



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

PRESS RELEASE

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NDRRMC Holds 4th Quarter Earthquake Drill

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) holds the 4th Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill with ceremonial launching in the Municipalities of Talisay and Lian in Batangas and in Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro on 03 December 2012.

Spearheaded by the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) Regional Offices IVA and IVB and in partnership with various national and local agencies, the drill seeks to intensify the local communities' earthquake and tsunami preparedness and strengthen the commitment of local government units in building safe communities.

The drill shall be graced by National Defense Secretary and NDRRMC Chair, Secretary Voltaire T. Gazmin and the NDRRMC Executive Director and Civil Defense Administrator, USec Benito T. Ramos. NDRRMC Vice Chairs and other NDRRMC members shall likewise attend the event: Secretary Mario G. Montejo of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Secretary Mar A. Roxas of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Secretary Enrique T. Ona of the Department of Health (DOH), Secretary Dinky Soliman of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Secretary Armin A. Luistro of the Department of Education (DepEd), and Director Renato U. Solidum Jr. of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). Officials of the local governments of Batangas and Oriental Mindoro shall be there as well.

The drill scenario revolves around the occurrence of a magnitude 7.9, intensity VI earthquake generated along the Manila trench that is widely felt in the Provinces of Batangas, Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Laguna, Cavite, Quezon, Bulacan, Rizal and Metro Manila. Part of the scenario is the raising of Tsunami alert level 3 in the coastal communities of Batangas and Oriental Mindoro.

The activity highlights the capability of both the national and local governments in responding to emergency situations specifically in the management of the incident command system (ICS), the evacuation of the affected populace, with focus on the women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities and in the provisioning of medical assistance and relief.

Drills and exercises are part of the government's continuing efforts in enhancing preparedness and awareness through participative DRRM advocacy.