

NDRRMC Hands Over Rescue Boats Donated by WFP to Responder Units



Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City – National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) Executive Director and Civil Defense Administrator, Undersecretary Benito T. Ramos acknowledged today, 19 October, five inflatable rescue boats donated by the World Food Programme (WFP) to NDRRMC and handed them over for use of Army units in Bulacan and Pampanga.

WFP Country Director Mr. Stephen Anderson (center photo), in his hand over message, expressed the continued commitment of the international humanitarian community to complement the efforts of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines in addressing the consequences of disasters that beset the country.

Usec Ramos recalled that aside from food and other emergency relief items, the WFP had donated thirteen units of rescue boats last year in the aftermath of Typhoon “Juan” (Megi) that hit Region 2. The recent passage of “Pedring” (Nesat) and “Quiel” (Nalgae) demonstrated the need for additional flood rescue equipment notably in low-lying areas in the provinces of Bulacan and Pampanga.

Three of the rescue boats were received by COL VIRGILIO TRINIDAD (left photo), Commander of the 702nd Infantry Brigade based in Bongabon, Nueva Ecija which has responsibility over Bulacan. The two other rescue boats were issued to the 703rd Infantry Brigade based in Arayat, Pampanga led by COL GREGORIO CATAPANG represented by his Deputy, COL HAROLD CABREROS (right photo).

Aside from Usec Ramos (fourth from left) also in photo is the Head of Logistics of WFP – Philippines, Mr. Dragoslav Djuraskovic (second from left) who facilitated the local procurement of the inflatable rescue boats with paddles (inset photo).
