

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE MEETING WITH LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES**

[Delivered at the SMX Convention Center, Pasay City | 10 February 2020]

Kindly sit down. Salamat po. [Sandali lang ha.]

Agriculture Secretary William Dar; Health Secretary Francisco Duque III; Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año and the other members of the Cabinet; Senator Bong Go, chairman of the Senate Committee on Health; local officials here with us today; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen

Tinignan ko `yung prepared speech ko, whether I would just read it and go home, or may gusto akong sabihin sa inyo. Pero for the first time in my life, in my life, na wala akong nakita ni isang tao umubo o humatsing. [laughter] That is a... [coughs] Ako na lang. [laughter]

I was waiting for the hatsing or ubo. Panay siguro pigil. Huwag kayong mahiya, hindi... Sabi nga ni ano --- ni Secretary Duque wala naman ito eh.

Actually in every generation, in every epoch, meron talaga `yang tinatawag nila na it's a --- well, if it's local, pandemic; regional --- ah regional, it could be pandemic.

But the last one was I think the Spanish flu. I don't know if it was after this World War II or `yung maraming namamatay. But you know the great cleansing of the world it passes on. Tapos hindi naman lahat namamatay. Meron talagang nabubuhay without even the precautions which is you know... Let it be. If it's our time, which is also the --- wala ka namang ibang refuge as an answer you just say na kung panahon ko na, panahon ko naman talaga. Hindi ko na mapigilan `yan.

So what else is the simple excuse of a simple man. And because I am just a simple man I can only give you a simple excuse. If you want to cough, do it

now. [laughter] If you want to sneeze, sneeze it. Walang problema dito. Ako, I don't believe in that...

Tatal hindi ako bilib itong mga SAR[S], SAR[S] mga ano. Never... Wala 'yan. Only a few. Siguro 'yung mga gobernador na maraming kasalanan. [laughter]

Well, really ganito 'yan eh. What I would like to stress to you is this. There are some kibitzers in politics, idiots if you may, na pagputok nito they are asking: What is the government of the Republic of the Philippines doing?

We do not see any infrastructure there to meet this... All pessimistic. All na gusto lang talagang magkaroon ng takot. Alam mo tayo 'yung infrastructure. I have my --- well of course my powers and Secretary Duque handles the Department of Health. Sa Department of Health meron namang provincial, municipal, city at saka 'yung mga ano ninyo barangay health workers.

This will really be the frontliners when the time comes. Eh kung isa lang ang namatay and you hardly cannot connect it with the coronavirus, then that is really a parang you sound an alarm there and it's a stupid thing. Wala naman dito.

And of course even if kung nagkakamatayan na talaga, at ang mga Pilipino doon pinagtutulak na, whether you like it or not, I will bring them home. I will bring them home because they have no other country to seek shelter. [applause] It's their country. Saan pa pala sila tatakbo?

So sabi ko kung ang Pilipino doon pinapaalis, eh pupunta tayo, and we will marshal all available carriers there by ship or by air. Kunin natin sila. And of course, there will always be precautions. Ang caveat diyan is do not break the rules. Kaya pagka ganun, you break the rules, you forgo with some of the protocols, eh ayaw ninyong makinig doon kay mas mabuti 'yung inyo --- that is when trouble starts.

But if you can just listen to Secretary Duque, he will be as good as any other expert. Matagal na 'yan siya sa gobyerno. And I'm sure as a doctor and one who has astounded several conferences abroad and local, he has the working knowledge of how to cope up.

But I said when it comes to a pandemic level, then there is no way that we can shrink away from the trouble of bringing them home. We have to bring them home. Ang ano lang is sabi ko impose the rules and tell them to strictly follow it.

Ganito, mag-disinfectant kaagad pati 'yung eroplano, lahat 'yang tao, tapos covered. And the ones doing the medical also are protected. Pagdating doon maghubad, maligo. Then I think it would be good and would go a long way to minimize our problem today.

But pero kung sabihin mo na magsisigaw ka diyan. Magsisigaw ka wala man rin mangyari. You want to shout to the heavens? Go ahead. Would it prevent the corona from invading the country? Long before the alarm was raised, marami ng mga Chinese and Filipinos, hindi lang Filipino-Chinese, 'yung Pilipino talaga by skin and blood, na pumunta na doon.

