

PRESS RELEASE

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

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PHILIPPINES CONTINUES STRONG PARTICIPATION IN ANNUAL WHO “WALK THE TALK”



Dr. Rosario Vergeire, OIC Secretary of the Department of Health is flanked by Amb. Evan Garcia of the Philippine Mission to the UN and Amb. Manuel Tehankeo of the Philippine Mission to the WTO along with the Philippine delegation to the 76th World Health Assembly, officials of the Philippine Missions and their families during the “Walk the Talk: Health for All Challenge” on Sunday, 21 June 2023 in front of Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Geneva, 22 May 2023 – The Philippines again participated in the annual “Walk the Talk: Health for All Challenge” organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) to kick off the 76th World Health Assembly on Sunday, 21 May 2023. The yearly activity seeks to promote health and well-being through exercise and mobility. The Philippine Permanent Mission to the United Nations, the Philippine Permanent Mission to the World Trade Organization and the Philippine delegation to the World Health Assembly attended the event where participants can choose to walk or run either a 3 or a 4.2-kilometer route around the United Nations Palais des Nations and the WHO Headquarters.

WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus opened the event while Ms Jacinda Ardern, former Prime Minister of New Zealand served as guest of honor. Kenyan running legend Mr Paul Tergat and Ethiopian Olympic champion Ms Derartu Tulu led a running masterclass for participants.

“The Philippine Missions and the Philippine Delegation to the Health Assembly are always thrilled to demonstrate our commitment to international public health processes through our

strong representation in this event,” Amb Evan Garcia of the Philippine Permanent Mission to the United Nations said. He added, “The World Health Assembly is an important priority for the Philippines and we are pleased to see the continued active engagement of the delegation led by OIC Secretary Rosario Vergeire.”



(L-R) Amb. Evan Garcia, Amb. Manuel Teehankee, WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and DOH OIC Secretary Rosario Vergeire share a moment before the start of the “Walk the Talk: Health for All Challenge” on 21 May 2023.

The World Health Assembly is the main governing body and highest decision-making organ of the World Health Organization. The 76th Assembly which takes place on 21-30 May 2023 coincides with the 75th Anniversary of the WHO and is expected to chart the post-COVID-19 collective priorities of 196 member states. The Philippines is a founding member of the WHO.

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