangon at mabuo ang ekonomiya sa pagkakalugmok sa sanga-sangang krisis na dinulot ng COVID-19. Kasama rin ang Infrastructure Cluster na pinapausbong ang imprastraktura sa bawat sulok ng bansa upang mapaunlad at mapabuti ang kalagayan ng mamamayang Pilipino.

Sa ikalawang bahagi, nariyan ang Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster na nangangalaga sa interes ng mga maralitang Pilipino at umaagapay sa mga pangangailangan ng taumbayan sa usapin ng kalusugan, kabuhayan, edukasyon at iba pang mga serbisyo. Kasama rin ang Participatory Governance Cluster na itinataguyod ang isang transparent, responsive at people-centric na gobyerno para sa mas mabilis at epektibong paghahatid ng serbisyo sa mga tao.

Sa pangatlo at pinakahuling bahagi naman, nariyan ang Security, Justice and Peace Cluster na prayoridad ang pagpapanatili ng kaayusan, seguridad at kapayapaan sa mga komunidad. Kasama rin ang Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction Cluster na pinapahusay ang kahandaan at katatagan ng mga komunidad laban sa mga kalamidad at sakuna habang pinapaigting ang pagpapatupad ng mga polisiyang po-rotekta sa kalikasan.

Sa apat na taong pagsisikap ng administrasyong Duterte na maisulong ang tunay na pagbabago, marami na tayong nakamit na mga tagumpay. Sinusubok man ng krisis ang ating bansa sa panahong ito, itutuloy natin ang maganda na nating nasimulan. Patuloy ang paghahatid ng mapagkalingang serbisyo sa mga mamamayang Pilipino. Sama-sama, i-aangat natin ang bansa. Sabay-sabay, haharapin natin ang mas magandang umaga.

CABSEC NOGRALES: ... Salvador Medialdea; Social Welfare and Development Secretary Rolando Joselito Bautista; Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año; Budget and Management Secretary Wendel Avisado; Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar; mga kabalikat ko sa Gabinete, members of the diplomatic corps, partners in the private sector and civil society organization, friends from the media, fellow public servants, mga kababayan, maayong buntag.

It is an honor to welcome all of you to the Pre-SONA Forum of the Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster and the Participatory Governance Cluster, the second iteration of our three-part Pre-SONA Forums all leading to the President's 5th State-of-the-Nation-Address on July 27. This comes off the heels of the first Pre-SONA Forum which we held last week and provided the public with the progress made by the government's economic and infrastructure clusters.

These Pre-SONA activities have three major objectives. One, to provide the data figures and the details that will contribute to a better understanding of the messages the President will deliver in his SONA on the 27th.

Two, to provide an extensive report on what the President has accomplished through the departments and agencies of government, their regular programs, projects and services aligned with the goals of this administration, as well as our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three, to provide you, our people, with the opportunity to raise your concerns directly to the President through his counterparts in the Cabinet.

Taun-taon po ay may SONA. Ngunit taun-taon nababatid din natin na kulang ang oras ng SONA para ilatag ang mga programa at gawain ng pamahalaan. These Pre-SONAs allow us the opportunity to further articulate, comprehensively elaborate and extensively explain what government has done; what it is doing and what is going to do to uplift the welfare of our people, and address the challenges face by our nation.

In the first forum, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III succinctly summed up these challenges when he said that we live in difficult and uncertain times, and that the COVID-19 health emergency is perhaps the toughest economic crisis most of our people will live through. This pandemic, he said candidly, is something that no one fully anticipated and was truly prepared to deal with.

Tunay ngang nasa gitna tayo ng isang kalagayang mahirap at walang katiyakan, at dala na ng pandemyang ito, tinamaan nang husto ang ating ekonomiya. Wala ni isang bansa sa mundo ang nakapaghanda nang husto sa pananalasa nito.

This is a reality we are reminded of every day. Araw-araw nilalabas ng ating Department of Health ang mga numero. These numbers remind us that we are in the midst of a battle that is claiming lives and taking its toll on the health of our people.

They emphasized that we face an invisible enemy that has far reaching consequences on the lives and livelihoods of every Filipino man, woman and child.

Araw-araw ang mga ito ay nagsisilbing paalala na tayo ay nasa gitna ng isang digmaang nagbabanta sa kalusugan at kumikitil ng buhay. Dinidiin nito na ang kinakaharap natin ay isang kalabang hindi man nakikita ay sobra-sobra ang epekto sa buhay at kabuhayan nating lahat.

These daily DOH updates however do not fully capture the extent of the damage dealt by the COVID-19 virus. As our Finance Chief stressed last week, our unemployment rate in April of this year spiked to 17.7%. The subsequent shutdown of economic activities took its toll on local businesses and the slowdown in economic activity and the extensions of tax filing and payment deadlines combined to bring down our revenues. For the first half of 2020, estimated tax collections from the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs dipped to 1.2 trillion pesos, 16% lower than last year during the same period.

Ang mga numerong ito, bukod po sa mga daily update ng DOH ay nakakabahala ngunit tulad ng nabanggit ko noong nakaraang linggo, the President and your government have long laid the groundwork for the economic recovery of our country. Ika nga ni Secretary Dominguez, in previous years emergency spending and urgent borrowing might have been very difficult but the economic performance of the Duterte administration prior to the pandemic together with its approach to fiscal and economic management made the country one of the strongest, most resilient and credit worthy economies in the region.

Opo, nahirapan tayo katulad ng mga bansa sa buong mundo ngunit dahil sa repormang pinansiyal at maayos na pangangasiwa sa ating ekonomiya bago pa man tumama ang pandemya, tayo ay isa sa pinakamalakas, pinakamatibay at pinagkakatiwalaang ekonomiya dito sa rehiyon.

Mga kababayan, hirap man tayo ngayon may mga senyales din na lumalaban at bumabangon ang ekonomiya; tumaas po ng 4.4% ang mga koleksiyon ng Customs, evidence of increasing economic activity.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, the country received a BBB+ credit rating, the highest in our country's history and even amidst the pandemic, international credit rating agencies have affirmed our sovereign ratings and have kept them at investment grade levels.

Noong nakaraang buwan, tinaas pa nga ng Japan Credit Rating Agency and credit rating natin from BBB+ to A-. Secretary Dominguez said it best, 'this is a vote of confidence in a sea of credit rating downgrades and negative outlook revisions worldwide.'

If the Economic and Infrastructure Clusters gave us assurances of our economy's stability to rise above the challenges ahead, today, the Human Development and Poverty Reduction and Participatory Governance Clusters will provide us information with regard to the steps government will be taking to provide the country's most vulnerable sectors with the social protection necessary to survive and thrive in the months ahead.

In particular, the HDPRC through its Chairperson DSWD Secretary Rolando Joselito Bautista will be reporting what the cluster has achieved in terms of human capital development, poverty reduction and enhancing the quality of life of every Filipino. Aside from their regular projects, activities and programs that make up the HDPRC roadmap, Secretary Bautista will also present the cluster's accomplishments under the COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program, the Social Amelioration Program and similar programs aimed at mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Included among these developments are the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Convergence Program which is now helping a number of farmers and farmers' organizations amid the pandemic as well as the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger which I chair and is now in the process of harmonizing government programs meant to ensure food security and reduce hunger so that we can say #goodbyegutom.

Kasama sa mga bagong programa ng gobyerno ang Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty or EPAHP na siyang tumutulay sa mga magsasaka at mangingisda sa merkado na tumutugon sa hamon ng pandemya kasama ang Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger na ating pinangangasiwaan. Sa huling bahagi ng taong ito, lahat ng programa ng pamahalaan tungkol sa katiyakan sa pagkain at pagsupil sa kagutuman ay atin ng pag-uugnayin at pag-iibayuhin.

The Participatory Governance Cluster on the other hand through its Co-Chairpersons, DILG Secretary Eduardo Año and DBM Secretary Wendel Avisado will share the accomplishments and milestones of the cluster's member-agencies towards the enhancement of citizen participation in government processes by strategies that transform the public from mere observers to genuine partners of government. It should be stressed that this cluster has also been instrumental in our fight against the pandemic through, first, the development of the National Action Plan Against COVID-19; and second, in its efforts to ensure that funds given to agencies and LGUs for COVID-19 response are properly utilized and its reporting mechanisms for these are in place.

Didiinan ko lang, ang Participatory and Governance Cluster sa ilalim ng pangangasiwa nina Secretary Año at Secretary Avisado ang siyang naging susi ng agresibo nating pagsuong sa laban ng bansa kontra COVID-19.

Following the presentation of these clusters, an open forum will follow to afford you the opportunities to direct your questions at the concerned department agencies, Secretaries and heads of agencies.

Before I wrap up, allow me to extend my sincerest gratitude and congratulations to our partners who made today's Pre-SONA Forum possible: The Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster, the Participatory Governance Cluster, the Presidential Communications Operations Office, the Office of the Executive Secretary and my fellow workers in the Office of the President.

