



PHILIPPINES

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2022 ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum

“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

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Excellencies,

This year’s SDG Progress Report presents the critical challenges faced by many developing countries especially in their socio-economic recovery plans from the COVID-19 pandemic to build back better, and other pressing global concerns, while advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. While swift government response in boosting COVID-19 vaccination efforts has brought a positive outlook for the future, the Philippines, like many other middle-income countries, continues to experience the lingering effects of the pandemic.

For this session, we wish to specifically highlight the crucial role and contribution of partnerships towards the SDGs, magnified at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Partnerships during COVID-19

The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), greatly assisted the Philippines’ vaccination efforts through the first trilateral vaccine financing facility in Asia. The World Health Organization (WHO) provided support through its technical expertise in building up national and local level responses to expand diagnostics capacity, early contact tracing and management, healthcare pathways, and to strengthen surveillance systems and risk communication. The COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) showed how global partnerships and joint efforts work in the face of crisis.

The Philippines substantially benefited from non-state actors that provided access to knowledge-sharing services and technological expertise at the height of the pandemic. Data from the Oxford Institute, Google, and other non-government organizations were used extensively by the Philippine government in the country’s strategic planning. Through their platforms, readily available databases, and innovative tools, the government was able to learn about the best practices of countries around the world, and adapt measures that are applicable to the Philippines.

Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction

The Philippines recognizes the significance of cross-stakeholder initiatives in improving resilience. We urged local governments to join the Making Resilient Cities 2030 (MCR2030) initiative. MCR2030 is a global partnership of experts on urban resilience, disaster risk reduction, climate change, and the SDGs. This became an avenue for sharing knowledge and experiences,

establishing mutually reinforcing city-to-city learning networks, and building partnerships among advocates of local resilience.

The Philippines emphasizes that partnerships between and among governments, the private sector, and multilateral institutions are essential to ensure the attainment of the SDGs as well as the Paris Climate Agreement targets. Cross-sectoral collaborations are at the center of molding the global climate agenda. When partnerships are forged on a global scale, progress expands outward, with greater impact for everyone.

Continued Commitment to Effective Development Cooperation and Development Effectiveness

The Philippines pushes for effective development cooperation through its membership in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC). As a member of the steering committee, the Philippines improves the management, provision, and conduct of development cooperation in the form of technical assistance and ODA.

In 2021, the Philippines contributed to the revisions of the GPEDC monitoring framework, specifically on how monitoring results can be institutionalized at the country level. It is an initiative of the GPEDC to measure the effectiveness of partnerships and to recommend ways to improve these. It also informs SDG indicator 17.16 on global partnerships for sustainable development.

Other strategic partnerships

On Finding Synergies through Regional Efforts for the SDGs, the Philippines proactively promotes transformational change driven by the complementing principles behind the SDGs and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. During the 2021 ASEAN Ministerial Dialogue on Accelerating Actions to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, the Philippines emphasized that much more can be achieved in the areas of poverty eradication, infrastructure and connectivity, sustainable management of natural resources, sustainable consumption and production, resilience, and capacity building.

Building Partnerships through South-South and Triangular Cooperation and continued advancement of SSC and TrC will help the development of countries in the south and achieve the 2030 Agenda, as a whole. SSC, for instance, was vital in enabling developing countries to obtain necessary medications, vaccines, and medical supplies from their southern partners during the pandemic. The Philippines shares its knowledge and best practices in the fields of agriculture, disaster risk reduction, and science and technology, as well as its experiences in climate change mitigation and adaptation, MSME development, and building COVID-19 resilience.

As we collectively build back better, it is important to keep in mind the universality of SDGs, specifically, the need for a whole-of-society, a whole-of-government, multilateralism, and international cooperation to leave no one and no country behind.

Thank you.