

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA  
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)  
Manila

August 30, 1977

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM  
No. 183, s. 1977

OBSERVANCE OF THE 1977 UNITED NATIONS WEEK

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Chiefs of Services and Heads of Units  
Coordinator, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges  
and Universities  
Schools Superintendents

1. United Nations Week this year will be observed from October 17 to 24. As in previous years, the United Nations Association of the Philippines (UNAP) will coordinate the U.N. Week activities in collaboration with the Department of Education and Culture, Chamber of International Trade (CIT), and the Philippine International Friendship Organization (PIFO).
  2. The theme for this year's celebration is "Conservation for Development." The conceptual themes for the day-to-day activities shall focus on:
    - a. How forest and water conservation helps preserve ecological balance.
    - b. How energy conservation prevents undesirable crisis for all.
- Inclosed is a copy of the "Program of Activities" adopted for the Metro Manila Area which may be used as a working model in the field in the celebration of U.N. Week.
3. Other conceptual themes for the elementary or secondary level of learners may stress on simple concepts related to:

- a. Factors that help restore balance of the ecological system.
- b. How environmental pollution affects the lives of animals and plants.
- c. How to help prevent excessive floods during the rainy season and water crisis during summer.
- d. Why water conservation not only saves but also helps control water pollution.
- e. Why rapid increase in population calls for greater demand of energy conservation.
- f. How energy crisis causes rise in prices of basic commodities, acute transportation shortage, crimes and accidents and lay-off of employees, laborers, and drivers.

4. Inclosures Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5, including the September-October issue of the UNAF Newsletter, are suggested reference materials which could be enriched through the teachers' initiative and resourcefulness by making use of the human and material resources available in the community.

5. Seminars, dialogues, and convocation programs for schools and community officials as well as out-of-school youth may be conducted in coordination with civic and non-governmental organizations existing in the community such as the Parent-Teacher Associations, Barangay, including the Kabataang Barangay, Women's Clubs, the YCA and the YWA, Lions Club, Jaycees, Sangguniang Bayan, Rotary Club, Boy and Girl Scouts of the Philippines, and others.

6. It is suggested that resource persons and consultants should include teachers, supervisors, administrators, community officials, and laymen who have experience or specialized knowledge of the topics specified.

7. Culminating activities for the U.N. Day may be implemented through multiple activities such as integrating planting of trees with YCA activities, theme writing, creating poems, oratorical or extemporaneous talks, poster making and painting contests, quiz

programs, songs, dances, cultural plays, convocation programs, talks of resource speakers, panel discussions, exhibits of art work and other creative work related to the theme.

8. Active involvement of all schools, colleges, and universities in this event is strongly urged to promote wide participation. Reports on important activities undertaken during the celebration, including photographs, should be included in the annual report of superintendents of schools through the regional directors to reach the Office of the Undersecretary of Education and Culture, who is concurrently the UNAP President, on or before December 31, 1977 in order that the same can be published in the UNAP Newsletter. State and private schools, colleges, and universities may send their reports direct to the same Office.

9. In order to strengthen the United Nations Association of the Philippines as an instrument for the dissemination of information about the United Nations Organization, teachers and students are encouraged to become members of UNAP or in the case of members, renew their memberships. They are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with current issues and problems or international relations such as the Asian Summit Conference of Heads of State, the Sabah Claim Renunciation, the Asian Interparliamentary Conference, and the Manila World Law Conference.

10. It is desired that school authorities concerned extend full cooperation and support to this year's celebration to insure its success.

(SGD.) JUAN I. MANUEL  
Secretary of Education and Culture

Incls.:

As stated

Reference:

Department Memorandum: No. 209, s. 1976

Allotment: 1 2-3-4 -(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS	STUDENTS
SCHOOLS	TEACHERS
SOCIETY or ASSOCIATIONS	UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

UNITED NATIONS WEEK CELEBRATION  
October 17-24, 1977

THEME: "Conservation for Development"

PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

October 17, 1977 -- Monday

- 7:00 A.M. - Flag Raising Ceremonies  
Venue - Rizal Park
- Sponsors: UNAP, DEC, PIFO, CIT  
Mr. Mindarao B. Razon, In-Charge
- 8:00 A.M. - Tree Planting  
Venue - WHC Compound, UN Avenue
- Participants: DEC, UNAP, CIT, and PIFO  
with all UN Agencies  
Mr. Frank Rosales, In-Charge
- 4:00 P.M. - Opening of Art Exhibition and Cocktails  
The Honorable Metro Manila Governor &  
First Lady, Mrs. IMELDA R. MARCOS  
Venue - National Library
- Sponsors: DEC, UNAP, CIT, PIFO, Village  
Artists Group & Art Association of the  
Philippines
- Coordinators:  
Dr. Marcelino Foronda - UNAP  
Miss Evelyn Franco - PIFO  
Mr. Alexander Ruiz - CIT

October 18, 1977 -- Tuesday

- 9:00 A.M. - Historical Contest  
- Awarding of Winners of the Theme Writing  
Contest
- Venue -  
Theme - "Preserving Ecological Balance Through  
Forest, Soil and Water Conservation"

Sponsors:

~~Girl Scouts of the Philippines~~  
Boy Scouts of the Philippines

Coordinators:

Miss Mariquit Castelo, GSP  
Don Gabriel Deza, BSP

8:00 P.M.

- TV Program, Channel 4  
"UNAF Presents: Cagayan de Oro Concert"
- Dr. Andres L. Abojo, In-Charge

October 19, 1977 - Wednesday

2:00 P.M.

Verus  
Topics

- Convocation Program and Panel Discussion
- Centro Escolar University Auditorium
- "Why We Need to Preserve Ecological Balance"  
Guest Speaker from the Department of Natural Resources  
"How Energy Conservation Promotes Progress and Peace"  
Guest Speaker from the Philippine National Oil Commission
- Sponsors: CEU, FNU, and Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila  
Dr. Liduvina R. Señora, In-Charge

October 20, 1977 - Thursday

Morning  
Theme

- YOUNG and Kibatasang Barangay UN Activities
- "The Role of Youth in Restoring Balance of the Ecosystem"
- Dr. Ma. Lourdes Macatangay, In-Charge

12:00 Noon

- "UNAF and UN Activities in the Philippines"  
Luncheon Meeting of the Rotary Club of Manila with Undersecretary and UNAF President Narciso Albaracain,  
Guest Speaker
- Mr. Frank Rosales, In-Charge

October 21, 1977 - Friday

- 3:00 P.M. - United Nations Day Program  
Theme - "The Role of International Students in Promoting Global Cooperation and Peace"
- Venue - International School  
- Coordinators:  
Mr. Beau Bonzon, International School and UNLP  
Prof. Josefina Gaerlan, PIFO

October 22, 1977 - Saturday

- 12:00 Noon - Radio-TV Quiz Program about the United Nations
- Theme - "The UN Working for Development & Progress"
- Coordinators:  
Mr. Dutch Albarredo, In-Charge  
Mr. Beau Bonzon, Member  
Miss Angelica Avea, Member

October 23, 1977 - Sunday

- All day - Religious services in all churches  
6:00 P.M. - Socialis - DEC, UNLP, PIFO, CIT  
- Proclamation of 10 Outstanding Foreign Students  
- Major Gen. Manuel O. Sarmiento, In-Charge
- Venue - Nichols Airbase Gym  
- Attending - PAF and PA Combs

October 24, 1977 - Monday

- 7:00 A.M. - Flag Raising Ceremony  
Venue - Rizal Park  
Mr. Mindanso B. Razon, In-Charge
- 10:00 A.M. - UN Day Program  
His Excellency President FERDINAND E. MARCOS, Guest Speaker
- Venue - Philippine International Convention Center  
- Sponsors: DEC, UNLP, PIFO, CIT & DSSD
- 3:00 P.M. - Games and Exhibition for Orphans  
Venue - PICC Ground  
- Mr. Ben Mehinyay, In-Charge
- 6:00 P.M. - Football Game Exhibition of Foreign Students  
Venue - Rizal Memorial Stadium  
- Mr. Arif Mirza, In-Charge

NO WATER LACK PREDICTED IN  
EIGHT YEARS TIME

Experts fear the country may suffer from severe water shortages within the next eight years unless everyone plants trees in earnest. The shortage will affect not only drinking and cleaning water, according to the Presidential Council for Forest Ecosystem Management, but may include the supply of water for irrigation.