Mga kababayan, kapag sama-sama kaya nating umahon. Sa tulong ng Diyos at sa magkaisang aksiyon, tayo ay babangon. Maraming salamat.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat, Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles. Ang ating Pre-SONA ngayong araw katulad ng ating Pre-SONA noong nakaraang linggo, ang iba sa ating nakagawian dahil sa COVID-19 ngunit hindi ito hadlang sa pagtugon namin sa aming tungkulin na magbigay ng tama at napapanahong impormasyon sa bawat Pilipino.

Ito po ang pangalawa sa ating three-part forum at ito ay pangungunahan ng Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster at ng Participatory Governance Cluster. Sa mga nakalipas na buwan, tunay na sinubok po ang clusters na ito. Paano nga ba natin tinutugunan ang hamon na dulot ng COVID-19 pandemic at sa paanong paraan natin ito mapagtatagumpayan nang sama-sama?

Kasama po natin ngayong araw si DSWD Secretary at Head ng Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster, Secretary Rolando Bautista.

SEC. BAUTISTA: [Off mic] Chairperson, Secretary of the Interior and Local Government Eduardo Año, Secretary of Budget and Management Wendel Avisado, my fellow Cabinet Secretaries, members of the HDPRC, our friends in media, our dear beneficiaries, to our kababayans, Assalamualaikum, [dialect] magandang umaga sa ating lahat.

All ways into gearing towards bringing down the poverty rate to 14%, the country faced unforeseen challenges caused by the eruption of the Taal Volcano and the global outbreak of the COVID-19.

[VTR]

SEC. BAUTISTA: The health crisis alone has created deep impacts on the economy, as well as to our fellow Filipinos' livelihood and wellbeing, with the prospect of estimated 10 million Filipinos losing their jobs. The repatriation of nearly 70,000 displaced Overseas Filipino Workers and the increasing number of Filipinos experiencing involuntary hunger among others.

Ganoon pa man, patuoy na nagtutulungan ang lahat ng ahensiya ng Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster (HDPRC) sa pagbangon ng ating kapwa Pilipino mula sa crisis na ating ngayon ay hinaharap. For the HDPRC, our utmost priorities continued to be the overall improvement of the quality of life of the Filipino people by exploring innovations to beat the pandemic and by strengthening the tried and tested pro-people programs. This is reinforced by our four core strategies on education, public health, social protection and building capacities and opportunities for the poor and marginalized.

Napakalaki ang naging epekto ng pandemya sa edukasyon ng ating kabataan. Kaya walang humpay ang HDPRC na masiguro na sa ilalim ng new normal ang ating mga kabataan ay patuloy na may access sa alternatibong pamamaraan ng pag-aaral o ang blended at distance learning.

In response to COVID-19's impacts on students, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Unified Student Financial Assistance system for tertiary education or UNIFAS continued to make the tertiary education subsidy stipends available to its grantees to cope with the effects of the pandemic. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authorities

expanded online program also served as an alternate mode of technical, vocational education in training/learning platform during the community quarantine.

For the establishment of effective and accessible alternative educational systems, the Department of Education or DepEd embarked on the basic education learning continuity plan, providing learning opportunities to our students through printed or digital modules, online learning resources and television or radio-based instructions without requiring them to come to school. Over 700,000 out of school youth in 2019 were enrolled under DepEd's Alternative Learning System (ALS), half of which are from the thirty-two (32) priority provinces of HDPRC.

About 1.33 million students enrolled in state and local universities and colleges and are now benefiting from the free higher education and tertiary education subsidy programs. To increase Filipinos' chances of securing gainful jobs or engaging in sustainable livelihoods, to increase Filipinos' chances of securing gainful jobs or engaging sustainable livelihoods. TESDA has made great efforts in reaching more beneficiaries and expanding its scholarship programs from 2.3 million enrollees in 2018 to 2.4 million in 2019. Here are a few of our beneficiaries.

[VTR]

Sa panahon ng pandemya, ang pinakamahalagang tungkulin ng HDPRC ay magarantiya na nasa maayos na kalusugan ang ating mamamayan at sila ay may access sa abot kayang serbisyong pangkalusugan. In line with the country's continuing battle against the pandemic, the Department of Health has undertaken concerted efforts to beat the disease with improved testing capacities: From 1,200 actual test per day in March to 21,000 per day now in 85 DOH licensed testing laboratories nationwide; nearly 18,000 dedicated beds for COVID-19; around 18,000 health personnel deployed to health facilities needing augmentation and continuous distribution of Personal Protective Equipment or PPEs and other essential medical equipment for our frontliners.

For the protection of public health, specifically in boosting testing and treatment capacities, we will focus on the continuous improvement of our health care facilities by increasing the number of fully-equipped isolation rooms, critical care beds in hospitals and other crucial medical equipment.

The Universal Health Care program shall be our platform in strengthening our health care system resilient. We are also working on establishing the Philippine Center for disease

control designing systems to anticipate and prepare for an emerging public health threats, and improving vaccine delivery.

In addition to the pandemic related health measures, the HDPRC advanced its efforts in expanding Universal Health Care to all Filipinos and in addressing hunger and malnutrition among children, teenage pregnancy, as well as the prevalence of non-communicable and preventable diseases.

The National Nutrition Council reported that prevalence of wasting and stunting among children under 5 have significantly reduced in 2019. This success can be largely attributed to the Department of Social Welfare and Development's implementation of the supplementary feeding program which served 1.8 million children ages 2 to 5 in 2019.

Also, the DepEd school-based feeding program served 1.7 million learners from kindergarten to grade 6, ages 5 to 12 for the school year 2019 to 2020. Under the Adolescent Help and Development (AHD) program of the Commission on Population and Development or POPCOM, over 170,000 empowered adolescents in 2019 were equipped with knowledge and like skills to prevent early pregnancy, early marriage and defeat pregnancy.

Under the expanded program for immunization the DOH reported that 69% or 1.5million of children have been fully immunized in 2019. Kasama sa layunin ng HDPRC ay masiguro ang katatagan ng ating mga kababayan upang maiwasan na sila ay malugmok pa sa kahirapan sa panahon ng krisis.

With the declaration of the community quarantine last March, the government formulated the Social Amelioration Program (SAP) in order to provide emergency subsidy and other forms of assistance to the most affected families during the pandemic. More than 19 million beneficiaries from the formal and informal sectors received emergency subsidies with the total amount of over 106 billion pesos from the DSWD's emergency subsidy program in partnership with the Department of Interior and Local Government and Local Government Units.

The Department of Labor and Employment COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program or CAMP-Abot Kamay ang Pagtulong or CAMP-AKAP, and Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa ating disadvantaged and displaced workers or TUPAD; Barangay ko, bahay ko project and the Department of Agriculture's Financial Subsidy to Rice Farmers or FSRF. Payouts of the second tranche of the SAP are ongoing.

The Department of Trade and Industry for its part carried out loan moratoriums, price monitoring, as well as processed loan applications for affected Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises to support them in their recovery. Around 69,000 returning OFWs and 7,000 Locally Stranded Individuals or LSIs were provided with the necessary assistance from the HDPRC member agencies.

For the provision of social safety nets, displaced local and overseas workers will be prioritized in the coming months. We will focus on getting them home and providing them employment opportunities, livelihood support along with online skills, upgrading and retooling programs.

For the efficient and transparent delivery of social services, the DSWD is expected to strengthen and fast track the implementation of Social Amelioration and continue to deliver its flagship programs in empowering individuals and communities to get back on their feet.

Lastly, to tie all of these together, we will ensure the strengthening and implementation of least informed evidence-based and shock responsive social protection systems to reduce the vulnerabilities of at risk populations and improve their overall resilience.

Even with the focused responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, the HDPRC also continued to implement its programs aimed at increasing human capital development and reducing poverty.

[VTR]

The DSWD's commitment to improving the poor's quality of life was clearly reflected by the increased budget for the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) from P89 billion in 2018 and in 2019 to P109 billion in 2020 to cover the higher monthly educational and health cash grants pursuant to the 4Ps Act.

Complementary to the 4Ps, the Kalahi-CIDSS national community driven development program has empowered more than 19,000 barangays with improved access to basic services and better local governance in 2019.

Under the Philippine program against child labor, President Duterte signed EO Number 92, Series of 2020, institutionalizing the National Council Against Child Labor. This led to stronger implementation of the program consequently removing 2,000 children from child labor by providing livelihood assistance to more than 2,400 parents of child laborer.

More poor senior citizens in 2020 are receiving regular grants from the social pension for indigent senior citizens program. From only 1.4 million beneficiaries in 2011, the program's coverage significantly increased to around 3.6 million in 2020 representing 43% or merely half of the 8.3 million elderly population in the country.

The DSWD through the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) also extended immediate support to 3.1 million individuals in crisis situations caused by illness, death of a family member, natural and man-made calamities among others from July 2016 to June 2020.

And as part of its mandate in the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), we have provided assistance to disaster relief operations which included assistance to sustain their basic food and shelter needs to around three million households from July 2016 to March 2020.

As part of its effort to provide full, decent and productive employment for Filipinos, the DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program or Kabuhayan Program provided livelihood grants to over 40,000 beneficiaries.

Since 2019, the Department of Agriculture's Special Area for Agricultural Development program (SAAD) has provided 683 livelihood projects covering nearly 28,000 individuals and over 800 farmer group beneficiaries.

