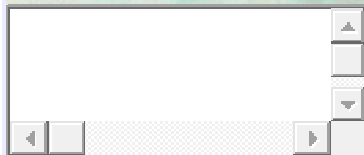
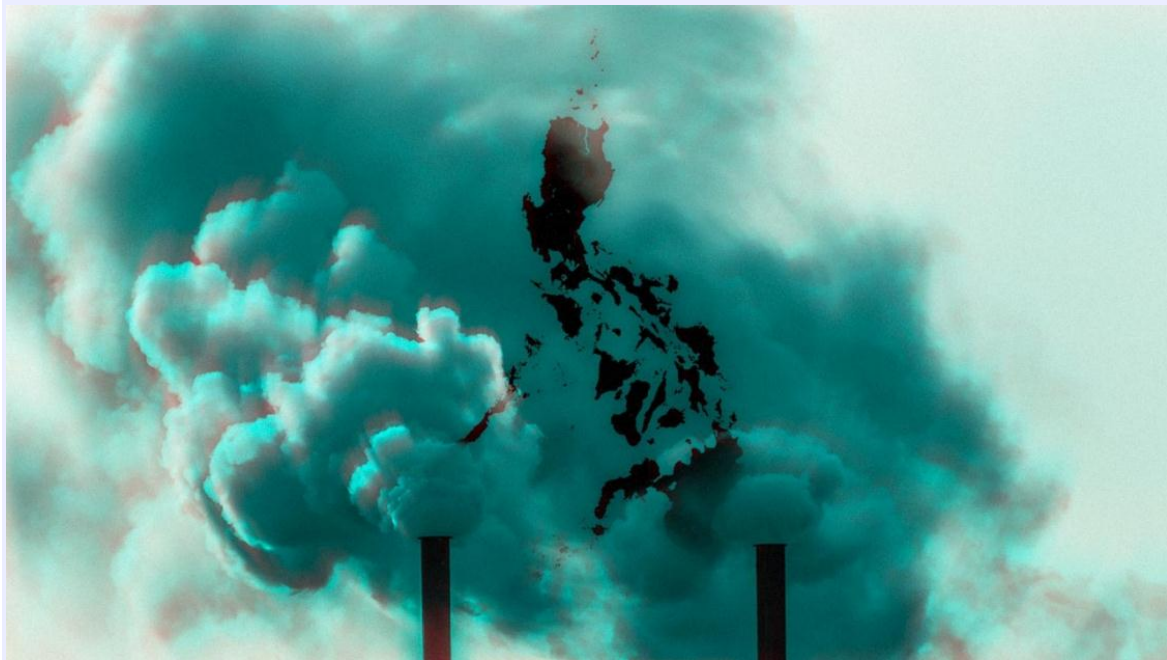


CLIMATE CHANGE

[OPINION] Higher ambitions in avoiding emissions: The Philippines' climate pledge

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'Every second counts as we as a nation aim to not only survive, but also thrive in the midst of the climate emergency'

The year 2020 presents a moment of truth for climate action. The world has less than a decade to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial temperatures and avoid more catastrophic climate change, one of the key goals of the Paris Agreement. Achieving this

requires drastic reductions of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while adapting to higher temperatures, sea level rise, and other more extreme hazards.

Arguably the most important mechanism under this agreement is that countries will commit targets and actions to address climate change through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). These pledges are formulated by each country and must be communicated every 5 years, featuring “increased ambition” or higher targets with every submission.

For the Philippines, one of the countries at highest risk to climate change impacts, developing an NDC that places it towards a low-emissions development pathway while enhancing its adaptive capacity is necessary for building a sustainable future for all Filipinos.

For its initial **submission** in 2015, the country set an aspirational target of 70% reductions in GHG emissions by 2030, albeit on the condition of receiving adequate finance and other means of support from developed countries. These pledges, however, are not enough as they are only aligned with a 2-degree warmer world.

<https://www.rappler.com/voices/imho/avoiding-emissions-higher-ambition-philippines-climate-pledge>