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‘Much more to do’: PBBM vows faster digital transformation

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Tuesday vowed to accelerate the Philippines' digital transformation, stressing that technology must be harnessed not only to modernize systems but also to bridge inequalities and improve Filipinos' lives.

Speaking at the Manila Tech Summit 2025, Marcos highlighted the country's progress, noting that more than half of payment transactions in

PAGASA sees La Niña by late 2025, warns of stronger storms

MANILA – The country must brace for a potentially stronger typhoon season with the possibility of a La Niña episode developing before the end of 2025, the weather bureau said Tuesday.

In a press statement, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)-neutral that it has been continuously monitoring in the tropical Pacific is most likely to persist

2024 were made digitally because of the advancement in financial technologies that made paying bills and sending remittances “safer and less burdensome.”

He also touted that in 2024 alone, digital economy reached PHP2.25 trillion, accounting for 8.5 percent of the country's gross domestic product and generating around 11.3 million jobs.

“For Filipinos, digital technology means shorter queues [and]

faster transactions. It means ease in paying bills, renewing licenses, and accessing government services. It also means that our farmers can register their products online, teachers can access digital tools, [and] entrepreneurs can sell to larger markets,” Marcos said in a speech delivered at Shangri-La The Fort, Manila in Taguig City.

“Now this is a good development, but

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STRONGER STORMS. Quezon City residents head to an evacuation center as heavy rains triggered waist-deep floods in this photo taken on July 24, 2024. Weather bureau PAGASA on Tuesday (Aug. 26, 2025) warned the public of possible stronger typhoons with the possibility of a La Niña episode developing before the end of 2025. (PNA photo by Ben Briones)

until October.

However, it said that climate models show an increasing probability of short-lived

La Niña conditions emerging between September and December.

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DSWD ready to distribute relief amid rainy week

MANILA – The Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) Disaster Response Management Group (DRMG) is preparing the agency's various relief resources for distribution to localities along the path of

the latest weather system to affect the country.

“Tuloy-tuloy pa rin naman po ang kahan- daan ng ating ahen-siya. Kayat huwag pong mag-alala ang ating mga kababayan dahil sapat po at may mga naka-preposition

po tayong mga family food packs (FFPs) sa lahat po ng ating mga warehouses sa buong bansa (The agency maintains its disaster preparedness. The public should not worry because our family food packs are sufficient

(Turn to p. 2)



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. leads the opening of the Manila Tech Summit 2025 at Shangri-La The Fort, Manila in Taguig City on Tuesday (Aug. 26, 2025). In his speech, Marcos emphasized the need to accelerate digital transformation to attain inclusive growth. (PNA photo by Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos)

BI assists 24 Filipinos repatriated after rescue from scam hubs

MANILA – The Bureau of Immigration (BI) on Monday reported the arrival of 24 Filipinos who were repatriated after being rescued from scam hubs in Cambodia.

According to the BI's Immigration Protection and Border Enforcement Section (I-PROBES), the repatriates arrived on Aug. 23 at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3 on board a Philippine Airlines flight from Phnom Penh.



SCAM VICTIMS. Immigration Protection and Border Enforcement Section (I-PROBES) personnel interview rescued victims of scam hubs in Cambodia in this undated photo. The Bureau of Immigration on Monday (Aug. 25, 2025) reported the recent arrival of 24 Filipinos who were repatriated after being rescued. (Photo from BI)

The victims, composed of nine males and 14 females, were rescued with the assistance of the Philip-

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'MUCH MORE TO DO': . . . FR. P. 1

there is much room for growth. We see the greater need to tap the endless possibilities of a truly digital Philippines. We are determined to seize that growth," he added.

Marcos cited several government initiatives aimed at building a "truly digital Philippines," including the National Fiber Backbone (NFB), which is expected to provide 17 million Filipinos with faster and more reliable internet by 2028.

He added that the full rollout of the Philippine Identification System would streamline access to financial services.