Under the care and guide for stability of TESDA, around 46,000 marginalized individuals which include former rebels, drug dependents or surrenderees, indigenous peoples, were provided skills training and employment opportunities to help them become productive members of mainstream society.

About 122 shared facilities of DTI have also been established nationwide helping communities in livelihood training and in the processing and product development. These facilities have been crucial in also assisting the 700 household beneficiaries of the DSWD's sustainable livelihood program.

Patuloy din ang suporta ng HDRPC para sa ating mga magsasaka at mangingisda upang masiguro na sila ay ma-access sa credit, kapital at iba pang serbisyo. Ang pagsuporta sa sektor ng agrikultura ay susi upang masiguro ang tuloy-tuloy na supply ng pagkain.

The national government remained committed to support the agrarian rights of our small farmers by promoting equitable land distribution. Since July 2019, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) distributed nearly 30,000 hectares of public and private agricultural lands to more than 19,000 agrarian reform beneficiaries helping them escape the vicious cycle of poverty and social injustice.

The DAR also provided access to credit and microfinance services to over 131,000 agrarian reform beneficiaries. Nearly 3,000 farmers were supported with agricultural assets infrastructure, technology and machineries to increase their capacity and boost agricultural activity.

Currently, the country's global food security index report is below the global average score. However, there is a significant increase wherein we placed 64th out of 113 countries, six levels higher than its ranking in 2018. But we continue to provide more support to the agriculture sector as the country's score is still lower than the global average.

In line with this, we have strengthened support programs such as the Target Actions to Reduce Poverty and Generate Economic Transformation (TARGET), child nutrition project, coconut rehabilitation program, and gulayan sa paaralan to shore up food security and nutrition quality in the country.

Ladies and gentlemen, these are indeed difficult times. Nevertheless, the HDPRC did not falter or waiver in our zealousness to serve our fellow Filipinos. Nais naming iparating sa aming mga kababayan pati rin sa ating mga beneficiaries na patuloy ang pagpapatupad at pagpapatibay ng mapagkalingang programang ikagiginhawa at ikatatatag ng ating mga kababayan sa panahon ng pandemyang ito.

To my fellow HDPRC members, let us continue to work together and remain relentless in our objectives to build a stronger nation with empowered citizens. The whole-of-nation approach and our mutual support will ensure that no one is left behind in our journey towards recovery from this crisis.

The pandemic may be the first and hopefully the last in our lifetime, so it is our fervent hope that our solidarity as a nation during these challenging times go down in history and reverberate in the future generations.

Shukran! Maraming salamat po. Mabuhay ang Republika ng Pilipinas!

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat Sec. Rolly Bautista at maraming salamat po sa lahat ng ating mga frontliners na bumubuo sa inyong cluster. Tunay na kagitingan ang inyong ipinakita upang masiguro na nagagampanan natin ang ating tungkulin bilang mga lingkod bayan.

Ang pagsiguro na ang pangangailangan ng taumbayan ay naririnig at ang bawat boses ay natutugunan ay mahalaga para sa isang demokrasya. Ipinangako ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte ang isang gobyernong may puso at marunong makinig.

Ano nga ba ang mga natugunan na at mga methodology ng ating gobyerno upang malapit ang ating administrasyon sa publiko?

Ating alamin sa Participatory Governance Cluster na pinangungunahan nila DILG Secretary Eduardo Año at Budget Secretary Wendel Avisado.

[VTR]

SEC. AÑO: My fellow countrymen, it comes as no secret that our intensified drives to establish peaceful, safe and progressive Filipino communities bore as much fruit before country was beleaguered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Illegal drug personalities, criminals, armed communist rebels, terrorists and violent extremists quaked in their boots because of our iron-willed crackdown on the lawless. They paid the consequences but also given hope to be restored.

So, I thank you, our Filipino people for serving as our eyes and ears on the ground and for reporting questionable and criminal behavior to our emergency hotline 911.

Gamit ang hotline 8888 at People's Law Enforcement Board, unti-unti nating naituwid ang mga baluktot sa sistema at napanagot ang mga tiwaling kawani ng pamahalaan. Moreover, by speaking out freely during our public consultations last year, you helped our local government units craft policies, projects and programs tailored to fit the needs of the people.

The online talakayan series is also available for open discussion of development and government planning. You also helped us monitor the progress of our local infrastructure and development projects by using our development life app and citizen satisfaction index

system. Thanks to you good governance and public service delivery became more transparent, efficient and people-centric.

At dahil sa inyong pakikilahok sa adbokasiya ng mga ahensya ng pamahalaang nangangasiwa sa kanilang kapakanan ay mas nabigyang boses ang mga kabataan, kababaihan at mga kapatid nating Muslim. And in safeguarding the environment, your active engagement likewise helped us ensure the tourists spots like Boracay, El Nido, Siargao and Manila Bay remain ecologically healthy and sustainable. Traffic decongestion would also be difficult without your reports on road obstructions.

All these successes led to laudable trust and approval ratings in the year 2019 and highly raised our hopes and aims for 2020. But scarcely have we made headways in our 2020 goals, formidable disasters and a public health crisis not only destroyed much of our plans for the year but more importantly, demolished our normal way of life.

Sa ngayon, nahaharap tayo sa pandemyang hindi basta nagagapi sapagkat hindi natin nakikita ang kalaban. It walks among us, lives among us and even follows us into our homes. Sumabay rin dito ang problema sa food security, water shortage at maging ang iba pang mga banta sa kapayapaan, kaligtasan at seguridad ay nagsanga na rin.

And the midst of all these problems - poverty, joblessness and an economic slump have pushed us into a humanitarian crisis difficult to resolve. Yet, despite all these present challenges and dangers, we saw the strength of the Filipino Bayanihan spirit shine through, volunteers manned/helped checkpoints in isolation centers, cooked food for the less fortunate, packed PPEs for frontliners and open their homes for those who have nowhere to go.

Indeed, your generosity is awe-inspiring and laudable to witness. I also salute all our medical practitioners, uniformed services, cooks and service crews, couriers and delivery personnel and all the frontliners, who continued to hold the line for our country's survival.

We really have no shortage of heroes. And while the government is doing its best to fight COVID-19, we likewise admit that we cannot untangle this mess alone. Thus, we want to thank you for filling in the gaps and helping us patched up the problems we have encountered thus far.

Indeed, these overwhelming circumstances will only relent once a vaccine or cure is fully developed. Thus, a whole of nation approach is our key to containing this pandemic. We

strongly believed that the most successful solutions to any problem, COVID-19 or otherwise, are those which had the strong support of citizens. In fact, the participatory governance Cabinet cluster has just released a resolution affirming our commitment to integrate citizen engagement in delivering public goods and services.

Kaya nga hinihingi namin ang inyong pag-unawa, pagtulong at pakikibahagi habang patuloy ang ating Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte, ang pamahalaan nasyonal at mga lokal na pamahalaan sa paglaban sa pandemya. Help us ensure participative and effective governance as we undertake to implement the national action plan for COVID-19.

Join us in our contact tracing efforts as we detect, isolate, treat and reintegrate COVID-19 patients. Tulungan ninyo kaming magpatayo at magpatakbo ng mga ospital, isolation units at testing centers habang isinasagawa ng pamahalaan ang expanded targeted mass testing sa mga posible pang tamaan ng sakit.

Moreover, I asked those with more, to continue sharing your blessings to struggling Filipinos and to help us think of way to quickly and safely return our Locally Stranded Individuals and repatriated Overseas Filipinos back to their families. Huwag din kayong matakot, mag-alinlangang magsumbong at magreklamo laban sa mga unipormadong hanay or lokal na pamahalaan na lumalabag o may pagkukulang sa pagpapatupad ng batas at mga patnubay ng IATF-EID.

Our Bantay Korapsiyon program is there to uproot the abusive and corrupt in the government especially in agencies directly attached to the DILG. Meanwhile, we at the national government, the department and other partner agencies including the Philippine National Police are here to take action on your grievances. And we assure you, that we, including our LGUs and barangays will be transparent and accountable in every decision and action we take.

Only in working together can we ensure the continued integrity and excellence of our institutions. Moreover, report fake news propagators, market abusers, domestic violence perpetrators and other questionable behavior as these peace spoilers threaten to unravel the progress of our COVID-19 response measures.

And further, as we bring a harmonious resolution to armed conflict in the country, support programs like the C for peace, RCSP, CUCPD, E-CLIP and PCDEI because these highlight good and participative governance, as well as economic development in ushering an era of peace and security in the Philippines.

At ngayon batas na ang Anti-Terrorism Law, mas magiging mahimbing ang mga gabi, dahil alam nating ligtas ang ating mga anak laban sa mga nagbabadyang nakawin ang kanilang kinabukasan. Our children deserve to be raised in safe and secure communities, so let us give them an environment, where they feel free to dream and aim for a better future.

And now that we are gradually reopening our country to pave industry and public transportation, we ask our private sector friends to support our Balik Probinsiya Program by investing in the provinces and providing opportunities for locals. Together let us spur countryside development and empower our local government units to create a brighter future ahead.

