

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING THE 69TH  
FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT**

[Delivered at the DSWD Central Office in Quezon City | 29 January 2020]

Sit down. Salamat po.

House Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano and the other honorable members of the House of Representatives; Social Welfare and Development Secretary Rolando Joselito Bautista; National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and the other members of the Cabinet; Senator Bong Go; officials and employees of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen

Just to... Before I start, anyway basahin ko lang naman ito. *[laughter]* This is a run-of-the-mill. Well, it contains everything that you need. But sabi ko vignettes of life. You know I was walking along Anda, nanggaling ako ng Cecil's na 'yung magandang kainan sa merienda. I met this --- your secretary. He was quite pale and sickly. 'Yung uniporme niya medyo maluwang na. Sabi ko, "What happened to you?" Sabi niya... As always ang sakit niya kagaya ng sakit ng lahat ng sundalo, it's always the liver and kidney.

Kasi ito sila umiinom ng tubig na kung saan-saan maabutan. Well of course, the hygiene if you cook in the mountain --- itong sundalo hindi naman ito --- walang sinusunod ito na hygiene eh basta mabusog lang. At sabi ko sa kanya why don't you just go to a doctor or see my doctor, tawagan ko lang na... Magpatingin ka lang kung --- whatever. Ewan ko kung pumunta siya. But the next time nakita ko siya, he was a bit healthier and more animated. *[laughter]*

That is how I remember your secretary. Iyan sila lahat, lahat 'yan nakikita mo dito na military, dumaan 'yan sa Mindanao kaya kilala ko lahat. At one time or another in the course of their military journey, dumaan 'yan sila ng Davao kasi rotation talaga 'yan eh. So almost all of them kilala ko.

And that was the reason why na early on kagaya ng ating Secretary of National Defense, he was once assigned in Davao and he brought with him the Second Regiment Battalion of the Scout Rangers. Iyong iba sa Marawi, 'yung iba naman sa trabaho. But almost all of them kilala ko by --- talagang kilala ko.

At you know before I --- itong trabaho ninyo. Naaawa ako sa inyo. I really pity the DSWD and the military. Alam mo 'pag pumutok ang bulkan, DSWD, pulis pati military. The first responders. Kung may landslide, pulis pati military, DSWD. Kung may tsunami or the one

that happened in Leyte, DSWD, military pati pulis. Kung may sunog, DSWD, military pati pulis.

Baka hindi ninyo nalaman talaga kung gaano ka-importante 'yung trabaho ninyo sa Pilipino. And that is why... Well of course, it's also the invitation of a good friend, sabi ko pupunta ako.

Hindi ko na ano na --- pati foreign affairs, pati social security nandito pala lahat. *[laughter]* Ano bang...? Well, anyway good that you are here because I'll be talking about the [humane?] job of our government workers. Naaawa ako sa kanila, they are there doon sa Taal which reminds me na...

Alam mo matagal na 'yung sundalo ko pati pulis doon. And they have been trying or they are acting as the bar so that people cannot go back to their lands and places because it's dangerous. Alam mo we can only do so much. 'Pag ka pumilit 'yang tao and the government enforcement guy bars him and he has to do it physically, alam mo ang physical contact can sometimes result in an ugly situation. Kasi magpipilit eh tapos 'yung sundalo naman pati pulis eh masapak talaga kung ayaw mag... Then it becomes a conflict now. Ang problema nito it is always the government man who is the guilty culprit.

So ang akin ngayon eh kung itong mga taga-Taal... I'm withdrawing my police and... Eh they have been there for so many weeks already. Puno na 'yung lungs nila ng abo. Kaawa naman. So kung ayaw talaga sila... I'd leave it to the mayor and to the police. Iyong pulis talagang na-assign doon. There's a police station there and there are men. Sila na. I'd leave it to them to enforce the law as mandated by the authorities upstairs that it is... You know I'm... Naiistorbo ako sa ganda ng isang babae dito eh. *[laughter]* Hindi ko tuloy ma-ano 'yung... I could not establish a trend. Ano ba 'yon sinasabi ko? *[laughter]*

Well you know we can only do so much. Beyond that, to physically restrain and maybe the result would not be --- it would be an ugly one, eh ang mademanda talaga diyan pulis pati sundalo. Ganun 'yan eh. That's the sad fact. They do not know what the other guy is doing. He is there to enforce the law or an order coming from his superior and then he gets into hot water.

