



Office of the President of the Philippines

STATEMENT

Farewell Call of H.E. Daniel Pruce Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Republic of the Philippines 04 August 2021

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte received H.E. Daniel Pruce, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in a farewell call in Malacañang on 04 August 2021.

President Duterte congratulated Ambassador Pruce for a successful tour of duty, crediting him for the revitalization of the United Kingdom's economic and political presence in the Philippines through high-level exchanges and dialogues.

President Duterte conferred on Ambassador Pruce the Order of Sikatuna, Rank of Datu (Grand Cross), Gold Distinction, for his accomplishments.

The President thanked the United Kingdom for the donation of 415,000 doses of AstraZeneca that contributed to the country's ongoing COVID-19 vaccination program.

President Duterte cited Ambassador Pruce's personal role in improving vaccine access for the Philippines eventually leading to the conclusion of the innovative Tripartite Agreement between GPH, LGUs, and Private Sector for the procurement of AstraZeneca vaccines.

Noting the UK's preference for Filipino healthcare professionals, the President called for the finalization of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Recruitment of Filipino Healthcare Professionals to ensure fair, ethical and sustainable recruitment and employment of Filipino healthcare professionals in the UK.

President Duterte also reiterated the Philippines' support for the UK's Presidency of COP26 in 2021, recognizing the UK's bold commitments as it steers the global climate agenda towards urgent climate action.

For his part, Ambassador Pruce thanked the President for all the support given by the Philippine government in the efforts to further strengthen bilateral ties across a broad range of areas, including political and defense cooperation, trade and investments, people-to-people exchanges, and fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ambassador Pruce also thanked the President for the Philippines' support of the UK's dialogue partnership with ASEAN.

Ambassador Pruce stressed the importance placed by the UK on its relations with the Philippines and further underscored that the Philippines-UK bilateral cooperation will continue to grow from strength to strength.

President Duterte and Ambassador Pruce noted that this year marks a milestone in Philippines-UK relations as both countries celebrate 75 years of diplomatic ties. **END**