Mga kababayan, ang landas natin ngayon ay puno ng mga matitinding pagsubok and we cannot remain stagnant for too long, neither can we afford to have a second wave of COVID-19 infections. Truth be told, our situation feels like walking across a tight rope. Kailangan balanse at naaayon ang ating mga desisyon at hakbang sa pangangailangan ng panahon.

So, we encourage everybody to follow the minimum health standards and while we grew up to tread a better normal, let us be disciplined and obedient to the motherland's rules and regulations.

Let us unite to lift this country out of the mire and carry it on our shoulders the way our ancestors did. This is our aim and we must awaken the spirit of Bayanihan among us and by keeping it alive, we have a legacy of resiliency and strength.

That being said, we in the participatory governance cluster, call on the Filipino citizenry to actively partake in nation building. We believed that it is the people who hold the power to mold the country and the future of it. So let us all be responsible and someday pass on a nation that our children and their children's children will be grateful and proud to inherit. Muli, maraming salamat, mabuhay ang Sambayanang Pilipino.

SEC. AVISADO: To my fellow Cabinet members, colleagues from national government agencies and local government units, civil society organizations, people's organizations, the academe, business sector, media, [unclear] and to my fellow Filipinos who are watching us today. Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat.

Sa biglaang pagdating ng COVID-19 sa ating bansa, marami po sa ating kapwa Pilipino ang lubos na naapektuhan, lalo na ang mga mahihirap at mga miyembro ng marginalized groups.

Marami po ang nawalan ng trabaho dahil sa pagbagal ng ekonomiya gawa ng pagsasara ng mga negosyo, pagsuspende ng mga paaralan at dahil sa mahigpit na pagbabawal sa mga pagtitipon.

At naiintindihan ko po kayo kung lubos kayong natatakot sa panahon ng pandemyang ito at naguguluhan sa kung ano pa man ang maaaring mangyari. Kaya naman sa panahong ito, higit na mas kailangan ng gobyerno na pagtibayin ang inyong tiwala sa pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng sapat at tamang impormasyon at sa patuloy na pakikinig at pagtugon sa inyong mga hinaing.

Kinakailangan ding palakasin ang kapasidad ng mga lokal na pamahalaan upang tuluyan nating masugpo ang COVID-19 pandemic. Para magawa ang lahat nang ito, mahalaga po na gumamit tayo ng tinatawag na whole of society approach. Ibig sabihin mahalaga na magtulungan ang bawat antas ng gobyerno mula sa barangay hanggang sa pamahalaang nasyonal. Upang matiyak natin na ramdam ng bawat Pilipino ang mga programa at proyekto ng gobyerno para sa kanila.

Mahalaga rin na magtulungan ang pribadong sector, gobyerno at mga civil society organizations upang mapagtagumpayan natin ang pagsugpo sa COVID-19. Kaya nga noong Marso, ipinasa po ng Kongreso ang Republic Act no, 11469 o ang Bayanihan To Heal as One Act at binigyan ang ating Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte ng kapangyarihan na gumamit ng temporary emergency measures upang tugunan ang health emergency, iwasan ang malalang epekto nito at masuportahan ang pangangailangan ng taumbayan.

Marami na po tayong nagawa, kaya naman hayaan ninyo na aking maibahagi sa inyo ang ilan sa mga transparent, accountable at participatory initiatives ng ating pamahalaan laban sa COVID-19.

We have continued to uphold budget transparency in our COVID-19 budget through proactive disclosure of the amounts augmented, re-programmed, re-allocated and re-aligned to fund priority programs, activities and projects being implemented in response to the pandemic.

Ibig sabihin po nito, maaari na ninyong makita sa aming TV and website kung saan-saang ahensiya napunta ang budget at kung para saang programa o proyekto dapat itong gamitin. Makikita rin ninyo kung saan kinuha ang ating budget at kung magkano ang natanggap ng bawat ahensiya.

Sa ngayon, nakapagbigay na po tayo ng 374.89 billion pesos sa iba't ibang ahensiya ng pamahalaan para suportahan ang kanilang mga programa laban sa COVID-19. Of all recipient agencies, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) received the largest share in the amount of 249 billion pesos for their Social Amelioration Program benefiting around 23 million low income households in the country.

Other agencies such as the Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Agriculture received 12.59 billion and 11.10 billion respectively, to support their programs for displaced formal and informal workers, Overseas Filipino workers and affected farmers and fisher folks.

We also provided a budget of 51 billion for the Small Business Wage Subsidy Program which aimed to benefit affected Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises or MSMEs through the Department of Finance. To support the country's health care capacity, the Department of Health received an allotment of 48.23 billion to fund the agencies immediate and continued COVID-19 response programs, as well as for the procurement of test kits and PPES.

37.5 billion was released as Bayanihan grants to provinces, cities and municipalities. And of this amount, 7.6 billion were already liquidated by 386 local government units.

Bulk of the liquidated 54.24% went to food assistance and other relief goods for affected households, followed by procurement of hospital equipment and supplies at 9.63% and other COVID-19 related PPEs and expenses at 8%.

The Department of Education also received 10.91 billion for its Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BELCP) program which aims to ensure educational continuity in this time of crisis by adopting multiple learning delivery modes such as distance learning and blended learning among others while ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all learners, teachers and personnel.

The remaining 2.58 billion was released to other agencies including the Department of Science and Technology, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Interior and Local Government among others.

Aside from upholding budget transparency, the Executive Branch also publishes and submits a weekly Bayanihan report to the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee which contains updates on government initiatives being maintained or implemented pursuant to the Bayanihan Law.

Maliban sa pagsisiguro na transparent po tayo sa ating COVID-19 budget, mayroon din pong initiatives ang gobyerno kung saan mas pinadali natin ang access sa mga programa at proyekto ng pamahalaan.

The Presidential Communications Operations Office or PCOO created an official COVID-19 response website, covid19.gov.ph which serves as a one-stop shop for basic comprehensive information about the COVID-19 pandemic and the initiatives of the national government to address its impact.

The Department of Trade and Industry or DTI imposed a price freeze on basic necessities and prime commodities and established a COVID-19 rapid response team to answer queries and facilitate movement of cargos among quarantine-controlled points. The agency also conducted 818 Kadiwa Diskuwentong Caravans to make products more accessible to consumers in 2,974 barangays benefitting 272,837 households even amid the lockdown restrictions. DTI also brought its services down to the barangay level through the 'Livelihood Seeding Program - Negosyo Serbisyo sa Barangay' benefitting 632 barangays and 4,824 MSMEs.

Apart from the proactive response of various implementing agencies, it is also important for the government to provide the platform for citizens to give their feedback and in turn be able to help a holistic understanding of the situation.

Napakahalaga na makinig ang gobyerno sa inyo para po maitama ang mali, mapunan ang mga pagkukulang at mas mapabilis ang implementasyon ng mga programa laban sa COVID-19. Kaya naman marami din po tayong initiatives kung saan ang gobyerno ay bukas at nakikinig sa mga gusto ninyong ipahiwatig sa pamahalaan.

The PCOO together with the Office of the Presidential Spokesperson o OPS, conducts daily press briefings with the Malacañang Press Corps to allow the public to ask questions and seek clarifications directly from government officials regarding COVID-19 measures.

The National Economic and Development Authority also conducted online public service to rapidly assess the impact of the pandemic and of the Enhanced Community Quarantine imposed in the country.

The certain results among others were used to craft the 'We Recover as One Report' which provides recommended policies, programs, strategies to rebuild public confidence and to facilitate the transition to the new norm.

The National Anti-Poverty Commission engaged 46 basic sectors and Kasambayanihan volunteers to ensure that government assistance reaches those who are in need during the pandemic. Moreover, a post distribution monitoring tool was developed to allow citizens to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the cash, food and non-food assistance under the government's Social Amelioration Program.

Let me also share with you other accomplishments under the PGC roadmap which aims to create more spaces for public dialogue and response as well as to provide adequate resources for building capacities. The government pushed transparency and citizen engagement to its peak through the Freedom of Information Program where more than 22,843 requests from the public were submitted. Out of all these requests, 49% or 11,162 were completely acted upon as of May 2020. There were also efforts to localize the FOI program and as to date, about 25 local government units have already passed their local FOI ordinances.

On another front, our participatory governance initiatives are also making waves at the international level. Out of 117 countries evaluated for the 2019 Open Budget Survey, the Philippines secured the top spot in Southeast Asia for budget transparency, making us the most fiscally transparent country in the region while ranking 10th place worldwide. This implies that we were able to make budget information publicly available in a comprehensive and timely manner through the publication of all 8 key budget documents such as the enacted budget and the citizens' budget among others.

The Philippines is also the only country in the world where citizens are part of the auditing team. This is being done through the Citizen Participatory Audit Program of the Commission on Audit. The CPA Program was expanded to include implementation/validation of audit recommendations by COA and CSO representatives. The Commission also conducted 6 CPA dialogues and engagements in 2019.

Because of all these efforts, the Philippines remains to be recognized as a global leader in the open government space and in our experiences that are continuously being shared and cited in various global and regional platforms such as the Open Government Partnership, Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency, the Association of South East Asian Nations and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation among others.