Problem is sometimes when there is a case filed, he is left alone to fend for himself. At saka ngayon by this time 'yung nauna na doon, I'm sure that they have inhaled about one sack of ash already. Sabihin ko na sa ano Army pati na --- pa-withdraw na lang. Withdraw na lang ninyo 'yung Army kasi kawawa. They are also human beings and they suffer. And when they suffer, they have also families to worry as just as much the guys are worried there. So ipalabas ko na. Ngayon, kung gusto nila talagang magpilit na pumunta eh di sige.

I suggest you even --- sige mag-alis na kami. Kung gusto ninyong tumalon diyan sa cauldron of fire and lava, go ahead para --- make it short. 'Yan ang ano ko diyan kasi ang trabaho ninyo pareho ng pulis.

The first thing that I --- the question that I... When I go down sa sakyanan o maski anong klaseng sasakyan, eh si Rolly, pagbaba ko sabi ko, “Yung mga tao mo nandito na?” “Yes, sir.”

Tapos doon sa mga military, “Ang mga tao mo deployed na?” “Yes, sir.” “Okay.” Kampante ka na. ‘Yun lang dalawang ‘yon. ‘Yung ibang services ng gobyerno, hindi masyado. Walang dalang pagkain, makikain pa. *[laughter]*

Psst, huwag mong sabihin ‘yan baka ma-insulto. Wala, they are there after maybe the catastrophe. But during, it’s always the [DSWD] pati ang military to keep order. ‘Yan ang hindi niyo alam. Mas importante talaga kayo. That’s what I --- the purpose of veering away from my speech.

Kaya gusto ko lang ipaalam sa inyo na one of the noblest thing is really your job, feeding people and saving lives. Kagaya rin ng military pati pulis and the country owes you a lot. So in behalf of the Republic of the Philippines, I’d like to thank all of you now, lahat kayo sa serbisyo ninyo. *[applause]*

Now, I will read the speech of the lady who made this. *[laughter]* Siguro ‘yung maganda diyan o. Tinatago niya ‘yung ulo --- nandiyan doon sundalo. Psst, lumabas ka nga mukha mo. *[laughter]* Tingnan mo, itinatago niya. Ikaw Chinna...

Today is a most auspicious time to talk about the true meaning of malasakit at pagbabago, as we celebrate the 69th Founding Anniversary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

For nearly seven decades, DSWD has been the lead agency of the government in ensuring that Filipinos have equal access to opportunities and are enabled to improve their [quality of life] in a fair, just and peaceful manner.

Lahat ng dole out ng gobyerno, Pantawid, inyo lahat ‘yan eh. So double talaga ang trabaho. And it’s not easy. If you go to the mountains, nandiyan ‘yung mga --- ‘pag makita mo ‘yang NPA, ‘yang p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* sipain ninyo. Sabi, kayo ang numero uno tiga-ano.

The agency’s strong commitment in pursuing policies and programs for poverty alleviation, protection of human rights --- eh ibigay mo lang ‘yan doon sa mga bayot --- and compassion for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, among others, are truly commendable.

Since I assumed office in 2016, the DSWD has served over four million poor households through the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps, and sustained the Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan Community-Driven Development Program in [830] municipalities throughout the country.

Alam mo sa totoo lang, 'pag mawala lang itong corruption sa gobyerno, wala talagang problema. I think that maybe kung mahinto ang corruption, five to 10 years [we'll] catch up the standard of maybe --- not Malaysia but Indonesia.

