

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

SUBJECT: NDRRM Council Meeting

(18 October 2010, 9:00 AM at NDMC, CGEA, QC)

Releasing Officer:



USEC. BENITO T. RAMOS

Executive Director, NDRRMC
and Administrator, OCD

Call to Order:

The meeting to update the preparations and actions taken on initial effects of Typhoon "Juan" as it makes landfall in Isabela instead of Cagayan as reported earlier. Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin, DND/Chairperson, NDRRMC presided the meeting.

Also in attendance were Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa, Jr.; Secretary Mario G. Montejo, DOST/Vice-Chairperson for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation; Secretary Corazon Juliano Soliman, DSWD/Vice-Chairperson for Disaster Response; Secretary Jesse M. Robredo, DILG; Secretary Armin A. Luistro, DepED; Secretary Enrique T. Ona, DOH; Secretary Rogelio L. Singson, DPWH; Secretary Julia Abad, PMS; Secretary Edwin Lacierda, Presidential Spokesperson; Secretary Ricky Carandang of the Presidential Communications Group; Secretary Francis N. Tolentino, MMDA; USEC Graciano P. Yumul, Jr., PAGASA-DOST; USEC Zenaida Maglaya, DTI; ASEC Vilma B. Cabrera, DSWD; PDG Raul Bacalzo, Chief, PNP; LtGen. Reynaldo Mapagu, Vice Chief of Staff, AFP; C/Supt Rolando Badilla, BFP; USEC Samuel B. Bagasin, USCVRA, DND; USEC Benito T. Ramos, Executive Director, NDRRMC/Administrator, Office of Civil Defense; and other representatives from concerned NDRRMC-TMG.

The meeting which started at exactly 0900H was fully covered by the media.

Weather Update

- As of 11:00 PM of October 17, TY "Juan" changed its track. At 3:00-7:00 AM October 18, it is moving west southwest at 19 kph, and will enter Isabela before that day, instead of Cagayan as earlier reported, then exiting Ilocos Sur before midnight.
- TY "Juan" is a very strong typhoon with maximum winds of 225 kph, gustiness of 260 kph, and eye size of 50 km.
- PAGASA is doing an on-the-hour-every-hour assessment of the weather situation.
- Projected track: Isabela > Mt. Province > Ilocos Sur

- Typhoon Signal Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 were raised in threatened areas.
- Rainfall rate is similar as that of TS "Ondoy".
- Signal No. 1 remains in NCR and is not likely to be raised to Signal No. 2.
- "Ondoy"- like volume of rain is not possible.
- PAGASA is closely monitoring the water level in Magat Dam for possible excessive rainfall.
- Chairperson, NDRRMC assured the preparedness of agencies for any contingencies and to undertake required actions even if the typhoon has changed its track.

Updates on Actions Taken by Concerned Agencies:

- Initial Actions Taken on TY "Juan"
 - Preparedness measures and response actions on initial effects were reported.
 - Zero casualty target attained as of 9:00 AM with pre-emptive evacuation.
 - The four (4) NDRRMC Vice-Chairpersons monitored the developments.
 - As early as 14 October, when OCD-NDRRMC received the Advisory from PAGASA, warning information on were immediately widely disseminated to all concerned.
 - All emergency operations center of national government agencies (NGAs) were automatically activated.
 - A total of 627 families/3,066 persons from the Provinces of Cagayan and Isabela initiated pre-emptive evacuation.
- DILG Secretary Jesse M. Robredo has already instructed the PNP to go on full alert. The focus is on vulnerable areas such as the three (3) localities in Isabela. The DILG continues to ensure that communication lines remain open and utilize the backbone units of PNP whenever needed. Secretary, DILG also stated that lessons from the past had caused them to do better coordination at the field level like the coordination of resources with the hope of addressing concerns in a manner they are called for.
- PDG Raul Bacalzo, Chief, PNP has reported on PNP's prepositioned search and rescue (SAR) assets in Regions 1, 2, 3 and the Cordilleras.
 - PNP Regional Directors will deploy the assets whenever and wherever needed.
 - The PNP also has reserve assets and support units in Metro Manila.
- The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) has deployed its personnel, fire trucks, rubber boats, ambulances, and other equipment for its rescue capability and is ready for water rationing at the evacuation centers (ECs.)
 - A total of 3,415 BFP personnel (fire-fighters) are on-alert status.
- LtGen Reynaldo B. Mapagu, Commander of the AFP Disaster Response Task Force (AFPDRTF) reported on the preparations from 14-17 October 2010, as well as AFP's risk reduction measures having Commanders in place/on-site in coordination with PDRRMCs and RDRRMCs. NOLCOM, NCRCOM, and US assets were also accounted. Their communication system can also be utilized whenever needed.