Ang lahat po ng ito ay nagawa ng gobyerno dahil na rin sa tulong ng iba't ibang grupo at organisasyon na marapat lamang na ating pasalamat.

Let me therefore also acknowledge the contributions made by the private sector, the civil society organizations, people's organizations, our development partner, the academe, media and by the citizens themselves in this fight against COVID-19. They have contributed cash, food and non-food assistance such as cash subsidies, food packs, relief goods, medicines, medical supplies, PPEs and testing kits, quarantine facilities and necessities among others to help those affected by the pandemic.

These contributions have enormously helped the government manage the health crisis and mitigate its impact. Kaya naman maraming, maraming salamat po sa lahat ng inyong kontribusyong at ng inyong tulong.

Even with all these initiatives and accomplishments though, President Duterte highlighted the challenges we continue to face time and again and these are: 1. Improving frontline service delivery; 2. Build an open and responsive public institution; and 3. Increasing mechanisms for information dissemination.

That is why for our future directions, we aim to undertake a more strategic and convergent approach in promoting participatory governance through the revision and enhancement of the cluster's programs and projects under the PGC roadmap. Moreover, bulk of the fiscal year 2021 budget will be reprioritized towards saving lives and protecting communities while making our economy stronger and more agile by further addressing the healthcare system, ensuring food security and enabling digital government economy as well as helping communities to adjust to the normal.

Given the risks and the unknowns we face during this pandemic, we acknowledge that's so much more needs to be done; at para po patuloy nating malabanan ang COVID-19, kailangan po ng gobyerno ang tulong ninyo. Our way towards a new and better normal must be all about using evidence-based and face-to-face approach in our responses and about delivering more concrete, felt and transformative results through citizen participation. Closing [unclear], promoting active participation and ensuring sustainability and irreversibility of our successful reforms.

Through a much stronger and genuine participation and partnership with our citizens, we at the Participatory Governance Cluster of the Cabinet will take more concrete action steps to ensure that the government remains transparent and efficiently responds to the needs of our citizens during this critical period. Since at the end of the day, what matters most for our citizens is to know and truly feel that the government is there for them, we will deliver

efficient and effective public services, listen and respond and serve and protect and give the most that the government can.

Uulitin ko po, nandito lang ang gobyerno na handang makinig at damayan kayo at higit sa lahat, ipadama ang patuloy na pagkalinga para sa inyo. Tayo po ay magtutulongan na labanan ang COVID-19 and with the love, mercy and compassion of our Almighty God, we shall overcome.

Maraming salamat po. [dialect]. Maayong hapon kaninyong tanan. God bless us all.

SEC. ANDANAR: Ating narinig po ang mga ulat mula sa Human Development Cluster at Participatory Governance Cluster. Maraming impormasyon ang naibigay po sa atin ngayon ngunit may mga katanungan pa rin ang taumbayan. Kaya naman we will open the floor to questions that are frequently asked to our clusters.

Makakasama natin via Zoom sina Secretary Rolly Bautista, Secretary Francisco Duque III, Secretary Isidro Lapeña, Secretary Fortunato dela Peña, Secretary Leonor Briones, Secretary Silvestre Bello, Secretary Noel Felongco, Secretary Francisco Acosta, Secretary William Dar, Secretary John Castriciones, Chairperson Prospero de Vera, Chairman Alvin Feliciano ng PCUP, Commissioner Sandra Montano ng PCW, Undersecretary Jesus Mateo ng DepEd, Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire, Undersecretary Gerardo Bayugo ng DOH, Undersecretary Antonio Gallardo ng PLLO, Secretary Hermogenes Esperon, Assistant National Statistician Wilma Guillen ng PSA, Undersecretary Janet M. Lopez ng MinDA, Undersecretary Marilyn Pintor ng DHSUD; speakers Secretary Eduardo M. Año, Secretary Wendel Avisado, Secretary Ramon Lopez, Undersecretary Rosemarie Edillon ng NEDA, Secretary Fortunato dela Peña ng DOST, Secretary Briones kasama pa rin po natin, Atty. Saidamen Pangarungan ng NCMF, Undersecretary Jesus Mateo ng DepEd, Undersecretary Jacinto Paras ng PLLO, Assistant Secretary Kristian Ablan ng PCOO at FOI at si Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles.

SEC. ANDANAR: Unang katanungan po natin para kay Cabsec Nograles. How do you ensure unity and coordination within the clusters in the attainment of the administration's overall objectives and goals?

CABSEC NOGRALES: Maraming salamat, Secretary Martin. Actually, ang ating mga clusters mayroon po silang Cabinet Cluster Secretariat. So bawat cluster mayroon po tayong secretariat doon. At mayroon din po tayong tinatawag na Cabinet Cluster Secretariat System kung saan nagmi-meeting ang lahat ng secretariats ng lahat ng clusters para pag-usapan

kung ano na iyong mga updates and accomplishments at ang mga commitments ng bawat cluster, at siyempre para synchronized at coordinated ang lahat ng mga efforts po natin.

Pangalawa po, mayroon din po tayong ... siyempre sinusupportahan natin ang convergence budgeting. So kung saan mayroong mga programs, activities or projects na puwedeng mag-converge between and among different agencies and departments, ito po iyong binibigyan din natin ng kinaukulang suporta 'no. At ang DBM, sinusupportahan din nila itong convergence budgeting siyempre.

Pangatlo po, mayroon din po tayong tinatawag na Cabinet Assistance System kung saan iyong mga matters, issues and concerns na kailangan pong desisyunan ng ating Pangulo o maging ng kaniyang Gabinete ay pinag-uusapan po natin doon sa Cabinet Assistance System. Kung ma-iron out natin at ma-resolve natin iyong issues doon, then iri-resolve po natin sa level na iyon. Pero kung hindi ay inaakyat po natin for agenda sa Cabinet meeting kung saan hihintayin natin iyong magiging desisyon ni Pangulo at iyong kaniya pong direktiba. At siyempre pa, itong ating Pre-SONA Forums, isa rin po itong paraan kung paano naa-update ang ating accomplishments; paano naa-assure na synchronized po at coordinated ang lahat ng efforts ng gobyerno, at niri-report natin sa taumbayan ang lahat ng ito for constant updating po sa inyo.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you so much, Cabinet Secretary Nograles.

Ang susunod po nating katanungan ay para po kay DSWD Secretary Rolly Bautista. What is the DSWD's effort to cushion the impact of COVID-19 and prepare for future pandemics?

SEC. BAUTISTA: To the Bayanihan To Heal as One Act, the DSWD has been mandated to implement social amelioration measures to provide subsidy for the basic necessities and ways for the recovery of most affected families and individuals.

Social amelioration measures of the DSWD include its augmentation of food and non-food items, sustainable livelihood program, social pension for indigent senior citizens, supplementary feeding program and the emergency subsidy programs for the poor.

We are continuously improving the system to ensure the timely implementation of all these programs, activities and services, including simplifying our process to give our kababayans the help they need as possible. And while we trust that these interventions are crucial in cushioning the effects of the pandemic, we also believe that it is high time to approach the issues from a system's wide-approach rather than a program's perspective.

That is why we are doing the best we can to improve our strategies and policies so that our agency would be better prepared and our people less vulnerable and more resilient to those brought about by the pandemic and disasters.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you so much, Secretary Rolly Bautista.

Ang susunod po na katanungan ay para po kay Department of Health Secretary Francisco Duque. What is the government's integrated health program to respond to COVID-19 and future pandemics?

SEC. DQUE: Magandang umaga sa iyo, Ginoong Kalihim Martin Andanar ng PCOO at sa atin pong mga kasamang mga kapwa ko miyembro ng Gabinete ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Ang amin pong pagtugon sa pandemyang COVID-19 ay masasabing tunay na bayanihan na pinangunahan ng ating Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases, kaakibat ang iba't ibang sektor ng ating lipunan. Sinikap nating iangat ang ating health capacities upang maprotektahan ang bawat Pilipino mula sa COVID-19 at iba pang emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, at masiguro ang ating mga serbisyong pangkalusugan ay accessible sa lahat.

Pinalawak natin ang ating surveillance and diagnostic capacity at nagtaguyod ng laboratoryo at healthcare provider networks. Noong simula, isang laboratoryo lang po ang mayroon tayo. Ngayon po ay mayroon na tayong 85 testing labs. Mayroon tayong higit sa labinlimang libong kama sa mga ospital para sa COVID-19, iba pa rito ang higit na isandaang libong kama sa ating quarantine facilities o ang mga temporary treatment and monitoring facilities para sa ating mga kababayang may mild symptoms, iyong mga pagaling na at iyong mga naghihintay ng test results.

Bilang technical at regulatory agency, pinagsama-sama natin ang mga pinakamahuhusay na eksperto sa bansa upang mabigyan tayo ng masusing rekomendasyon base sa best available evidence. Ating inorganisa ang technical advisory group at sub-technical working group on data analytics upang suportahan ang national government sa pag-manage at pag-translate ng mga datos upang maging polisiya at mga guidelines na tutugon sa pangangailangan ng mga tao.

