Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)

19 October 2026

PRESS RELEASE

Today marks another milestone of the continuing cooperation between the Governments of Korea and the Philippines as we embark on the pre-demonstration phase of the ***Project for the Development of Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System (FFEWS) for the Greater Metro Manila and Surrounding Province of Laguna Lake Complex for Disaster Mitigation***.

The Philippines is one of the most at risk country in the world for hydro-meteorological hazards, foremost of which is flooding. Every year, 19-20 tropical cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility, half of which are land falling. By virtue of its geographical feature, dynamic urbanization and other human development, Metro Manila has experienced yearly flooding, increasing both in frequency and severity, resulting to a chronic and worsening problem that needs both immediate and visionary long term solution. With the support and cooperation of the Government of Korea, the Philippine Government is slowly realizing its continuing thrust of keeping its community safe from the impacts of flooding, keeping the people away from the water through an operational and effective flood early warning system. The system should likewise provide an immediate means to communicate the risk of flooding so that immediate and appropriate anticipatory actions can be undertaken by the threatened communities.

The Project for the Development of Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System (FFEWS) for the Greater Metro Manila and Surrounding Province of Laguna Lake Complex for Disaster Mitigation reflects the Government of Korea's continued support for the Philippines' efforts to strengthen flood preparedness and disaster mitigation. This five-year project, implemented by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), valued at approximately USD 12.7 million, aims to establish an integrated flood forecasting, early warning and monitoring system covering Metro Manila and surrounding areas. It utilizes rainfall and water-level monitoring equipment, X-band Radar and flood warning posts to provide timely alerts to local government units and communities, enabling faster and more effective emergency response. This innovative and practical system ensures that the government is leveraging technological advances to address the need to improve and enhance the flood early warning system for Metro Manila, giving PAGASA an agile network of remote and ground-based observations. Coupled with community awareness and a well-coordinated plans, timely decisions and efficient proactive response can be undertaken.

On 19 October 2026, KOICA and PAGASA will conduct an initial demonstration of the system and the presentation of the progress of project implementation will be held, highlighting key developments and the system's capabilities in supporting flood monitoring and early warning efforts. Together, the Governments of Korea, represented by the ***First Secretary SONG Hyuntae***, ***KOICA Country Director JUNG Youngsun*** and ***Assistant Country Director OH Jae Wha*** and the Philippines, with the DOST as the Head of the DRRM Pillar for Prevention and Mitigation, fully envisioned these new monitoring facilities to capture the very essence of the call of the World Meteorological Observation for an "***Early Warning System for All***", a joint contribution of both governments in ensuring that nobody will be left behind as the world aims for a disaster ready and resilient community.

Originally signed:

NATHANIEL T. SERVANDO, Ph. D.
Administrator