Marcos said his administration is also expanding the Free Wi-Fi for All Program in schools to give students and teachers in far-flung areas better access to digital resources.

He, however, acknowledged the risks brought by rapid technological advancements, such as online scams, fraud, and cybersecurity threats.

"Fraudulent schemes and scams are becoming increasingly sophisticated every day with the aid of artificial intelligence, with digital currencies, and syndicates that know no frontiers. Also, even as artificial intelligence offers breakthroughs, it brings threats of job displacement and the loss of privacy," Marcos said.

"And this is why we must also strengthen our defenses, manage risks, [and] block malicious attempts before they harm our people."

Marcos cited several government interventions such as the enactment of laws, including the Anti-Financial Account Scamming Act, the Internet Transactions Act, and the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) Registration Act.

He also warned of the dangers of online gambling and the disruptive potential of artificial intelligence, particularly in job displacement and privacy concerns.

To address the problem, Marcos said the government is reskilling and upskilling more Filipinos, training them for jobs in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, e-commerce, and creative industries.

"All of these efforts place technological innovation at the center of our governance. We aim to provide a government where technology is optimized to improve service delivery, efficiency, and transparency," he said.

Marcos urged industry leaders and innovators to make the Philippines a "FinTech innovation hub and a key voice in shaping the global financial system."

"Because the connected nation that we dream of will only come online if we all choose to build it brick by brick, gigabyte by gigabyte," he said. "We envision a Philippines where every Filipino can reach their full potential and where new technologies open wider possibilities for all."

The Manila Tech Summit marked its fifth year with a push to position the Philippines as a key player in the global fintech ecosystem, gathering over 1,300 delegates from more than 300 organizations.

The summit, carrying the theme "Forging a New Global Order: Risks and Opportunities Redefined," was organized by FinTech Alliance.PH, the country's largest digital industry association, representing over 130 companies that drive more than 95 percent of digital retail transactions. (PNA)

BI... FR. P. 1

pine Embassy in Cambodia after being forced to work in online scam hubs. They were assisted by the NAIA Task Force Against Trafficking and the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) upon arrival.

The Filipinos recounted in a statement how they were recruited through social media with promises of employment as customer service representatives and a monthly salary of USD1,500. However, they said they only received around USD300 and were forced to work as love scammers in catphishing syndicates targeting male Europeans.

They added they were subjected to punishments such as squatting exercises and were verbally and physically abused when they failed to meet their quotas.

All of the victims departed the country as tourists. One even left with his entire family —parents, sibling, aunt, and uncle— for a supposed five-day holiday in Bangkok, only to proceed to Cambodia to work in the scam hub.

Several victims also revealed that they were later sold to other companies, further likening their ordeal to mod-

ern-day slavery.

Meanwhile, the I-PROBES also reported the interception of two more victims on Aug. 24 who attempted to board an Air Asia flight to Thailand.

The two initially claimed to be tourists on vacation but later admitted they had been promised jobs as encoders abroad.

The BI believes they were recruited by the same syndicate. They have been turned over to the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) for assistance.

In similar cases, victims were promised jobs in Thailand but were later forcibly diverted to Cambodia, Myanmar, or Laos.

BI Commissioner Joel Anthony Viado warned aspiring overseas workers against illegal recruitment schemes, saying that traffickers continue to exploit social media and messaging apps to lure victims.

The BI said at least two recruiters are being investigated by the IACAT for facilitating the departure of the victims.

He said they are also investigating whether certain personnel are in connivance with said recruiters. (PNA)

PAGASA... FR. P. 1

La Niña, or the cool phase of ENSO, is characterized by unusually cooler-than-average sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific.

PAGASA said a La Niña Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for the development of La Niña within the next six months, and the probability is 55 percent or more.

"Historically, La Niña is characterized by an above-average number of tropical cyclone occurrences towards the end of the year and above-nor-

mal rainfall conditions in most parts of the country that can trigger adverse impacts, including floods and landslides in vulnerable areas," PAGASA said.

