

**RESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
PRESIDENTIAL NEWS DESK**

VIDEO MESSAGE BY

PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS R. JR.

**UPON HIS RETURN FROM HIS STATE VISIT TO THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**

[31 JANUARY2024]

Magandang umaga po.

I am pleased to inform you and the Filipino people of the outcomes of the state visit to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. The state visit aim to further strengthen our strategic partnership with Viet Nam.

Viet Nam, being our only strategic partner in ASEAN and further to explore areas of the cooperation while building on existing ones. I met with his excellency, Vo Van Thuong, President of Viet Nam.

And we discussed areas of cooperation including defense, maritime, trade and investment, economic, education, tourism and culture. We also witnessed the exchange of several agreements, including on rice, agriculture, culture and maritime cooperation.

I also met with other leaders of Viet Nam. The Prime Minister of Viet Nam and the Chairman of Viet Nam's National Assembly. We discussed the strengthening of bilateral relations to people-to-people exchanges, parliamentary cooperation, and many other areas of collaboration.

On trade and investment, we have successfully safeguarded the interest of Filipino businesses operating in Viet Nam by providing them with the platform to voice their experiences, plans, and challenges at the very highest level.

We want to assure them that the Philippine government stands ready to support in their endeavors in competing foreign markets.

In my dialogue with Vietnamese business leaders they expressed interest in expanding their businesses in the Philippines as well as exploring cooperation with our business sector in various traditional and non-traditional economic activities.

Furthermore, we have engaged in discussions with the Vingroup Company to explore a collaboration in the fields of AI, medical courses and scholarships for Filipino students. Our shared objectives include active participation in the electric vehicle and battery supply chains.

I had the pleasure of course to speak with the Filipinos living in Viet Nam and I expressed my appreciation for their continued good work in projecting a very positive image of the Philippines in Viet Nam.

I acknowledge the sacrifice that they have made for their families and I lauded them for their contributions to the socio-economic development of the Philippines and of Viet Nam.

I gave them my assurances that my administration will continue to strive for the betterment of the Filipinos in the Philippines and abroad.

Maraming salamat po!

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