



PRESS RELEASE

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DND partners with BCDA to help fund AFP modernization

Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City - The Department of National Defense (DND) is partnering with Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) by signing today a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to manage unused assets to help raise funds for the ongoing Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Modernization Program.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana explained that the AFP has military properties that are not currently being utilized and may not be used in the future that can be leased, or jointly developed. Secretary Lorenzana has informed the BCDA that the DND prefers the joint use mode of utilizing these properties as it would be more beneficial to the AFP in the long term.

“Making these assets available for joint development will not only eliminate maintenance costs but more importantly will generate revenues for the purchase of military equipment and improvement of vital camps around the country,” the Defense Chief said. It will also spur economic development in these areas.

Republic Act No. 10349, otherwise known as the "Revised AFP Modernization Act" provides that the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund may be sourced from the proceeds of the sale, lease or joint development of military reservations, as may be authorized by the President.

According to the MOA, the BCDA is designated as one of the "disposition entities" for unused military camps/ reservations specifically identified by the DND and AFP to raise funds for the modernization program, pursuant to Section 6 of RA 10349.

“The said agreement is in line with the DND's thrust under the Philippine Defense Transformation Roadmap 2028 to broaden the department's financial base in support to the DND's strategic focus, which is the attainment of a more credible defense posture for security and stability, national peace, and economic development,” Secretary Lorenzana said.

Secretary Lorenzana signed in behalf of the DND, while the BCDA was represented by Mr. Vivencio B. Dizon, BCDA's President and Chief Executive Officer.

Senator Richard J. Gordon, Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises and BCDA Chair Gregorio D. Garcia III were also present during the signing ceremony. ###