Earlier La Niña episodes that have hit the country were also linked to heavier monsoon rains, agricultural losses, and deep flooding.

PAGASA has urged local government, including disaster-response agencies and the public, to strengthen preparedness and take precautionary measures. (PNA)

CAVITE NEWS

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Aside from FFPs and non-food items, the agency's other resources and logistics such as the mobile kitchens and mobile command centers are also ready to be deployed to affected areas, particularly in eva-

tion sites.

Dumla urged the public to be vigilant and to heed all orders from their local authorities for their safety. (PNA)



Free Medical & Dental Mission at Brgy. Pantaleon Granados, GMA

The Provincial Government of Cavite conducted a Medical and Dental Mission on August 11, 2025, in Barangay Pantaleon Granados, General Mariano Alvarez. The activity was organized through the partnership of the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO).

The OPHO technical team provided free medical consultations to 314 patients and free dental services to 59 individuals. Residents also benefited from free prescribed medicines, vitamins, X-ray, and ECG services.

The activity concluded smoothly and successfully with the assistance of Barangay Health Workers (BHW) and Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), who helped facilitate the services.

Through the mission, the Provincial Government of Cavite reaffirms its heartfelt commitment to bring accessible and quality healthcare to every corner of the province.--- OPIO



PGC Extends Health Outreach Program to Silang Community A total of 299

On August 15, 2025, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Governor, in partnership with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, conducted a medical and dental mission in Brgy. Hukay, Silang.

A total of 299 residents availed themselves of free services including medical check-ups, dental consultations and extractions, ECGs, and X-rays. Beneficiaries also received free prescribed and maintenance medicines, ensuring continued support for their health needs. The General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital team, together with the OPG medical mission group, successfully carried out the activity with the valuable assistance of the Barangay Health Workers (BHWs), who helped facilitate the smooth delivery of services.

The outreach program was further supported by the presence of 5th District Board Members Aidel Paul Belamide and Ivey Ja



PGC's Medical and Dental Mission serves Tanza residents.

The Provincial Government of Cavite brought its medical and dental mission to Springtown Phase 1 Main Subdivision, Barangay, Tanza, bringing essential healthcare services closer to the community and reinforcing its commitment to improving public health.

The OPG medical mission team in collaboration with GEAHM technical team catered 668 patients for medical consultations, while 90 individuals received free dental services. In addition, 31 patient's undergone X-ray examinations and 18 availed of ECG services. Free prescribed medicines and vitamins were also distributed to beneficiaries to aid in their recovery and wellness.

Tanza Councilors Ryan Mintu and Derek Matro graced the event, together with 7th District Board member Aldrin Anacan.

The mission was made possible with the valuable assistance of Barangay Health Workers, RHU Tanza, and Kabalikat Civicom Association Inc. - Tanza Chapter. Their support greatly contributed to the smooth and successful delivery of services to the community.--- OPIO



Medical and Dental Mission goes to Brgy. St. Peter II, Dasmariñas.

Health and compassion came hand-in-hand last August 14, 2025, as the PGC-OPG Medical Mission Team in collaboration with the dedicated professionals from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, conducted a successful medical and dental mission in Barangay St. Peter II, City of Dasmariñas.

A total of 419 residents benefited from the mission, which includes free medical consultations, dental services, X-rays, ECG tests, and free prescribed medicines and vitamins. The initiative was made even more impactful through the valuable assistance of the City Federation of Senior Citizens of Dasmariñas and the supportive Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) of Brgy. St. Peter II, whose local knowledge and community ties helped ensure a smooth and well-organized operation.

The mission brought essential healthcare directly to the community, making quality medical support more accessible to those who need it most.

