

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**STATEMENT OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
ON TYPHOON ULYSSES  
[12 November 2020]**

My countrymen, mga kababayan, while we are facing the heavy downpour and strong winds of Ulysses, I assure everyone that your government is on top of the situation.

From the beginning, various government agencies have already been mobilized to respond to the situation on the ground. I renew my call on all local government units and concerned agencies to ensure that the well-being and safety of our people remain the top priority.

As President I guarantee you that your government will do its best to provide assistance in the form of shelters, relief goods, financial aid and post-disaster counseling.

Rest assured, the government will not leave anybody behind. We will get through this crisis. I assure you as one nation kapit po tayo mga kababayan, magbayanihan po tayong lahat.

Alam mo mayroon tayong mga assets na bago. The Coast Guard iyong gamitin nila sa tubig. The fast vessels that are with the Navy and ‘yung Air Force natin marami tayong helicopter.

As long as the weather is still whirling, umiikot pa ‘yung hangin, hindi pa makatrabaho, hindi makalipad.

But all of this lahat pati ‘yung mga sundalo, nauna na po ‘yan. Iyon pa lang ‘yung dumating ang advisory sa atin, nakapondo na ‘yung mga tao. The goods are there, the people have been mobilized and deployed kaya pagdating ng bagyo nandiyan nagtrabaho na sila.

Kaya may magsabi na walang ginawa, natutulog, wala kaming tulog dito. As I talk to you now, I just delivered the ASEAN Philippine message. I am attending a summit ng ASEAN. Ang participation natin is the virtual digital thing pero lahat kami nagsalita.

So iyan as soon as I am able to move around... Ganito kasi ‘yan ang problema ko. Binabawalan ako nang nagbantay sa akin, PSG lahat, doktor. Hindi ako makalabas.

Sabi ko naman na gusto kong magpakita sa tao lang man. Ang sabi nila nga bantayan ‘yung ano ko, ‘yung pagka --- ‘yung pagkatao ko kasi ako ‘yung Presidente.

Sabi ko, “Hindi na bale total mayroon namang Vice President kaya nga mayroon ‘yang position na ‘yan eh.” Eh ang sabi naman is, “Marami ho ang official sa labas. Isa lang ang Presidente.”

Gusto ko. Kung sabihin mo lang as a concern for buhay o kapakanan, wala ako diyan. Gusto kong lumabas, gusto kong lumangoy. Matagal na ako hindi naligo eh. Kaya lang ayaw nitong mga sundalo. Sila ang ayaw gustong maligo ibig sabihin.

So ganoon ho ang sitwasyon. It's not that I am at a distance from you na may distansya ako ngayon sa inyo. Gusto kong pumunta doon, makipaglangoy nga sa inyo. Ang problema pinipigilan ako kasi raw 'pag namatay ako, isa lang ang Presidente.

Sabi ko, "Eh may Vice President naman." Ah wala naman silang sinasagot. Nagtitinginan lang sila tapos, "Hindi, hindi ka puwedeng mamatay nitong panahon na ito. Kung malunod ka, malulunod kaming lahat na 'yung nagtatrabaho sa iyo."

Well, anyway, that is the fortune of our lives. We want to be of help. We want to be near and we want to share the grief and we want to share the agony.

So hindi na bale kung matamaan ako ng COVID-19. Kung makalusot ako, iku-kuwento ko na lang sa inyo ang na-experience ko.

Maraming salamat sa inyo.

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Source: PCOO-PND (Presidential News Desk)