

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE ARRIVAL OF 2,805,000 DOSES OF PROCURED COVID-19
VACCINES**

[Delivered at Villamor Air Base in Pasay City | 08 November 2021]

Kindly sit down. Sorry.

The Russian Federation Ambassador to the Philippines His Excellency Marat Pavlov; the National Task Force Chief Implementer and Vaccine Czar Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr.; Senator Bong Go, Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Health and Demography; National Task Force Vice Chair Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año; Presidential Assistant on Foreign Affairs and Chief of Presidential Protocol Robert Borje; Health Undersecretary Ma. Carolina Vidal-Taiño; the Special Envoy to the Russian Federation Olivia Limpe-Aw; fellow workers in government; ladies and gentlemen.

I am pleased to join you today as we welcome the arrival of more than 2.8 million doses of Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccines. This gives us reason to be thankful for the strong support of our friends from the international community in overcoming the pandemic.

Let me express my gratitude to the Russian Government for the continued supply of life-saving COVID-19 vaccines to the Philippines. These deliveries affirm Russia's commitment to [achieving global] vaccine equity and improving vaccine accessibility to countries, especially the Philippines.

I deeply appreciate Russia's efforts in fostering cooperation in various areas, including the fight against COVID-19. Goodwill initiatives, such as this vaccine donation and others, demonstrate the strong ties and friendship between Russia and the Philippines.

Furthermore, I acknowledge the strong efforts of the Department of Health, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the National Task Force against COVID-19, and other institutional partners for ensuring a steady supply of vaccines in this country.

Amidst the threat of variants, you attended to the prompt, safe and effective delivery, distribution and administration of the vaccines across the country.

Let us work together to put an end to this disease and its harmful effects to our people and economy for nearly two years now. Rest assured that this administration is committed to securing safe and effective vaccines for all Filipinos.

On this note, I appeal to all our kababayans to cooperate and do their part to help overcome this pandemic. The government cannot do this alone and we need your active participation by getting vaccinated and strictly following the minimum health standards.

Let us celebrate all our meaningful victories against COVID-19 pandemic. We are winning our battle against the virus. Let us continue to be safe and in good health.

Again, on behalf of a grateful Filipino nation, thank you to the Russian Government. Mabuhay ang Russia at ang Pilipino. Salamat po. *[applause]*

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