A joyful heart is good medicine, But a crushed spirit saps one's strength

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE

File No. FC-DC-1871-25
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPS. MICHELLE SOLIS MARIANO AND
JERIC GIGAWIN MARIANO,
Debtors/Mortgagors,

x-----x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.** with postal address at 33rd Floor BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the debtor/mortgagors **SPS. MICHELLE SOLIS MARIANO AND JERIC GIGAWIN MARIANO** with postal address at (1) Block 8 Lot 20 Greenbreeze 3 Village, San Agustin 1, Dasmariñas, Cavite; (2) Block 9 Lot 8 Phase 6 Greenwoods Village, Brgy. Paliparan, Dasmariñas, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of **July 01, 2025** amounts to **SIX MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY ONE PESOS AND 53/100 (Php 6,455,691.53)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on **October 14, 2025** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the lobby of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Burol II, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or **CERTIFIED CHECK**, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of Title
No. 057-2024018682

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BRGY. PALIPARAN, DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:
A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 8, BLK. 9 OF THE CONS.-SUBD. PLAN PCS-04-020581 BEING A PORTION OF BLK 1E LOTS 1-35, BLK. 2E LOTS 1-7, BLK 3E LOTS 1-12, BLK. 4E LOTS 1-31, BLK 5E LOTS 1-23, BLK 6E LOTS 1-22, BLK 8E LOTS 1-10, BLK 9E LOTS 1-24, BLK 10E LOTS 1-10, BLK 11E LOTE 1-6, BLK 12E LOTS 1-3, BLK 13E LOTS 1-67 ROAD LOTS 1E TO 20E, BLK 36-C ALL OF PCS-04-017424, BLK. 1 LOT 15, BLK. 15 LOTS 53 & 54 ALL OF PCS-04-017571, BLK. 21A LOT 11, BLK 21B LOTS 10 & 11 ALL OF PCS-04-017094, L.R.C. rec., no. 8843), SITUATED IN THE BRGY. PALIPARAN, DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON. BOUNDED ON THE S.W., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY AND LONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 13; ON THE N.W., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 9, BOTH BLOCK 9, BOTH OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN; ON THE N.E., ALONG LINE 4-5 BY AND ON THE S.E. ALONG LINE 5-1 BY LOT 7, BLOCK 9, OF THE CONS.-SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN BEING N. 14 DEG. 49'W., 783.49M. FROM MON. 79, IMUS ESTATE; THENCE N. 84 DEG. 23'W., 2.00 M. TO PT.2; THENCE N. 84 DEG. 23'W., 9.00 M. TO PT. 3; THENCE N. 05 DEG. 37'E., 14.00 M. TO PT. 4; THENCE S. 84 DEG. 23'E., 11.00 M. TO PT. 5; THENCE S. 05 DEG. 37'W., 14.00 M. TO THE PT. OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING ON AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR (154) SQUARE METERS. ALL PTS. REFERRED TO ARE INDICATED ON THE PLAN AND ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND BY P.S. CYL. CONS. MONS 15X40 CM.; BEARINGS TRUE; DATE OF ORIGINAL SURVEY, JULY 27, 1905-JUNE 11, 1908 AND THAT OF THE CONS.-SURVEY, OCTOBER 18-28, 2004 & WAS APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 26, 2004.
is registered in accordance with the provision of the Property Registration Decree in the name of
Owner: SPOUSES MICHELLE S. MARIANO AND JERIC G. MARIANO, BOTH FILIPINOS, BOTH OF LEGAL AGE
Address: BLOCK 8 LOT 20 GREENBREEZE 3 VILLAGE, SAN AGUSTIN 1, DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE
Prospective buyers and/or bidders and hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the

UN: 1 in 4 people worldwide still lack access to safe drinking water



(Anadolu photo)

ISTANBUL—A quarter of the world's population, or 2.1 billion people, still lack access to safe drinking water, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) warned Tuesday in a new report released during World Water Week 2025.