- The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has pre-deployed its WASAR Teams to various Provinces (Cagayan, Isabela, La Union, Pangasinan, among others).
 - One (1) water treatment plant was pre-positioned in Pangasinan.
 - Five (5) water and sanitation teams were also deployed. This was done based on the assessment of PRC people on the ground in coordination with the LGUs.
 - The PRC has requested DepED and the concerned LGUs to closely monitor the sudden influx of evacuees in ECs, in case areas are flooded, septic tanks may be filled. (DepED has noted this request and will give updates to the NDRRMC.)
- The National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) reported that as of 8:30AM today, all transmission and hydrological facilities are functioning and operating normally. Isolated brownouts were just results of distribution problems.
- Secretary Rogelio L. Singson reported on DPWH's preparedness for Regions 1, 2, 3, and CAR as well as deployment of its equipment.
 - As of 8:00AM, all roads are open to traffic in Regions 1, 2, 3, and CAR.
 - The DPWH is monitoring roads which are vulnerable to landslides.
- Secretary Armin A. Luistro of DepED announced that the Department observes standing procedures on suspension of classes and would no longer issue statements once Typhoon Signal No. 1 is raised by the PAGASA, with classes in Pre-School levels automatically suspended; likewise, for classes in the Elementary and High School levels, once Signal No. 2 is raised.
 - DepED to monitor other vulnerable areas aside from those related to the typhoon.
 - All School Division Chiefs are closely monitoring the situation on the ground.
 - DepED has not received any report yet of schools being used as ECs.
- Secretary Corazon Juliano Soliman of DSWD reported that the Department has an additional 2,000 family packs ready to be airlifted in affected areas anytime when needed.
 - As part of its preparedness measures, DSWD has allocated a ₱2M stand-by fund to affected regions.
 - It has partnerships with the private sector for donation drop-off points, handling hauling of relief supplies and other requirements during relief operations.
 - The department has pre-identified 65 other ECs in coordination with the PDRRMCs.
- Secretary Enrique T. Ona of the DOH reported on the prepositioning of drugs, medicines, and medical supplies at the provincial level by the Centers for Health Development.
 - Medical teams on standby: Rapid Health Assessment Teams, WASH Team, Disaster Operation Teams, Ambulance Medical Teams
 - Hospitals in Regions 1, 2, 3, and CAR were alerted for any emergency
 - Standby team in Metro Manila can be airlifted whenever necessary

- The Department of Agriculture (DA) is monitoring the 109 hectares of potential fish ponds and cages that can be damaged by the typhoon. They are still awaiting official reports from Region 1 and CAR.
- USEC Zenaida Maglaya of the DTI reported the Department's price monitoring and inventory of goods; areas to be put under price control if necessary; and make sure that there will be no disruption in the supply of goods so there will be no shortages.

Other Matters:

- Ambassador Brillantes of the DFA expressed the need for information on the effects of the typhoon on the relatives of Overseas Filipino Workers as well as possible offers of assistance from foreign governments and the international community. The Chairperson designated USEC Benito T. Ramos as the point of contact of the DFA.

Over-all Guidance:

- Chairperson, NDRRMC directed everyone to work religiously to achieve "zero casualty".
- Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa, Jr. acknowledged the preparedness of agencies, however, he advised them to sustain these efforts especially when the typhoon makes its landfall. The high capability of people who are mobilized must also be ensured.

The meeting was adjourned at exactly 0959H.