



Republic of the Philippines  
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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25 May 2009

Ms. Irena Zubcevic  
Division for Sustainable Development  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-2264  
New York, N. Y. 10017  
U. S. A.

Dear Ms. Zubcevic:

Subject: UN General Assembly Resolution 63/212, Entitled  
“Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for  
the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the  
Outcomes of the World Summit for Sustainable  
Development”

This refers to the request of the Secretariat of the United Nations for the views of Member States on the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development pursuant to paragraph 5 of UNGA Resolution 63/212.

In this regard, please be informed that the Philippines welcomes the holding of the proposed high-level event as it is an opportunity to take stock of and ensure action on the overall progress of implementation of commitments under the various SD-related events in the light of recent global developments.

However, we would like to make the following considerations in connection with the convening of the high-level meeting:

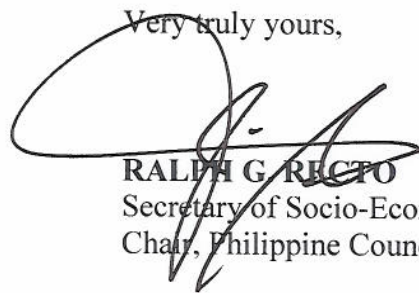
- a. That the event be considered as a preparatory activity to the proposed World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2012 and should produce a global synthesis report as an interim document for the WSSD 2012;
- b. That the suggested global synthesis report serve as a guide to individual countries in preparing their respective national reports taking into consideration global economic and social developments as well as climate change with respect to the three pillars of sustainable development;

- c. That regional preparatory forums which will be in the nature of stocktaking activities be held prior to the high-level meeting;
- d. That the process, content, modalities and expected outcome of the high-level event be identified at the outset and not only consider the current multi-year program of work of the CSD but also identify avenues for inter-phase with other parallel and internationally agreed commitments such as the MDGs, Paris Declaration, UNFCCC, UNCBD, UNCCD, among others.
- e. That the high-level event be held following the UNCSD 18/19 Session in consideration of the costs involved in participating in the meeting, particularly for developing and least developed countries.

We hope that you will find the above in order.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,



**RALPH G. RECTO**  
Secretary of Socio-Economic Planning  
Chair, Philippine Council for Sustainable Development

Cc.: Ambassador Hilario G. Davide, Jr.  
Philippine Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Assistant Secretary Evan P. Garcia  
DFA-UNIO