Sila naman kasi may oil. Alam mo ang nagka-problema dito sa Pilipinas, wala tayong oil and oil is everything. It runs the country. Hindi ibinigay sa atin ng Diyos eh. O kung meron man, hindi pa natin nadiskubre.

But Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei have oil. So wala sila masyadong problema diyan because almost one half of the total --- o it's about mga --- GDP kinakain ng... The income, kinakain ng oil. 'Yun ang problema sa atin plus the corruption.

If we can do away with corruption, in about 10 years' time we will really jump --- parang a better economic situation. Pero kung may corruption, ah wala.

I do not mean to belabor the point. Ayaw ko kasi baka sabihin ng mga g\*\*\*\*\* 'yan na sila lang ang tina-target ko. But as I have insisted during the campaign, I told you na 'yung corruption diyan sa Customs, BIR, they are just pittance to the corruption being done upstairs in the higher or in the highest echelons of government. Totoo talaga.

So 'yan ang nung... 'Yung masakit sa akin. Nasasaktan talaga ako. Kaya ako nagmumura because I know the dimension of how it was done. It's not merely --- it's not merely in the water sector. It's in the LRT and some lands that were leased to them. Would you believe it? At 70 pesos per hectare 'yung lupa diyan sa UP. Talagang if you compute, all the corruptions done by those, 'yung mga Customs, it pales in comparison sa nakaw nitong...

And yet they come up with a program, well-publicized, that they have this foundation sending people to states, the United States, and spending... Pero wala 'yan pang --- pangpa-ano lang 'yan, kung pa ano pa pang-salonpas lang 'yan sa sakit.

Kaya ganun ang mga mayaman. Kaya ako galit ako sa mayaman, totoo lang. Maski noon pang mayor ako. Magtanong kayo ng taga-Davao.

Whenever I address them, sinabi ko, "Yung --- kayong mga p\*\*\*\*\* j\*\*." Ganun talaga. Kaya 'yung mga mayayaman doon sa Davao, careful sa akin na... They measured in calibration 'yung maglapit sila sa akin. Kaya hindi ako masyadong madali kausapin.

Eh kung pobre pa, eh kung taga-bukid ka, I could spend an hour talking with you about what ails your family. Pero itong mga mayaman, noon ko pa 'yan na... How are they supposed to pay the Filipino people? You started to collect environment enhancement. That's the term, tingnan ninyo sa billing ninyo.

Alam mo ano 'yan? That is the fee that they are collecting since time --- and it was --- when the contract took effect, 'yon 'yung water treatment. So ilang water treatment fees

ang nakolekta nila since then? Kasi hanggang ngayon wala namang... Ni isang tarong panlinis wala eh.

At ang masakit diyan 'yung corporate income tax nila ipinapasa nila doon sa consumers. 'Yun namang mga consumers i-deduct nila 'yang expenses, water and light and all this. If they are exempted, eh 'di wala ring makuha ang gobyerno. Nalugi pa. 'Yan ang mahirap. At marami pa. Marami pa akong talagang...

Ako I do not want to sound vindictive. I am not vindictive. Masampal lang kita, tapos na tayo. Masipa lang kita, tapos na ako, okay na ako. Pero 'yung ganon na kalokohan... For as long as corruption does not stop in the highest... Kaya magbantay kayo sa kung sino 'yung son of a b\*\*\*\* doon sa itaas.

Because it started with Ramos then it was given an extension even before it expired. Hindi pa mag --- hindi pa mag-expire 'yung... Ano lang ito sila distributor lang ng tubig itong mga p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*\*\* ito. Naririnig man nila 'yan kay may --- may camera man sila diyan, ayon. *[laughter]* Makinig kayo nang husto mga tulisan kayo. Mga yawa kayong lahat.

Talagang galit ako sa inyo eh. Eh p\*\*\* kung maaari lang ganunin ko 'yang mukha ninyo sa ano. 'Pag makita ko... Hindi lang ako pumupunta iyang mga iniistambayan ninyong mga Shangri-La, mga ano. Hanggang San Marcelino beer house lang ako. Mga walang-hiya kayo talaga sa totoo lang.