Meron --- nandito na 'yan sila. And so kung sabihin mo na if it's a matter of contamination, we'll just have to rely on the antibodies of --- how strong the antibodies of the Philippines are. Medyo hindi madali itong Pilipino ma ano -- - matamaan ng mga sakit. Unang-una, malakas magdasal. Umubo naman kayo diyan. P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*. [laughter] Pangalawa, we are better off than the others actually in following rules. It is when you do not follow the rules that trouble comes in. And that is true for every human act.

Kagaya ng ano --- if there are rules --- there is a rule that you do not do drugs and then you... Then you have to pay for the price. In negligence sa dito --- in the handling of itong mga --- itong mga persons coming home, that is when the trouble starts. But if you just follow the rules, wala mang problema diyan.

Duque has the expertise. Ano mga kalaban lang nila 'yan sa politika. But he is the most seasoned Cabinet member diyan. Maniwala ka. Matagal na, ilang presidente 'yan siya eh. Ambak nang ambak lang siya eh president dito. Ilang president na napag --- tatlo? Apat? Tatlo? [Sec. Duque responds] See. Eh kung may natamaan na ng corona, siya na. [laughter] Biro mo katagal niya apat sige lecture diyan.

Well I will just read the speech. In fairness to the ladies who prepared this. Hindi naman basta-basta i-taypin (type) mo ito ng ilang...

I am pleased to join today our local chief executives from across the country to address the current compelling situation facing our nation, particularly affecting public health.

Alam mo isingit ko na lang ha. Huwag kayong mainip. Tapos na man kayo nagkain 'no? Ah naka --- nakabulagta na 'yung ano diyan eh. It's not only a public health. Hindi lang ito. Well of course it's public health because it would require hospitalization, treatment, everything. So it becomes also a public health.

Pero itong droga, sabihin ko sa inyo until now, until now, you read the crawlers. Isinisingit nila palagi sa TV 'yung tumatakbo, they are called crawlers. O pabalik pa 'yan, paganun. It's still --- at this late day, the drug problem is still with us and by the millions. P\*\*, walang mangyari sa Pilipinas niyan.

It is the next generation who will suffer if we fail. Tayo talaga ang matamaan niyan kasi ang mga anak natin they are facing a problem na hindi pa nila alam or nakisali na sila. So kung hindi talaga natin higitan at higitan nang husto at higit para maipit 'yung ulo, mamatay... P\*\*\*\*\* j\*\*, you have to do something about this.

Kaya ako sabi ko kay ano, 'yung bagong chief, si [Archie], ibalasa mo lahat na 'yung mga police na tainted with ano... Basta 'yung may mga konting ano sa droga alisin mo, alisin mo. Lahat. Kasi 'pag hindi, magkakaproblema pa rin tayo. I'm not saying that I'm the only one who can solve it. Maybe my successor will do better. Who knows? I cannot claim the only one to be the savior of the nation. Pero ako 'pag hindi ko ito titirahin talaga, ang next generation nito tatamaan and will still be bogged with the problem of health.

Sa Amerika ayaw nilang admitahin. Maski kayo napupunta kayo mga governor pumupunta man kayo ng Amerika. Look at --- diyan sa San Francisco, 'yan nakahilera diyan sa --- walang ginagawa. Look at what the... [coughs] [laughter] Wala pa rin --- 'di pa... O ayan para hindi ka mahiya. [laughter] Huwag mong pigilan. Didikit 'yang mata mo sa... Maluluha ka.

'Yan ang isa. Pangalawa ang droga kasi pera. Pera 'yan eh and it's very dangerous. That's why itong mga pulis pumapasok talaga sila. No amount of increase of salaries, i-double, hoping... But the good and the large part of the police --- police force sa atin, okay sila. Pero nandiyan pa 'yan nagpaiwan, uubusin talaga natin 'yan.

Kaya kayong mga ninja --- ninja diyan, ninja lang kayo panahon-panahon 'yan eh. May panahon sikat kayo, pinapatay ninyo 'yung mga tao, laro kayo ng droga, laro ng dito, laro doon. Hindi na kayo makuntento ng double your salary, you need millions. May mga resort kayo, kung anong ginagawa ninyo sa pera ninyo.

But in the end --- in the end kung maabutan ko pa kayo, sabi ko, todasin ko talaga kayo. Either you kill me or I kill you. 'Yan talaga ang usapan diyan. Maski hindi na ako presidente. Gisingin mo lang ako kung gusto mo ng --- anong klase ang gusto mo. Sabi ka lang, "Duterte, gumising ka diyan." Bababaan kita. Kasi kayong mga p\*\*\*\*\* j\*\* kayo wala na kayong boundary

sa --- wala na. About morality, about what is... Wala na talaga, right or wrong. Puro na kayo kalokohan.