The joint study, Progress on Household Drinking Water and Sanitation 2000–2024: Special Focus on Inequalities, found that while gains have been made since 2015, billions remain without essential services, with the poorest and most vulnerable communities disproportionately affected.

According to the report, 3.4 billion people still lack safely managed drink-

managed sanitation, including 354 million who practice open defecation.

Another 1.7 billion people are without basic hygiene services at home, including 611 million with no facilities at all.

The findings underline stark disparities; people in least developed countries are more than twice as likely as others to be without safe drinking water and sanitation, and more than three times as likely to lack hygiene services.

In fragile contexts, coverage of safe drinking water is 38 percentage points lower than in other countries.

Rural areas have seen modest progress, with safely managed drink-

ing water coverage rising from 50 percent in 2015 to 60 percent in 2024, while basic hygiene rose from 52 percent to 71 percent. But urban areas have shown little improvement.

The burden falls heavily on women and girls. In most countries, they remain primarily responsible for water collection, with many in sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia spending more than half an hour each day fetching water.

Data also shows adolescent girls are less likely than adult women to attend school, work, or social activities during menstruation due to inadequate facilities.

"Water, sanitation, and hygiene are not privileges; they are basic human rights," said WHO's environment chief, Ruediger Krech. "We must accelerate

action, especially for the most marginalized communities, if we are to keep our promise to reach the Sustainable Development Goals."

Cecilia Scharp, UNICEF's director of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene),

warned of the impact on children, saying: "When children lack access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene, their health, education, and futures are put at risk. These inequalities are especially stark for girls,

who often bear the burden of water collection and face additional barriers during menstruation.

At the current pace, the promise of safe water and sanitation

**Better is a poor man
who walks in his
integrity Than a rich
man whose ways are
corrupt**

Proverbs 28:6

ASEAN biodiversity chief seeks collaboration in conservation efforts



LOS BAÑOS, Laguna (PIA) – The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) has reminded its conservation partners of the need to collaborate amid challenges like pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss.

During the 58th ASEAN Day celebration held on August 9, ACB Executive Director Dr. Jerome Montemayor reminded the governments and private partners that conservation and restoration are shared responsibilities that require a whole-of-society approach to effectively combat planetary crisis of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss.

"In the face of the triple planetary crisis of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss, we are reminded that conservation and restoration are shared responsibilities that require a whole-of-society approach, and that the solutions to these challenges are also in nature. It gives us hope that the results of our current efforts will continue to grow, flourish, and help build a better world for generations to come," he said.

Montemayor led the

planting of native tree seedlings at the Makiling Botanic Gardens of the Mount Makiling Forest Reserve, an ASEAN Heritage Park in the Philippines.

The event was joined by Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary Ma. Theresa Lazaro, Los Baños Mayor Neil Andrew Nocon, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) Chancellor Dr. Jose Camacho Jr., and other ACB and university officials.

Secretary Lazaro supports the vision of the ACB for ecosystem restoration as well as strengthened cooperation among the ASEAN member states (AMS) and their partners in ensuring a prosperous and sustainable future.

"We also support the Centre's efforts to restore our forests and protect our biodiversity through the ASEAN Green Initiative, which aims to plant 10 million native trees over a period of 10 years across all 10 AMS. I do encourage all those present here today to plant the seeds of conservation and cooperation as we work together to protect and preserve ASEAN's priceless natural environment, securing

a sustainable and prosperous future for our peoples," the secretary said.

According to the ASEAN Annual Report 2024, the regional gross domestic product is projected at 4.5 percent this year, contributing to becoming the world's fourth-largest economy by 2030. ASEAN is the third-largest global trading bloc, with total trade amounting to USD 3.5 trillion.

ACB noted that the fast-growing economy is built upon the state of biodiversity in the region, a form of capital that economic actors must consider.