I don't know what I'll do with you. I have not decided really. I have not decided on anything. Hayaan ko 'yan. Basta ganito, I have ordered Guevarra, the Justice Secretary, to prepare, pati si Calida --- silang dalawa --- a draft. Pirmahan nila 'yan. Eh kung hindi nila pirmahan, I will suspend all the contracts and I will take over the operation diyan sa tubig na distributor.

I will let the military operate it and I will file charges for large-scale estafa. 'Yan ang mangyayari sa kanila. 'Yan talaga. At pagka ganon huwag lang nila akong ipitin. Kay ipitin nila ako ng kaso one after the other, I will really --- I say it now and I say it again, makinig kayo, hindi ako susunod kasi ang lumalakad niyan pera ninyo.

Ang gawin ko paghuhulihin ko na lang kayo. At gusto kong makita ang mga bilyonaryo pati milyonaryo sa Pilipinas nasa kulungan. Maski isang buwan lang para makita talaga ninyo. Galit talaga ako na galit. Grabe ang bin --- ginawa ninyo sa akin. 'Yan ang... Meron pa, nakalimutan ko na lang kasi... But meron pa so many issues na hindi talaga ako bibigay diyan.

Now ang sinabi ko the reason why I am --- 'yung isiningit ko dito is if I do not --- including the military --- if I do not reach the finish line sa term ko, huwag ninyong bitawan ito. I'm not saying that you go violent. Just a simple nudge to the congressman and to your officials. P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* huwag ninyong biruin ito. Dugo ng Pilipino 'to. Biro mo tayo pa ang magbayad tapos 'yung --- lahat na --- 'yung kalokohan nila.

Huwag ninyong bitawan ito. Now if you do not --- if you cannot get the justice that the Filipino deserves, tell the military oh pati police, tell them, kalibitin ninyo, "Hoy, paki --- pakitulong nga." Do not... Do not suggest anything, coup d'état oh military.

Bahala na sila kung anong gawin nila. Basta sabihin ninyo, "Hoy, you are supposed to be the protector of the Constitution. We are being robbed blind. Please do something about it because that's the money of the people." Ganun lang 'yan.

Sabihin niyo military niyo, "Anong ginagawa ninyo? Paano 'yung pera namin? Tapos paano kung sila pa? Eh kung manalo tapos i-renegotiate, ganon rin ang mangyari? Kalokohan.

Since I assumed office in 2016, the DSWD has served over 4 million poor households. The agency continues to assist and most --- the most needy communities by providing free medicines and medical services, social pension to indigent [senior] citizens, spearheading disaster relief operations, feeding malnourished and street children and indigenous peoples, and rendering other support services to recovering drug users, among others.

Ang mabigat nito lahat... I don't know if you can make it but I hope DSWD can really hack it. Ang problema natin hanggang ngayon is still drugs. Everyday if you look at the crawlers, 'yung tumatakbo 'yung sa ano, then there's the main story whatever. Nandiyan 'yang crawlers nakikita tumatakbo. Ayan, araw-araw 'yan 10 billion, 6 billion.

Tapos itong mga --- mga human rights patay malisya lang. Everyday may mga tao 'yan na tinamaan. Alam mo, mahirap ko man sabihin, alam ninyo 'pag ang tatay natumba sa drugs, the entire family, the entire poor family of Filipinos, they become dysfunctional.

Itong isa wala ng trabaho, babae mag-p\*\*\* na lang. Itong isa, they would go --- maghanap kung saan. Ang pinakamadali droga. Papasok ito sa droga. Kasi ito, to sustain his bisyo, maghanap talaga ng biktima 'yan. Pati ito, maghanap rin ng biktima para to sustain his drug addiction. Ganon 'yan ito. Kaya sa isang ano hindi mo malaman kung...