Kaya kayong mga local executives if you really love your country, do something about it. Hindi mo naman kailangan patayin eh. I-torture mo lang hanggang mamatay. [laughter] T\*\*\* i\*\* mga `to, akala siguro ninyo... Hihiritan ko talaga.

Sabagay may nagwe-wane pero nandiyan pa rin. Maski basahin ninyo. How is it that it comes to the amount of billions ang transaction? Kay kung ganun, hindi mawala itong p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* na `to. Hindi talaga mawala. It's the corrosive money that... Wala talaga. Walang katapusan ito.

Kaya ang totoo diyan human rights, kayo ang dapat tapusin. Because you'd --- you... Kayo you love your country whatever country you come from. From --- you have a country that's a s\*\*\*. Me, I love my country and I love my -- - `yung mga bata pa.

Talagang... Huwag kayong pumayag. Kapag may pulis na droga, ipapatay ninyo. Marami naman diyan sa barangay mga killer, dunggab lang. Hindi naman kailangan barilin. Totoo.

Ako sinabi ko sa mga pulis, "Pag masabit kayo diyan sa trabaho ninyo, ako `yun. Ituro mo, "Si Duterte `yon sir ang nagturo sa amin." And I will protect you. `Yung may kaso ngayon, hindi ko tinulungan pero... Anyway, abugado [garbled]. Gigranada --- gigranada niya `yung selda. Sampung --- dalawang granada, patay lahat. So murder. Sige lang.

Ano ka lang. Huwag ka mag-alala. Hanggang life imprisonment ka lang. "Sir..." O sige. Finally last week, he --- everybody was acquitted. Ganun ako magtulong. Hindi ako sinasabi na binibili ko. Hindi --- hindi ko sabi ko lang pinapakiusapan ko ang judge. Hindi ko rin pinapakiusapan ang pulis kay may --- I... Bantay rin kayo diyan sa ano ninyo. Malaman ninyo `yan eh.

In every town, every city malaman ninyo kung sino `yang mga piskal diyan especially makikita na may bahay, may resort tapos may... Kasi... Hindi ko man sinasabing pangit `yang ano nila. Pero `yung mga kasama nila bata na at maganda at ang diperensya nila malayo na, hindi niya asawa `yan. Maniwala kayo. Pareho rin sa mga governor kung mag... [laughter] Pareho man tayo. [laughter] Ano ba ang inireklamo ninyo? So ito `yung ina-ano ko lang sa inyo, the greatest threat talaga is drugs.

Ito namang... Let me talk about itong Visiting Forces Agreement. There are always pros and cons. Iyong mga PMA natin, naintindihan ko `yan. I assure

you, naintindihan ko `yan. They always lean towards the Americans. Because `pag graduate nila, magpunta sila ng America, training, all these things. And we did not have it with the Chinese.

Alam mo we have been fighting the communists for 53 years. Kung nakatulong talaga ang Amerika, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* naman hanggang ngayon? If it's just a matter of weaponry, sabihin mo kailangan namin itong... It's just there to go abroad and nothing else. Ang training dito may Balikatan, after the Balikatan exercises they go home with their armaments. They do not leave it with us. Wala. Tsaka kung bumili ka, mahal.

Ngayon, I'll make it public, because eh public official ako. Si Trump, pati `yung others, are trying to save the Visiting Forces Agreement. Sabi ko, ayaw ko. One is that napakabastos ng Amerikano, talagang sobrang bastos. O kayong mga CIA diyan na nakikinig ngayon, mga Amboy, mga p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* niyo, sabihan ninyo `yung gobyerno niyo, bastos kayo.

Imagine demanding the release of De Lima under threat that we will not receive the aid at may kolatilya that all persons who have had a hand in the imprisonment of De Lima will not be allowed to go to the United States.

P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, ano ba ang nasa Amerika p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* ganunin mo ako? What is there in America? Labas ka sa gabi? Ay p\*\*\*. Punta ka ng --- sa L.A., sa south side, o Washington? Ang pulis mismo magsabi: "Do not enter into that area. You will not go out alive." Meron ba tayo dito niyan? P\*\*\*, sabihin mo sa akin, puntahan ko `yan.