Scientists in recent conferences at Los Baños, have noted with alarm the degreening of the countryside. Although some feel the trend could be reversed, quite a number believe that the crisis has become "irreversible."

Thus, the real crisis could set in sooner than 1985, or within eight years, if voluntary methods to reforest the countryside fail. The presence or absence of forests affect the amount of water the land can store. If there are no trees that hold run off water from rains and storms, they flow swiftly to the sea and cause floods, as well as destruction. Without trees, only a small quantity of water remains on land and this swiftly evaporates.

Already there are symptoms of the predicted crisis:

- The rash of destructive floods that hit towns and large cities following heavy rainfall.
- Severe sedimentation, or the accumulation of silt, on well known water reservoirs, reducing their capacity to store water.
- The difficulties of locating and obtaining drinking water from the ground.

Towns near the Greater Manila Area have been experiencing situations where groundwater has been hard to find:

- In Padre Burgos, Quezon, residents found it hard to "hit" groundwater.

- In barrio Siglot on Mount Arayat, wells have furnished water erratically.
- In Malver, Batangas, the groundwater is muddy. It was not too long ago when residents could easily tap "flowing and gushing" well water in this area.
- In Lobo, Batangas, only 120 kilometers from Manila, a water shed ran dry, after being denuded of trees.
- In Metro Manila, the Commission on Human Settlements, in its report entitled "Manila: Toward the City of Man," said... "water levels in wells continued to decline at critical rates of five to seven meters in highly developed areas."

This meant one would have to dig five to seven meters deeper than usual, if he hoped to strike well water. It could also mean that shallower wells are dry or salty.

This problem is compounded, according to the same report, by the "intrusion" of salt water into aquifers, especially near the coast. Aquifers are rock formations under the ground that "store" water, and all water is usually drawn from aquifers. But while all water grows more and more difficult to hit, the demand for tap water grows from day to day.

The Metropolitan Manila report says residents consume 1.5 billion cubic meters of water every year and this will increase fivefold by the year 2000.

Source: Bulletin Today, March 4, 1977



### STOP WATER WASTE

Abundant water is essential to our continued prosperity. But like other resources, supply of water is not unlimited. Conservation of water therefore, is a responsibility each consumer will have to take seriously.

Household water conservation not only saves water but helps control water pollution as well. The bathroom is the one room in the house where you can make the most substantial reduction in your personal water use. Two-thirds of the water used inside the house is used in the bathroom, for showers, baths and for flushing toilets. Each time a toilet is flushed, as much as seven gallons of water flows into the sewer.

The toilet is not a trash can, and it should not be used to flush away tissue paper, gum wrappers, cigarette butts, or anything else that should go into the waste basket or garbage can. This is a phenomenal waste of water.

Lots of water flows from little leaks. A deceptively small drip can waste 100 gallons a day, and more than 1,000 gallons a day can pour through a leak only one-sixteenth inch in size. And when a hot water tap is dripping, you are also wasting energy.

Most leaks, besides toilet leaks, are in faucets, and are most commonly the result of worn washers. It is a good idea to make a regular check of every tap in the house a couple of times a year to see if all faucets are working properly. If it still drips, you might have a difficult problem which would best be handled by a plumber.

As much as 650 gallons or more of water will flow through a 5/8" garden hose in an hour. Remember that, whenever you use the hose outside your house, if you happen to forget and leave the hose running unattended, hundreds of gallons can be lost in a very short time.

When washing the car, use for the soapy water, and don't leave the hose running while you wash. Using a hose instead of a brush is wasteful also. Using a brush is not only a good way to conserve water but it is also a good exercise.

When we are aware of the water we use, it becomes easier to conserve it. It is easier to change our habits and reduce consumption now, before that day in the near future when there might not be any other choice, and when the change would be drastic. When you do think about water, please don't waste it.