Naglabas din tayo ng mga polisiya para mabigyan direksiyon ang ating pagtahak sa new normal. Mayroon tayong minimum public health standards na naglalayong gabayan ang publiko at iba't ibang sektor sa pag-i-implement ng mga preventive strategies katulad ng tamang paghuhugas ng mga kamay, ang pagsuot ng mask at pagdistansiya sa isang metro para maibsan ang banta ng COVID-19.

Ang minimum health system capacity standards naman ang naglatag ng minimum targets para sa health human resources, infrastructure and equipment, and commodities, and supplies para masiguro na ang lahat ng suspect - probable at confirmed COVID-19 cases, pati na rin ang close contacts ay nadi-detect, isolate at treat.

Bilang bahagi ng ating strategic communication, ginamit natin na platform ang traditional at emerging media upang ipabatid ang mahahalagang impormasyong kalusugan sa mga mamamayan sa pamamagitan ng mga daily presser, DOH COVID tracker at data drafts. Binigyan natin ng karampaman at napapanahong impormasyon ang publiko.

Inilunsad din natin ang BIDA Campaign bilang bahagi ng ating mga strategic communication initiatives upang maipabatid ang mahahalagang impormasyong pangkalusugan at mahikayat ang publiko na magsagawa ng mga mahahalagang practice upang maiwasan ang pagkalat ng COVID:

B – Bawal ang walang mask

I – I-sanitize ang kamay; lwas hawak sa mga bagay.

D – Dumistansiya ng isang metro

A – Alamin ang totoo

Habang tayo po ay nakikibaka sa pandemyang ito, kailangan nating siguraduhin na ating mai-deliver ang mandato ng Universal Healthcare kung saan tayo ay magshi-shift sa primary care-oriented, integrated healthcare delivery network. Ngayon natin pinaigting ang pag-integrate ng Philippine Health Facilities Development Plan at Human Resources for Health Master Plan. At habang tayo ay nagsisikap na bumangon muli, binubuo naman natin ang ating kapasidad na palakasin ang ating public health system partikular na ang ating mga local government units bilang mga primary responders. Ating isinusulong ang pagtatayo ng ating sariling Philippine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, kasama ang pinalawak na Health Promotion Bureau.

At habang hindi pa available ang bakuna para sa COVID-19, ating pinalalakas ang ating vaccine delivery system bilang paghahanda sa malawakang pagbabakuna sa ating

populasyon, kasama rito ang ating sistema para sa mga bakunang kasama sa ating national immunization program.

Tayo ay nagsusumikap na magtaguyod ng health system na makatugon sa nagbabagong pangangailangan ng mga Pilipino na hindi lamang passive beneficiaries to health services kung hindi aktibong nangangalaga sa kanilang kalusugan at nagtataguyod ng kanilang karapatang pangkalusugan.

Bilang isang nagkakaisang bansa, ating tatahakin ang Universal Health Care bilang susi sa ating new normal.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you so much, Secretary Duque.

Ang susunod po na katanungan ay para po kay Silvestre Bello III, Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment. What livelihood programs or employment opportunities are available for displaced OFWs?

SEC. BELLO: Thank you. Thank you, Sec. Martin.

Marami po kaming programa para sa ating mga OFWs. Unang-una, pagbalik mayroon kaming *Balik Pilipinas*, *Balik Hanapbuhay*. Bibigyan namin agad iyan ng 20,000 cash for a livelihood project na kanilang pipiliin, kadalasan karinderya, kadalasan iyong welding shop, iyon ang ginagawa nila.

We also have a very good employment opportunity for our OFWs lalong-lalo na iyong mga may teaching experience or proficiency. Ito iyong *Sa Pilipinas, Ikaw ang Ma'am and Sir*. Ka-partner ko dito iyong seatmate ko, si Secretary Liling, na mayroon kaming usapan doon sa memorandum of agreement na iyong aming OFWs ay dapat bigyan ng priority sa teaching profession nila.

Now, in addition to that, Sec. Martin, mga kasamahan ko sa Gabinete, marami pa kaming mga programa para siguraduhin natin na magkakaroon ng trabaho bagamat pandemic mode tayo ngayon. Kagaya noong ano, sa pag-uusap namin ni Secretary Villar, Secretary Art Tugade at saka iyong partner ko, si Secretary Mon Lopez doon sa full implementation ng Build, Build Build infrastructure project of the President. Dito magkakaroon ng maraming project na i-implement and this will revive the construction industry and we hope to generate not less than 400,000 working opportunities.

Kausap namin dito iyong mga leaders ng construction industry, and they committed to us that they will not only hire our construction workers. They will see to it na ma-maximize iyong availability of work by manualizing iyong work rather than mechanizing the work. So sa halip na bibili ng backhoe ay mag-hire na lang ng additional 50 workers.

Mayroon din tayong programa na ... iyong DOLE Integrated Livelihood Program. Ito iyong bibigyan namin ng livelihood project ang mga OFWs, even iyong mga ordinary workers bibigyan din namin. And we will also provide opportunities like giving them or extending to them 250 to one million loan at very minimal interest para sa ganoon ay makapasok sila sa negosyo.

Ayun po, iyon po ang aming mga plano para sa ating OFW. At tinitiyak namin, lalung-lalo na sa BPO, iyong call centers, we have already an invitation for not less than 6,000 call center agents. And we requested our mga nasa industry ng BPO na kung maaari, i-prioritize nila iyong mga OFWs natin.

Iyon lang, Sec. Martin. Thank you very much.

SEC. ANDANAR: Salamat, Sec. Bebot Bello. Ang susunod po natin na katanungan ay para po sa TESDA, kay Secretary Isidro Lapeña: How can TESDA assist the vulnerable and marginalized sectors especially in this time of pandemic where reaching them becomes more difficult due to social or physical distancing, guidelines in place? How can we ensure their unhampered access to TESDA programs and services?

SEC. LAPEÑA: Maraming salamat, Secretary Martin at saka sa mga kasamahan ko sa Gabinete. Magandang tanghali po sa inyong lahat.

Ang TESDA being the lead agency for the Poverty Reduction, Livelihood and Employment Cluster or PRLEC ng National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict is in close coordination with the local government units and in support of our LGUs and other PRLEC member-agencies in convergence in a livelihood programs for the more affected and vulnerable communities such as the Indigenous People and their communities, mga former rebels at ang mga beneficiaries ng Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.

Ang TESDA training centers natin have resumed the provision of programs and services and are now going to the communities following the approval of IATF in their Resolution No. 47, dated June 19, 2020.

On agriculture and food production, we engaged the communities in organic crops farming and livestock production through training corn production. Of course, this is in partnership... in close coordination, collaboration with the Department of Agriculture. This is to ensure food security and sustainability as their produce is a viable food source especially during this time of pandemic.

Marketing programs are also included in the trainings to empower these communities to be able to effectively sell their products or what we call Agri-preneurship.

Several projects are being undertaken particularly in the identified priority barangays all over the country as part of the whole-of-nation approach to end local communist armed conflict.

One success story is about the AGAK Centers in Region XI. AGAK stands for 'amoma ug giya alang sa khamugaway' or Care and Guide for Stability Centers. The AGAK Center which is a product of public-private collaboration is established to provide the IPs access to daily necessities such as electricity, communication and even support for our economic activities. The wireless connectivity centers are equipped with solar power generators and computer wireless connectivity. At present, 7 AGAK Centers have been established in Davao Region.

We also have skills training tailor fit for the IPs to support their sustainable development while preserving their culture. These are embroidery; mat weaving; basket weaving; bed works and handloom weaving are some of our training for the IPs. And we are also expanding our livelihood assistance through the Project IPs. Ang ibig sabihin ng IPEACE ay Indigenous People Empowered as Agri-preneurs towards a Collective End in collaboration with the National Commission on Indigenous People.

An orientation on the pandemic crisis and how to be protected from the virus through proper sanitation and hygiene is also included in the trainings provided by TESDA. We are also working with the Department of National Defense and the Philippine National Police to train uniformed personnel so that they could eventually provide trainings to our former rebels, to our Indigenous People in their area of assignment. As of 13 July 2020, more than 300 uniformed personnel have undergone trainings on various qualifications. This is bringing the uniformed personnel closer to our IP communities.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you so much, Secretary Lapeña. Ang susunod po natin na katanungan ay para po kay Undersecretary Jesus Mateo ng DepEd: Can the government setup an online learning center per barangay with complete gadgets and Wi-Fi connections where students within the barangay may go to attend virtual classes from the respective

schools in which the setup can be similar to commercial computer centers or computer shops?

DEPED USEC. MATEO: Secretary Andanar, yeah. Secretary Briones is here. Maybe we can request Secretary Briones. Ma'am... Ma'am Liling is here, sir.

DEPED SEC. BRIONES: Yes, good afternoon sa ating lahat. Magandang tanghali at maayong udto kanatong tanan mga bisoy, mga bisdak.

I'm very happy to share with you what the DepEd has accomplished during this period of pandemic which has harmed not only the health status of our people but also our economy.