Ganon ang Davao noon eh. So sinabi ko sa kanila --- ayan dito --- lahat `yan sila halos dumaan ng Davao. Sabi ko, "Magpatayan tayo o umalis kayo?" Ganon lang naintindihan nila eh. Ngayon, ang Davao hindi kasi ayaw rin ni Inday eh. Pero wala tayong makuha diyan.

Tapos `yang EKJ --- EJK. EJK? Wala man --- nagsabi ako pinatay ko daw. Sino man ang pinatay ko? Wala man akong nalaman na sinabi ko patayin mo `yan si Ernesto Susubrado. I never... Sinabi ko, "Do not destroy my country because if you destroy my country, I will kill you."

Ano ba ang gusto nila diyan? Kay `pag namatay ang drug lord, eh `di ako. O `di sige punta tayo ng presuhan. Sanay man tayo noon na labas pasok sa preso. `Yan ang lamentations ko. Sobra sila kung uminsulto kasi. Sobra na. Bordering the trashing of our sovereignty. It's like a pahiranan sa imong tiil. A rag where you wipe the shit of the dog kung nakatapak ka nang mabaho.

Ang mga Amerikano ganon. Sumobra eh. So somebody has to remind them. Iyong tulong ninyo sa Amerika? It started Hukbalahap pa. Sila Palaba, si Francisco... Si --- who are the others? Hanggang ngayon, despite of the American help, hanggang ngayon, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*, hanggang ngayon, namamatay pa ako ng pulis pati sundalo, everyday. The Americans are there, and so? Ang kapalit niyan is `yung Visiting Forces Agreement. It's a geopolitical issue. Territorial.

Hindi naman tayo atakihin. Eh maski papaliguin ko si Xi Jinping diyan sa Palawan bukas, sige lang. Wala man sa atin `yan. They do not mean harm if we do not also do something that is harmful to them. Wala. Pero kung sabihin na patulan nila tayo as a nation? That would be a lot of b\*\*\*s\*\*\*. Hindi tayo papatulan niyan.

Iyong America --- we will be hit because the arms are here and I really do not know --- walang accounting if there are already nuclear arms inside the Philippines brought in by the Americans.

You know a few weeks ago, if you are reading the newspapers, the Philippine Navy was able to detect a US submarine sailing over --- underwater, but sailing over Palawan. Hindi lang man sila nagpe-permiso. They just really think that we are a bunch of... Sabi ko, ayaw ko.

Ngayon, may nagsabi sa akin, sinisikreto ko lang, na `wag kang masyadong ano sa Amerikano, `yang CIA. CIA? T\*\*\* i\*\*. Sinabi ko, did I not tell you right at the beginning of the campaign? As President, I am ready to go down. And as President, I am ready to die. And as President, I am ready to lose the presidency. `Wag lang nilang baboyin `yan.

Ito ngayon, they scrape up things. I don't want you f\*\*\*\*\* with the dig --- the dignity of my country. Better... We can live... We will fight. When will be the time when the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Police would be able to fight the wars on our terms? `Yan ang gusto kong malaman. Kay kung hindi, mag-surrender na lang tayo sa kanila.

Mahirap `yang ano... Kailangan ano ito `yung calibrated. Ayaw ko kasi pinapapunta ako ng Washington. Ang balita ko, `yung girlfriend ko nasa Beaufort, somewhere in California, namatay na daw. So ano man ang pupuntahan ko doon kung patay na? Tsaka matanda na `yon. [laughter] [coughs]

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Department of Health (DOH) for their prompt and efficient response in allaying fears among our

people with the onset of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCOV) Acute Respiratory Disease.

As of February 8, 2020, the country only has three confirmed cases of the Corona, resulting in one death and placing around 250 --- 230 under investigation. As reported by Health Secretary Francisco Duque III, there is still a possibility of local transmission. To date, there is neither a vaccine nor specific treatment for the 2019-Coronavirus.

As such, I call on local executive officials to take urgent steps in preventing the spread of this disease in your localities and in the immediate care of those who have been afflicted.

I urge all of you to be more proactive in the management of cases, contract tracing, efficient prevention and control, and information dissemination of the coronavirus. Make sure that you will follow the protocol set out by the [DOH], and that our people have access to equipment and services that will be of help in fighting the spread of this virus.

