

CLIMATE CHANGE | Philippines urge policymakers to save earth from climate crisis, not just from pandemic

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(October 23, 2020) – The Philippines has called on the world’s fiscal policymakers to work together to address emerging climate crisis with the same urgency as the coronavirus pandemic, its finance secretary said.

Carlos “Sonny” Dominguez said all nations must work together and focused on saving the planet with the same vigor in trying to defeat the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

“Unlike COVID-19, for which a vaccine will likely be produced soon, there is no quick solution for the climate crisis,” Dominguez said.

We need to act now with the same sense of urgency that we have for the ongoing pandemic,” Dominguez said last week in a pre-recorded video statement for the virtual 4th Ministerial Meeting of the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action.

“With our stronger collaboration, I am confident that we can build back better economies that future generations deserve.”

In a related event, he told a webinar organized by the European Union (EU) on Thursday there is no Planet B so all countries must cooperate to save the earth.

“We either save the earth or perish with it,” he said acknowledging the European Union’s assistance in helping the Philippines expands its sustainable energy capacity to meet the economy’s growing needs.

He also affirmed the country’s solidarity with the EU in its goal of limiting human activities that exacerbate the climate emergency.

“With a better and more informed approach. Unlike COVID-19 that caught the world off guard, we have a wealth of information and innovative solutions on how to best deal with the climate crisis,” he said.

“ We should be more prepared to save lives and prevent the worst possible outcomes.”

According to a study conducted by ValueChampion, Singaporean-based financial technology (fintech) company, the Philippines was ranked as the third most vulnerable country, behind Vietnam and Thailand, in the region to climate change in 2019.

(AramisZabat/PM)

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