



CLOSING MESSAGE

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To Undersecretary Dennis S. Mapa, our National Statistician and Civil Registrar General, PSA Executive Committee, Directors and Assistant National Statisticians, PSA Regional Directors, Provincial Statistics Officers and staff, our partners from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Rikke Munk Hansen and Dr. Petra Nahmias, City and Municipal Civil Registrars, Consular Officers from our Philippine Foreign Service Posts abroad, academicians, representatives from our Inter-Agency Committees on CRVS both at the national and sub-national levels, and other participants, a pleasant afternoon.

Organizing a large convention such as this 1st National Convention on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics under the new normal setting is an enormous task. It took months of preparation and planning by the PSA Central and Field offices to ensure that the objectives of the Convention are achieved, and existing health and safety protocols are adhered to.

The first day of the Convention was jampacked with very relevant topics on CRVS concerns. There was a showcase the Philippine CRVS Mid-Decade Assessments both at the national and sub-national levels in support of our international commitment. Our UN-ESCAP experts presented valuable insights on inequality assessment on CRVS which

focused on stateless and other marginalized groups which undoubtedly will guide us in further strengthening our own assessment efforts. Other emerging concerns such as registration and reporting process of vital events of Filipinos thru our Philippine Foreign Service Posts abroad and updates on PhilID (Philippine National ID) were also discussed.

For the second day we have eight sessions (8) which were filled with informative topics such as Civil Registration Updates and Procedures, Amended Administrative Order on the Registration of Authority to Solemnize Marriages, the R.A. 11222 or Simulated Birth Rectification Act, Data Privacy Act, the Anacleto Alanis III Case, Birth Registration and Statelessness in the Philippine Context, paper presentations on birth and death statistics, among others.

Another highlight of the Convention was the opportunity as well to deliver our Statement of Commitment on CRVS Decade. This statement signifies our support to the CRVS community to further improve civil registration services towards the attainment of the CRVS Decade's goals and targets to *"Get Every Pinoy and Pinay in the Picture."* And, finally the Synthesis and Directions as conveyed by no other than our National Statistician and Civil Registrar General.

We hope that the two (2) day virtual conference for the 1st National Convention on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics with the theme "Strengthening Civil Registration Vital Statistics Digital Information: The Ways to Manage the New Normal" has given us new insights and learnings to effectively carry-out our functions as duty-bearers and stakeholders of CRVS.

May this 1st National Convention on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics further strengthen the framework of our collaboration and partnership towards the attainment of our shared vision to *"Get Every Juan and Juana in the Picture."*

I'm happy to note that inspite of the existing restrictions due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the different Working Groups of the PSA Central and Field Offices in collaboration with the PACR (Philippine Association of Civil Registrars) and Solemnizing Officers, this big event has successfully pushed thru. I would like to take this opportunity therefore to express gratitude to the members of the different Working Groups for their dedication despite the challenges and continued threat of the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Thank you once again for your participation in the 1st National Convention on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. We hope to see you again in the next NCCRVS.

Maraming salamat po at mabuhay po tayong lahat!

Stay safe and stay informed!

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