You know, if it really goes out of hand, wala. Huwag kayong mag-alaala. May pera si Dominguez. Eh saan man pala 'yung pera natin? Sige lang na tago.

Pati 'yung pagsabi ko, "May pera diyan," "Ah, wala. Wala. Walang pera." Sabi ko, "Nasaan na 'yung pera natin?" Eh ayaw mag-release. Pero we have the money, I can assure you, and we can defeat this virus.

I urge all of you to be more proactive in the in the management of cases and... Tapos na pala ako nito. [laughter] Tinamaan na ako ng virus.

I trust that you will actively engage our schools, hospitals and barangay health workers for more efficient and effective community response to avert possible outbreak that could affect the day-to-day lives of our people.

I would also like to take this opportunity to assure all Filipinos that the national government remains to be on top of the threat of the coronavirus. We are prepared to handle this public health emergency, in case the worst scenario happens.

Alam mo, kung kung hindi natin kaya itong p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*\*\*\* idioto na corona ito, hinahanap ko eh. Gusto kong sampalin ang g\*\*\*. [laughter] We are a nation.

At least we have our doctors. They should work overtime, the researchers -- - pareho lang man --- to come up with a vaccine. But kung sabihin mo na ano --- pandemic talaga, then I will have to utilize, for orderly and obedience of people, the military and the police.

Kaya tignan ninyo. Galit sila sa... Kasi ang pulis, doblado kaagad ang sweldo when I took over. I was talking to a group of congressmen. Hindi 'to bola ha. You can check it out. Noong sinabi ko, "kung hindi ninyo i-release 'yung sa TRAIN Law, hindi ninyo tanggalin para sa sweldo ng pulis, mag-re-resign ako." Kaya kong mag-resign.

Wala naman akong ano dito sa presidency. Wala akong... Eh ano kung umalis. Sabi ko nga diyan sa mga military, do not bring the weaponry and the armaments in Malacañan. Magpahambog kayo diyan sa ano.

Just come to me. Meron man ako. Almost all of my Cabinet members are military officers. 'Di mag-usap tayo. Gusto ninyo? O sige, kayo. Tawagin ko agad ang lahat ng itong...

"Ito 'yung bagong junta natin at ito 'yung mag-solbad (solve) ng corona. Bantay kayo 'pag hindi." Wala akong ano 'yung sabihin mo I will be sad? As a matter of fact, I am really egging for it, sa totoo lang.

Sabihin nila mamatay ako? Mas mabuti. Sabihin nila matanggal ako? 'Di mas mabuti. O 'di... Ilibing ako? Mas lalong mabuti. Pagod na ako.

I would like also to take this opportunity to assure all Filipino brothers and sisters that the national government remains to be on top of the threat of the coronavirus. We are prepared to handle all public emergency, in case the worst possible scenario happens.

Ang akin lang, sabihin ko sa iyo, maniwala lang kayo sa gobyerno. I mean -- - we mean, in a crisis of involving deaths and getting people sick, we will do our very best at maniwala lang kayo kasi 'yun 'yung talaga 'yung pinag-aral.

Ito 'yung Department of Health. Iyan ang nag-aaral diyan eh. Hindi naman tayo. But we will do our best.

We have initiated the repatriation of 30 Filipinos from Wuhan City, China. Upon their arrival at the Haribon Hangar at Clark Air Base on 09 February, they were safely and swiftly transported to the Athlete's Village in the New Clark in Tarlac, which will be their home for the 14-day quarantine period.

We will continue to coordinate with the DOH [and] other concerned agencies so that we can meet the needs, not only of those who were affected by the virus, but also of the welfare of our frontline health workers.

To all local chief executives, I hope that this situation will further strengthen our commitment towards becoming responsive and conscientious servant leaders that our country can protect and rely on. May you continue working with us so that we can secure a stronger and healthier future for our country.

I really appreciate --- I really appreciate from the bottom of my heart your time with us. Talagang parang utang na loob ko na nagkita-kita tayo dito at mapag-usapan 'to.

Tatal kung hindi mo man ako kapartido mo, nandito ako sa gobyerno. Sumunod ka lang, sumunod ka lang because I do not want a quarrel with you.

And in the matter of the selection of the sites where people affected if the worst --- the worst happens, it is the government who takes control --- the national government.

'Yung... Well, we will listen to you. We will listen to the local... You can maybe choose a better site but eventually the decision will be for the welfare of the people.

Daghang salamat. [applause]

**--- END ---**