We have always said education must continue and our learners cannot wait. And so, our most important announcement which we made as early as April is that classes, schools in basic education will open on August 24. We have already developed as early as April also, our Learning Continuity Program which means that learning will continue, COVID or no COVID, economic difficulties or no economic difficulties, may bagyo, may lindol o may baha patuloy ang edukasyon.

Now ang latest enrolment numbers natin, tomorrow will be the last day of enrollment but there are also provisions for late enrolment which are already in department issuances. As of this morning, practically three-fourths of our enrollees last year have returned, so we have a total already of 20,220,507 learners who are already registered with us and more will be coming tomorrow and many more will even take advantage of the late enrolment policy of DepEd which has always been there.

Also, I'm happy to report that for our Alternative Learning Systems, 257,220 learners have enrolled in spite of the fact that our working learners, itong mga nawalan ng trabaho are still in the process of adjustment to their new situation. They have enrolled also in our program.

We say that education must continue. To go to the question about gadgets, ang ating strategy dito, dahil ang ating Presidente nag-declare siya ng policy na walang face-to-face learning muna hangga't hindi pa natin fully controlled ang COVID pandemic. Kaya ang ating polisiya ay blended learning kung saan mayroon tayong online platforms, nearly 9 million naka-subscribe sa ating online platforms kung saan nandoon ang lahat ng mga materyales natin. Puwedeng gamitin ang ating mga gadgets, puwedeng gamitin ang cellphones. There are 179 million cellphones all over the country, many of our children and our teachers also

have gadgets but we are not insisting that they go online kasi may ibang alternatibo. Kung hindi puwede ang online, ang sabi namin nandiyan ang telebisyon, nandiyan ang radyo.

Right now, busy kami, abalang-abala kami na nakikipag-coordinate sa PCOO para ma-expand, para magamit ang kanilang radio and television facilities. Ina-assess din namin ang napakaraming offers ng both public and private sector providers para sa alternative ways of sharing learning.

Pagkatapos, kung hindi talaga puwede, kung walang connectivity, walang radyo, walang platform, walang cellphone, then iyong sinasabi nating nandiyan naman iyong it's better manual. Kaya mayroon tayong mga printed modular materials na i-distribute, idi-deliver sa mga bahay-bahay ng ating mga estudyante sa tulong ng ating mga local governments.

So ibig ko sabihin, Sec. Martin, hindi pinipilit ang mga bata na mag-online sila kung hindi talaga puwede ang online dahil maraming ibang paraan na matuturuan sila without necessarily going online. As a matter of fact, abalang-abala kami ngayon para handain ang ating mga modular learning materials at this time. At saka sinubukan namin dahil maraming nagsasabi hindi kaya ng DepEd, hindi marunong ang DepEd, hindi nila makayanan itong napakalaking trabaho.

Nagkaroon kami ng simulation tryout sa City ng Navotas with the cooperation and the full support of Congressman Tiangco and Mayor Tiangco as well as the parents, lahat-lahat nag-cooperate and it is a very successful simulation both kindergarten, high school and college. At saka may mga private schools ngayon na nag-simulate na sila o nag-umpisa na sila talaga sa blended.

So huwag mag-worry masyado ang parents at mga children kung wala silang gadgets pero we are doing everything dahil ang DBM naman ay very supportive, sinabi na kanina na nagbigay sila ng support ng 10.9 billion for our learning materials. Si Secretary Dominguez naman ay nangangampanya para sa additional gadgets through the international community at humihingi din siya ng mga donations ng radios para sa mga lugar na walang continuity.

So ang assurance ko Sec. Martin, as Secretary of Education, hindi pinipilit iyong online dahil marami pang choices – nandiyan ang telebisyon, nandiyan ang radyo, nandiyan ang manual at nandiyan ang mga teachers na mag-cooperate sa parents para magiging successful ito. Pero ang importante, patuloy ang edukasyon. Bubuksan ang ating classes on August 24.

Ang question ay handa ba ang DepEd? Ang DepEd ay handa na, nakita namin iyan sa simulation – it will work! Thank you very much.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat, Secretary Liling Briones. Ang susunod na katanungan po naman ay para kay DILG Secretary Ed Año: Secretary, on strengthening the contact tracing efforts for COVID-19, how will you address the sudden surge in the number of COVID-19 cases in the country given the current capacity of the government in contact tracing?

SEC. AÑO: Thank you, Secretary Martin. First of all ano, tayo ay nag-issue ng Memo Circular 2020-077 sa local government units na iyong pagkakabuo ng LGU Task Force Against COVID-19 sapagkat ang ating mga local chief executives ang siyang pinakanangunguna sa task force na 'to at ang pinakaimportante dito ay, isa, ay ang contact tracing teams 'no. Ang ating weapon talaga para sa COVID ay ang magaling na contact tracing, ang ating pag-test at ang paggawa noong mga isolation facilities, at siyempre iyong treatment at referrals sa mga hospitals.

So sa ngayon, mayroon tayong a total of 4,818 contact tracing teams at binubuo ng 65,574. Noong nagsimula tayo noong March ay almost 219 lang iyong ating contact tracers 'no, kokonti so ngayon 65,574. Pero kailangan pa rin natin ng around 80,000 more contact tracers kung kaya tayo ay magre-recruit o magha-hire ng additional 50,000 contact tracing members na itatalaga natin sa iba't ibang lugar ng Pilipinas at ito ay... hinintay lang natin iyong budget nito.

Areas katulad ng Cebu, National Capital Region ay patuloy naman na nagha-hire ng contact tracers sa programa ng kanilang budget. At ito ay sisiguraduhin natin na magiging epektibo sapagkat dito nakasalalay kung saan natin makikita iyong mga contacts, lost contacts, iyong mga suspects, at para ma-test sila at mailagay natin sa isolation facilities.

Sa ngayon tulung-tulong ang ating iba't ibang ahensiya 'no katulad ng CESU, iyong mga LESU, iyong ating tinatawag na City or Local Epidemiological Surveillance Units; ang ating CIDG, ang ating Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection, ang ating AFP, ang mga health workers, mga volunteers. Itong mga ito ay bumubuo ngayon sa ating kasalukuyang contact tracing teams. At nakalagay ito sa bawat barangay ay dapat mayroon. Sa mga business centers, dapat mayroon ding nakatutok diyan na separate na contact tracing teams. At sisiguraduhin natin na makikipag-ugnayan tayo sa community, at siguraduhin natin na mati-trace natin at mati-test natin at finally ay ma-isolate natin.

So for the next coming days, weeks and months, lalo pa tayong magpapaigting. At inaasahan natin, mayroon na tayong mga mabibigyan ng trabaho kapag nakapag hire pa tayo ng additional 50,000 na contact tracers.

SEC. ANDANAR: Secretary Ed Año, thank you so much.

Ang susunod po na katanungan ay para po kay DBM Secretary Wendel Avisado. Secretary Avisado, is there enough budget for upscaling, transitioning to digital economy to boost the economy in the long term?

SEC. AVISADO: Maraming salamat po sa katanungan, Secretary Martin.

Ang sagot po natin ay mayroon po. We have, as a matter of fact, one of the priorities under the 2021 proposed national budget is really the matter of upscaling our capability to respond to this need now of transitioning to digital economy.

The only way for us to boost our economy is to go digital. Kaya naman po for next year, the government plans to fast-track programs that will promote digitalization of the economy, the health sector, the government and social assistance, among others. For instance, there will be a budget allotted for distance learning under the Department of Education, distance learning systems and the procurement of telemedicine kits, as well as for the conduct of capability building and continuous learning programs which includes the use of e-learning platforms and digital upscaling.

There will also be an increase in the budget for the Philippine Identification System to fast-track its implementation.

At ito po at iba pang mga kaakibat ng programa that will upscale the government's capability to transition to digital economy is one of the major concerns of our government, Secretary Martin.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you very much, Secretary Wendel Avisado. Maraming salamat po.

Ang susunod po na katanungan ay para po kay Assistant Secretary Kris Ablan ng PCOO at Executive Director ng Freedom of Information: How can the government improve transparency and improve the speed of delivery or delivering public information towards the end of the administration's term?

ASEC ABLAN: Thank you so much po, Secretary Martin. We are very proud po at the PCOO that we are able to run the freedom of information program the way the President envisioned it back in July 2016.

But in order to make it faster, we need to adopt a whole-of-government approach. Right now, the Executive Order is limited only to the Executive branch and we would like it to cover the entire government including our Judiciary, our Congress, our Constitutional Commissions, as well as our local government units. That's why we are calling on Congress to finally pass the Freedom of Information Law within the term of the President.

In addition to that, Secretary Martin, we need to improve our records management program. So, tying up with the DICT and the National Archives of the Philippines, we will try to improve our digital records management.

So those are the ways on how we can disclose information faster to the citizens. Thank you po.

SEC. ANDANAR: Thank you so much, Assistant Secretary Kris Ablan.

Our next question for NEDA, Undersecretary Rosemarie Edillon: What is the status of the National ID System?

USEC. EDILLON: Yes. Good afternoon, Secretary Andanar. With respect to the status, sa ngayon po ay talagang pina-fast-track po ang implementation of the national ID. In fact, alam po ni Sec. Carl na ito iyong isa sa marching orders sa kaniya ni Presidente.

