

PRESS RELEASE

Philippine Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

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PHILIPPINES LENDS HELPING HAND FOR AFGHANISTAN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE



Permanent Representative Evan P. Garcia represents the Philippines during the Afghanistan Conference 2022: High-level Pledging Event on Supporting the Humanitarian Response in Afghanistan held virtually on 31 March 2022.

31 March 2022, Geneva, Switzerland – The Philippines announced a voluntary contribution of USD100,000.00 to support the humanitarian response in Afghanistan, during a pledging conference organized by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Permanent Representative Evan P. Garcia, speaking on behalf of the Philippines during the virtual *Afghanistan Conference 2022: High-level Pledging Event on Supporting the Humanitarian Response in Afghanistan*, expressed the country's solidarity with the Afghan people and commitment to support international programs in responding to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

Highlighting the Philippines' time-honored tradition of providing assistance to those in need, Ambassador Garcia recalled that last year, the Philippines not only donated to the Afghanistan Flash Appeal 2021 through the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund, but also welcomed Afghan refugees to the Philippines. *"This is in line with our strong belief that*

we must open our doors to those fleeing their homelands because of fear of persecution,” Ambassador Garcia stated.

Ambassador Garcia endorsed scaled-up support for socio-economic assistance for refugees and other persons of concern, and called for concerted efforts of States to address climate and disaster-related displacement.

The Afghanistan pledge is consistent with the Philippines’ resolve to offer assistance to those in need. President Duterte emphasized during the 76th Session of the United National General Assembly last year that *“the Philippines has limited resources during these extraordinary times, but what we can do for humanity and to uplift human dignity, we will.”* **END**