Now the social dysfunction created sa pamilya. Ito wala na. Lulubog na lang 'yan diyan sa isang kanto sa bahay maghintay. Ito maghanap ng hanapbuhay maski saan. But usually the easiest now, 'yang parang sure-fire to earn money magpunta sa abroad. Alam naman ninyo sa abroad. I'm telling you frankly. I've been there because I tried to save three --- three girls from Toril, Davao City and two from Kidapawan. Nakuha ko lahat 'yan because King Fahd was at that time buhay pa. Medyo ano na siya --- dementia pero may lucid interval. Naka-timing lang ako, nakuha ko. Sinabi talaga sa akin ng parliament member, 'yung counterpart ko, nag-usap kami, sabi niya, "You know, in the Arab culture... Not all Arab culture, but in some Arab culture, rape is part of the territory." Kaya kita mo 'yang mga Pilipina magtakbo na lang sa sala papuntang bintana. They simply just throw themselves.

So malaman mo kung gaano sila kahirap. And the newest victim, battered black and blue with no internal organs. I am not saying that it is not the failure of... Alam mo, the fact that an investigation was conducted immediately and hinuli 'yung dalawang, to me... Si Bebot kasi ang ano --- ang apurado.

Ako, the fact that there was an investigation and there were arrests made and there are people in detention, para sa akin, okay na sana. But ewan ko kung anong nakain nitong Ilocano na 'to.

Talagang mainit siya. So opisina niya 'yan, hindi na lang ako nakialam. I do not want to rebuke my Cabinet members publicly. So hinayaan ko siya. Sabi ko, "Let us see what develops." Iyan ang totoo diyan.

Such an enormous task cannot be done without a sincere heart and mind for public service. I thus commend the thousands of DSWD employees for their unwavering dedication to public service.

I'd like to tell you a story. Iyong vignettes of life rin. Alam mo, kaming mga anak... Ang tatay ko kasi governor. So minsan magkain kami, alam mo na, bata. "Ah ako paglaki ko, congressman ako. Ako congressman, mayor." Tapos, "Ah ako, governor pareha kay Papa." And my father would just stop it. Sabi niya, "Kindly stop. Pwede ba kayong maghinto? Do you know what public service is? Do you know how to work in government? Do you know the meaning --- the dimension of the work?"

Sabi ng tatay ko, 'pag pumasok ka sa public service, you must have a heart for it. At kailangan mong mahal in mo 'yung kapwa mo tao bago ka magsilbi. And some of you are from Davao. And you know the public record of my father.

Ganun 'yan siya. Kaya binara kami. Take it easy, guys. Take it easy. Bago 'yan, isipin mo muna kung meron ka ba niyan. Kasi minsan, magbigla lang 'yan mag-embrace sa iyo, mugakos, embrace. Puro nana ang katawan niyan.

Minsan mag-ubo 'yan sa harap mo parang SARS ngayon. Hindi magdating ng Pilipinas 'yan huwag kang... Wala ka ng SARS. Ang init-init dito. 'Yung SARS hanggang lang doon sa malamig 'yon.

Walang man. Wala. Never. Hindi 'yan umabot dito. So 'yan ang --- 'yan ang sinabi namin. Kaya ako conscious ako. Madaling araw mag-sigaw sa bahay. "Mayor, nakagat ang anak ko ng aso." Ayaw na makahintay. Gusto diyan na.

Tapos may madisgrasya. 'Yang wholesale na disgrasya. Isang jeep. May isang jeep rin niyan magpunta sa bahay maghing ng... In the middle of the night, you have to work --- to wake up and trabaho ka.

Iyan ang public service talaga and without the rancor that goes with it. 'Yung magising ka na hindi ka mam\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* kasi trabaho mo.

Such an enormous task cannot be done without a sincere heart and mind for public service. I thus commend the thousands of DSWD employees for their --- natapos ko na ito --- unwavering dedication to serve the public.

I am confident that you will remain committed, patient and compassionate as you perform your vital role in uplifting the lives of millions of Filipinos.

On this note, I am pleased to mark today's event with the opening of the Malasakit Building that will serve as the offices of the 350 to 500 personnel of the DSWD's Operations Group.