So right now, nandoon na po sa stage na iyong tinatawag natin na ABIS – Automated Biometric Information System – is already being procured. And the PSA is also being assisted by the DICT para mapabilis po iyong pag-evaluate ng mga magdadatingan na mga bids na ito.

So we're hoping po talaga na bale talagang fighting target po ng PSA and, like I said, nakatutok dito si Sec. Carl na by the end of the year, we will have registered at least five million individuals. And ang mangyayari po nito ay sisikapin po ng mga representing five million households po ito para makatulong ito nang husto in the later distribution of assistance programs ng ating gobyerno.

Thank you po.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat po sa inyong sagot, Undersecretary Edillon.

Ang susunod po natin na katanungan ngayong hapon ay para po kay Secretary Saidamen Pangarungan. Secretary, ito po iyong tanong: Is there a clear information dissemination mechanism for the National Action Plan on Health or COVID-19 response especially for Mindanao?

SEC. PANGARUNGAN: Salamat. Secretary Martin. Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh. Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat.

Yes, the National Task Force spearheads the implementation of the National Action Plan against COVID-19 through the regional task forces. Now, for the four million Muslims who live within the BARMM, we have the Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao who is designated as chair of the regional task force.

For the other eight million Muslims who live outside the BARMM, we have the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos that created recently the regional task forces for its 11 regional offices and 10 field offices that responded to all calls for help and assistance to our Muslim communities nationwide.

So far, the regional task forces of the NCMF have responded to calls for assistance to more than 140,000 Muslim beneficiaries nationwide. This is in the form of relief and food assistance to them, as well as burial assistance to stranded tabliqs, students here and abroad, as well as locally stranded individuals.

The regional task force has also adopted the policy of the mandatory public disclosure of personal information relating to concerns on COVID-19 response.

Iyon po and salamat.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat po, Secretary Pangarungan.

Ang ating susunod na katanungan po ay para sa Department of Trade and Industry, Secretary Mon Lopez: Given the rising number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country, what measures has DTI taken to ensure that the re-opening and increase operations of businesses are safe amid the ongoing pandemic?

SEC. LOPEZ: Magandang hapon po, Sec Martin at sa atin pong mga kasama sa gobyerno, sa inyo pong lahat.

Ang DTI po, together with DOLE, with DOH, kasama na rin po ang Department of Tourism and DILG, marami na po tayong nilabas na mga guidelines regarding the minimum health protocols para po sa mga iba-ibang establisyimento. Ito po it will cover all factories, offices, private establishments, kasama na rin po iyong mga recently re-opened sectors na dati po ay nasa Category 4 or magbukas lamang sa Modified GCQ subalit in-allow na po ng IATF na magbukas kahit 30% operating capacity under GCQ. So kasama po diyan iyong mga dine-in restaurants and also iyong mga barbershops and salons. So mayroon pong mga kaniya-kaniyang binuong protocol.

At isa po sa pinaigting, sinisigurado pong strict compliance ay ito pong mga health protocols natin so that we can really safely re-open the economy. We all realized na ang virus po will be here to stay and therefore, we will just have to live with it but we will have to manage and control its spread by making sure na may strict compliance po dito sa protocol na ito.

At iyon po, araw-araw po, every day po ang audit po diyan. Iba-iba po. We cover about 400 establishments every day, and the results we're getting are very encouraging, mga 92% to 100% compliance for each protocol. Kunwari po iyong pagsuot ng mask, pagsunod po sa sanitation and hand washing, iyong social distancing, pati po sa mga lamesa at mga silya, lahat po ay naku-comply po iyon. And that is the reason po as part of our policy to gradually re-open, ito po ay ina-allow po natin ngayon dahil po sa mataas na compliance nito pong mga protocols na ito.

So despite all these numbers that you're showing, basically we are allowing more re-opening, let's say from 30% to 50% under GCQ, ito pong mga barbershops and salons, as well as allowing other services, hair cutting services na safe pa rin naman po.

And in the dine-in and restaurants din po, we will allow 30% to 50% under GCQ starting July 21, again, with strict health protocols – social distancing, sanitation, wearing of mask lalo na siyempre doon sa time na hindi ka kumakain; and of course, we are adding some more – proper ventilation and exhaust system in the establishment and other optional measures like putting clear acrylic dividers between tables or even having air purifiers.

Well, as part of our effort din na mare-open iyong economy, we are requesting our mga local government units kung puwede po ay ma-extend lang po iyong curfew nila, ibig sabihin, kung puwedeng a little later para po ma-allow iyong a much later operating hours kahit ho

mga up to 11 or 12 midnight po iyong curfew para ho we can allow more operations po. Because more operations means mas malaki po ang income po ng ating mga workers na nandoon. Makakailang turnover pa po iyan sa mga establishments na ito.

Anyway, ang maximum opening naman po depende rin po sa kanya-kanyang mga negosyo to the extent na may tao pa doon sa lugar na iyon; pero may maximum naman po tayong tinitingnan dito. Maybe maybe maximum of ten or eleven as operating hours dito po sa mga establisyemento na ito, provided po again with very strict health protocols.

Thank you, Sec. Martin.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat, Sec. Mon Lopez ng DTI.

And our last question ay para po kay Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles. With the last two years in office, how are we ensuring that the roadmaps of the clusters are in place despite the COVID-19?

CABSEC. NOGRALES: Salamat, Sec. Martin. Actually, totoo nga, lahat ng mga clusters po natin ay mayroon silang roadmap na isinumite at in-approve nga po ng buong Gabinete at pati na rin si Pangulong Duterte.

Sa ganoong paraan very clearly indicated kung ano iyong key performance indicators, ang measurements natin, ang matrix natin, para malaman kung nagsu-succeed ba ang bawat cluster doon sa kaniyang mga commitments lalong-lalo na sa mga targets and goals and objectives ng ating administrasyon at pati na rin ni Pangulong Duterte.

Pero dahil sa COVID-19 makikita po natin na halos maraming mga programa, proyekto at activities ng iba't-ibang cluster ang nag-e-expand tulad na rin iyong Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster kung saan nadagdagan ang mga programa ng gobyerno bilang pagtugon sa mga pangangailangan ng ating mga kababayan specially sa health aspect at sa social protection aspect.

Ganoon din ang nangyari sa Participatory Governance Cluster, in fact, mas importante na nga ang magiging mandato ng PGC ngayon dahil nasa kanila po ang paglagay ng feedback mechanism at in-depth surveys and interviews para malaman kung ano ang mga panibagong pangangailangan ng ating taumbayan para mas ma-update pa natin ang ating cluster roadmaps.

At timing lang din po dahil ang ating Philippine Development Plan (PDP) ay right now undergoing updating for the midterm. At dahil sa nangyari sa COVID-19, ilalagay na po natin doon sa PDP iyong mga panibagong pangangailangan ng ating taumbayan.

So, ganoon din, habang ina-update natin ang ating Philippine Development Plan ay dapat i-update na rin po natin ang ating mga cluster roadmaps para tayo'y tumugon sa mga pangangailangan, maging relevant ang lahat ng mga programa, proyekto at activities ng government para tulungan ang ating mga kababayan lalong-lalo na ngayong panahon ng pandemya.

So, dito po, ito po ang gagawin natin para mas maging relevant po ang ating mga clusters sa pagtugon sa ating bayan at para tuloy-tuloy pa rin po ang pag-accomplish natin ng lahat ng mga targets, goals and objectives ni Pangulong Duterte.

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat, Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles. Maraming salamat din po sa ating mga Cabinet Secretaries! Maraming, maraming salamat din sa mga nagbigay ng kanilang mga katanungan.

Ang ating bansa po ay dumanas ng mga pagsubok simula pa lamang ng taon. Mga pagsubok na nangailangan ng pamumunong may tapang, malasakit at paninindigan. Mga pagsubok na nagpatatag sa atin bilang isang bayan.

Ngayon, ano ba ang susunod nating hakbang? Narito ang mensahe ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

[VTR]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: My fellow Filipinos, the accomplishments that we have just presented to you in this pre-SONA forum are the fruits of our collective efforts to foster real, lasting and meaningful change in our country.

Numerous trials have tested our resolve these past few years but we have always emerged victorious because of our unity and bayanihan as a people. As we look to the future with much hope and positivity let us continue to work together to build a better and more prosperous Philippines for ourselves and the next generation of Filipinos.

Mabuhay ang Republika ng Pilipinas!

SEC. ANDANAR: Maraming salamat po sa inyo na nasa inyong tahanan na nanonood at sumusubaybay sa ating pre-SONA forum. Sa mga Secretaries na walang sawang sumusuporta po at nakikiisa, salamat po!

Huwag kayong aalis dahil pagkatapos ng programang ito ay mayroon tayong virtual presser kung saan ang mga katanungan naman ng mga kasamahan natin sa media ang sasagutin ng ating mga butihing lingkod bayan.

Sa susunod na linggo, atin namang makakasama ang Climate Change Adaptation Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction Cluster at ang Security, Justice and Peace Clusters.

See you next week. Ito po si Secretary Martin Andanar para sa Tatak ng Pagbabago 2020 The Pre-SONA Forum.

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