"We can translate the importance of biodiversity into economic terms. A 2012 study on the ecosystem service values for mangroves in Southeast Asia estimates that the forgone annual benefits from mangroves alone in a "business-as-usual" scenario by 2050 are valued at USD 2.2 billion."

Montemayor added: "It assessed the reduction in the value of two ecosystem services: coastal protection and habitat or nursery support for fisheries."

The executive director said that the regional bloc adheres to the provisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) enacted in Colombia, where a whole-of-society approach is being done to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Frame-

UN agencies warn of rising heat stress risks for workers worldwide

BAKU – Extreme heat is fast becoming one of the biggest threats to workers' health and livelihoods, the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) warned over the weekend.

According to the UN's official website, the new joint report, Climate change and workplace heat stress, underscores the mounting risks as climate change fuels longer, more extreme, and more frequent heatwaves.

Stressing that workers in agriculture, construction, and fisheries are already suffering the impacts of dangerous temperatures, the report points out that vulnerable groups in developing countries – including children, older adults, and low-income communities – face increasing dangers.

"Heat stress is already harming the health and livelihoods of billions of workers, especially in the most vulnerable communities," said Dr. Jeremy Farrar, WHO Assistant Director-General for Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Care.

"This new guidance work (KMGBF).

ACB said that it values the full and meaningful participation of all relevant environment actors, notably biodiversity stewards, Indigenous Peoples and local communities in allowing diverse perspectives and innovations to inform people about biodiver-

offers practical, evidence-based solutions to protect lives, reduce inequality, and build more resilient workforces in a warming world", he added.

Drawing on five decades of research, the report highlights how rising temperatures are hitting both health and productivity.

WMO confirmed that 2024 was the hottest year on record, at 1.55 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial temperatures, and with daytime highs above 40 °C becoming commonplace – and in some areas, even exceeding 50 °C.

"Occupational heat stress has become a global societal challenge, which is no longer confined to countries located close to the equator – as highlighted by the recent heatwave in Europe," said Ko Barrett, WMO Deputy Secretary-General.

"Protection of workers from extreme heat is not just a health imperative but an economic necessity."

Alarming findings

The report details how extreme heat is reshaping the world of work. It finds that worker productivity drops by 2 to 3 per cent for every degree above 20°C.

sity policies including the conservation of Wetlands and Migratory Waterbirds, restoration of wetlands and peatlands, and the ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Initiative (ABBI) to mainstream biodiversity in business operations. (CH/PIA-Laguna; with reports from ACB)

The health consequences are wide-ranging, including heatstroke, dehydration, kidney dysfunction, and neurological disorders.

Overall, nearly half of the world's population is now experiencing negative effects from high temperatures.

Calling for urgent occupational heat action plans tailored to industries and regions, WHO and WMO guidance includes several recommendations:

Develop targeted occupational heat-health policies based on local weather and workforce vulnerabilities.

Prioritize protections for middle-aged and older workers, those with chronic health conditions, and individuals with lower physical fitness.

Train health professionals, employers, and workers to recognize and treat heat stress, which is often misdiagnosed.

Involve workers, unions, and local authorities in shaping heat-health strategies.

Promote affordable, sustainable, and scalable solutions, alongside innovation and new technologies.

Strengthen research and monitoring to ensure measures remain effective.

The guidance builds on International Labour Organization (ILO) findings that more than 2.4 billion workers are exposed to excessive heat globally, resulting in over 22.85 million occupational injuries each year. (Azertac)

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HD Spikers end skid in PVL Invitational

MANILA – Cignal got back on track Monday night, beating ZUS Coffee squad, 22-25, 25-19, 25-18, 25-19, to keep its bronze medal hopes alive in the PVL Invitational Conference at the Philsports Arena in Pasig City.

Erika Mae Santos scored 21 points while Ma. Rochelle Lalongsip chipped in 13 points off 10 attacks and three blocks for the HD Spikers, which bowed to the Creamline Cool Smashers (25-22, 17-25, 25-22, 11-25, 8-15) and the PLDT High Speed Hitters (19-25, 13-25, 22-25).