As we improve your agency's capacity to serve our people, and as we honor today exemplary DSWD personnel and centers for their outstanding work in helping achieve the agency's mandate, I enjoin each one of you to rekindle your commitment to our shared [task of] nation-building.

Your passion, tama 'yan, you must have the passion for public service, along with your strong adherence to integrity, transparency and accountability, inspire many Filipinos to follow in your example and serve the nation with the same fervor.

I know that this cannot happen and this will not happen under the leadership of General Rolando Bautista. Pero itong minsang... 'Yun bang mga medisina. 'Yung minsan mawala. Purchases, wala diyan.

And I remember the chief of the... 'Yung sa hospital ng military. AFP ano. When Dominguez sent me the note, nag... Katabi ko ang Department of Finance sa Cabinet.

Noong ipinasa niya, right there and then, I ordered the termination. Sabi ko wala talaga akong sasantohin dito basta corruption --- basta corrupt.

At saka 'yung ano, bantayan ninyo 'yang from one desk to another. If there is a discretion or a person is allowed to decide that this --- how these papers would pass on to the next table, 'pag hinintuan nila 'yan, 'pag inupuan nila 'yan, 'pag pumunta sa akin 'yang tao na 'yan at mag-complain, sorry, I will call you sa opisina ko mismo at ilagay ko 'yung pangalan mo doon sa [8888]. There is a charge against you for corruption. Ipalagay ko talaga at tawagin kita sa opisina ko. Doon tayo sa opisina ko mag-usap.

Only by looking after the welfare of each other can we make a great nation. This is the essence of 'malasakit at pagbabago.'

I am humbled and inspired to see these values burning in your hearts. Keep these flame --- keep these aflame with your genuine love for our country and people.

Kaawa naman kasi 'yung mga tao. 'Yung mga mayaman... Kita mo 'yung mga mayaman? 'Yun pa sila ang magnakaw. Hindi nila kailangan tayo eh. They do not need us. They really do not need us. 'Yang mga maya --- 'yang mga pobre wala 'yan, kailangan nila tayo. Ang mga mayaman, ah b\*\*\*s\*\*\* 'yang mga yawa na 'yan, wala 'yan.

Maski anong administrasyon nakadikit 'yan. And always, 'yung corruption. 'Yung corruption nasa taas palagi 'yan. Kung anong bulo 'yan. Tag isang barko, tag isang... Kaya tayong maiwan na Pilipino, guard against it and complain.

Pagka may nalaman kayo maski hindi dito sa ano ninyo, i-complain mo, isigaw mo para ma... Ako sabi ko nga eh 'pag ikaw... You know, the one thing that is --- na at least I --- I --- equality that is not universally dito sa Pilipinas kasi ang mga tao parang hindi assertive.

'Pag 'yang pinaparinggan lang ganun, magtinginan lang, "ah sige, bigay na lang". They do not assert. I really do not know what's happening to our people. But unless you assert your right as a Filipino and can really afford to do the things that...

Ako ang sabi ko 'pag hiningian kayo ng pera, if you are asked money for something and when it's a monetary thing, and he will say that he will not act on it without giving --- without receiving the money rather, I am urging you to make a noise.

Make a scene. Sampalin mo, sipain mo, magkagulo 'yan. 'Pag magkagulo 'yan it will reach my ears. Kasi ayun may nagkagulo doon sa Department of Health ganun, magtatanong ako kung bakit, and I will intervene.

At ako na ang papatay sa p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* niya. Ihulog ko lang 'yan sa hagdanan. Ganun talaga, you have to be assertive. You have to tell the Filipinos to be assertive. 'Yan ang wala sa atin. That is why... Learn to be assertive and I'll back you up. Really, I will --- to the hilt. Ako ang mag-backup sa inyo.

Lalo na sa magagandang babae. *[laughter]* Iba siya kung makatingin, pa-side view. Maraming salamat po. *[applause]*

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