The problem of water is how to make it last through the summer and through all the days ahead.

Source: Bulletin Today, March 29, 1977

## STRESS LEND TO REFOREST W. WATERSHEDS

Perennial water crises, power shortages, and floods will continue to afflict the country unless some 1.4 million hectares of critically denuded watersheds are reforested.

According to the Bureau of Forest Development, under the plan prepared by the Program for Forest Ecosystem Management (PROFEM), it would take at least 10 years to reforest the already denuded watersheds. These watersheds support hydroelectric plants, water supply systems, and dams.

Almost every summer the low water level reservoir cause the shutoff of some hydroelectric plants supplying power to central and Northern Luzon provinces. In Luzon, reforestation of watersheds in the upper Agno river basin, and in the Abuklao, Singa and Chico rivers in the Mountain Province is top priority under the PROFEM plan.

Fast growing trees like the giant ipil-ipil are being planted in the denuded watersheds. What is needed in these watersheds are vegetative cover that would prevent massive soil erosion. Without the top soil, rainwater flows directly to the rivers. With the vegetative cover, water is absorbed and stored by the soil and the roots of trees.

In the Mountain Provinces, the Bureau of Forest Development (BFD) employees have planted grasses like "wattling" to control soil erosion. They are also constructing check dams to impound rainwater. Under the PROFEM plan, 750,000 hectares of denuded watersheds would be reforested in the next five years. The remaining 650,000 hectares will be reforested in another five years. For this year PROFEM's target is to reforest 114,950 hectares of denuded forest areas, most of which are watersheds. The BFD announced that of the 114,950 hectares, 32,350 hectares will be reforested.

Municipal and provincial governments, schools, military establishment, timber licensees, barangays and civic organizations will reforest the remaining 82,600 hectares. The BFD and other agencies will engage in the culture of tree seedlings and will supply 314.7 million seedlings for the various reforestation activities this year.

SUGGESTED GUIDE FOR UNITED NATIONS WEEK  
CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

Theme: "Conservation for Development"

Conceptual Themes:

- Forest, soil and water conservation helps preserve ecological balance
- Energy conservation prevents undesirable crisis for all

Generalizations:

- "Man's geographical and social activities as well as cultural beliefs disturb the balance of the ecosystem."
- "The balance of the ecosystem rests on man's intelligence."

1. Positive factors that help restore the balance of the ecosystem:

a. National conservation programs

- Implementation of Presidential Decree No. 1153 on planting trees.
- Conservation of soil, water and mineral resources.

b. Technological know-how in the construction of:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| - roads     | - buildings                                      |
| - railroads | - canals   |
| - bridges   | - sea walls/dikes (to control flood and erosion) |
| - highways  | - parks  |

c. Scientific implementation in:

- |                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| - agriculture/farming | - fishing |
| - food processing     | - mining  |
| - lumbering           |           |

d. Beautification Projects

- beautifying the town plaza
- organizing a garden club
- planting decorative plants
- building children's playground
- terracing and contouring
- cooperating in the green revolution project

2. Negative factors that disturb and destroy the balance of the ecosystem

a. Air and water pollution are caused by:

- factories
- transportation (trucks, buses)
- mines
- carelessness of people

b. Natural calamities that destroy balance of the ecosystem

- typhoons
- floods
- earthquakes
- famine
- draughts
- erosions

c. Unwise use of natural resources like:

- illegal fishing
- deforestation or "kaingin"
- wastage in the use of mineral resources

d. Ignorance and superstitious beliefs that lead to the prevalence of diseases and deaths.

e. War leads to the use of bombs and other nuclear weapons:

- ammunitions
- gas
- atomic, hydrogen and neutron bombs

3. Expected Output (Commitments and Actual Participation)

- a. Integrate planting trees with YOLP activities
- b. Theme writing or oratorical contests on conservation of (a) water, (b) forest, and (c) energy

- c. Poster making contest
- d. Quiz program (class, school, radi..)
- e. Fund raising campaign for a cause
- f. Convocation ~~programs and~~ talk of a resource speaker.
- g. Exhibits of art work and other creative activities ~~related to the unit.~~