Ernestine Tiamzon and rookie Erin May Pangilinan added 10 points each.

Cignal welcomed the return of Alas Pilipinas mainstays Vanessa Gandler, who scored six points, and libero Dawn Catindig, who



TOP SCORER. Cignal's Erika Mae Santos tries to score against ZUS Coffee's Chai Troncoso in the PVL Invitational at the Paco Arena in Manila on Monday (Aug. 25, 2025). She scored 21 points as the HD Spikers won to snap a two-game skid. (PVL photo)

delivered 18 digs and 15 receptions.

ZUS Coffee, which relied on veterans Chai Troncoso, Kate Santiago and Wielyn Estoqe, remained winless after two games.

Troncoso finished with 16 points and 11 digs followed by Santiago with 14 points and Estoqe with eight points, including two blocks.

The Thunderbelles fought hard despite the absence of top outside

hitter Chinnie Arroyo, veteran leader Jovelyn Gonzaga, rookie AC Miner, national team anchor Thea Gagate, and setter Cloanne Mondonedo.

Earlier, PLDT downed Kobe Shinwa University, 25-20, 25-22, 25-23, to secure the first final berth.

Savi Davison scored 17 points in leading the High Speed Hitters to their third straight win.

Alleiah Malaluan and

NAPC-FLMWSC backs DMW wage hike for Filipino domestic workers abroad

MANILA – The National Anti-Poverty Commission– Formal Labor and Migrant Workers Sectoral Council (NAPC-FLMWSC) has expressed support for the Department of Migrant Workers' (DMW) advisory raising the min-

imum monthly wage of Filipino domestic workers overseas from USD400 to at least USD500.

In a news release on Tuesday, NAPC-FLMWSC Sectoral Representative Danilo Laserena described the move as long overdue and a

vital step in recognizing the indispensable role of Filipino domestic workers in the global care economy.

"(It) reflects the government's commitment to protecting the rights, dignity, and welfare of our migrant workers, many

Only getting started, Marcos says of Alex Eala's US Open win



Alex Eala (Photo courtesy of US Open Facebook)

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. congratulated tennis sensation Alex Eala following her historic victory at the US Open, calling her a source of pride and inspiration for the entire nation.

"She's only getting started! Congratulations, @alex.eala! Kasama mo ang buong Pilipinas sa bawat laban mo. Sama-sama

naming isisigaw sa mundo ang galing ng Pilipino! (The Philippines is with you in your every fight. We will all shout to the world the greatness of the Filipino)," the President said in an Instagram story on Monday.

Eala defeated World No. 14 Clara Tauson of Denmark in an epic first-round battle in the 2025 US Open, 6-3,

2-6, 7-6 (13-11), early Monday (Philippine time), becoming the first Filipino to win a match at a Grand Slam singles tournament in the Open era.

Eala's win adds to her growing list of international achievements, further cementing her status as one of the country's brightest, young sports icons. (PNA)

The wicked flee when no one pursues them, But the righteous are as confident as a lion.

Proverbs 28:1

of whom are women from poor and marginalized communities," he said.

The group said the wage hike directly addresses the rising global cost of living, prevents exploitation through underpayment, and boosts remittances that sustain millions of Filipino families.

To ensure effective implementation, the NAPC-FLMWSC

urged the DMW to strengthen the monitoring and enforcement capacity of migrant workers' offices.

It also called on the agency to uphold the new wage standards through bilateral labor agreements, provide comprehensive pre-deployment training, and expand reintegration support for returning workers.

As the government's sectoral representa-

tive for formal labor and migrant workers, the NAPC-FLMWSC called on other concerned agencies to fully implement and institutionalize the new wage policy.

The council said this landmark adjustment should serve as a springboard for more pro-labor reforms that uplift the lives of Filipino workers both in the country and abroad. (PNA)