



UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES INC.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT TO THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS OF THE DILG AND THE PNP

4 January 2023

The Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), the umbrella organization of all leagues of local government units (LGUs) and locally elected government officials, fully supports the campaign against illegal drugs of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) under the Honorable Secretary Atty. Benjamin Abalos, Jr. and the Philippine National Police (PNP).

ULAP is committed to address and counter the drug problem in the nation, and joins the appeal of the Honorable Secretary for full colonels and generals of the PNP to submit courtesy resignations for the immediate purging of individuals involved in drugs in its ranks and as part of PNP's internal cleansing campaign initiative. In this campaign, the highest levels of transparency, accountability and responsibility in public service should be upheld and the rule of law and justice must prevail.

Drug abuse is a complex problem prevailing at the intersection of public health, safety and social issues. It has evolved into a chronic health disorder that takes a heavy toll on our families and communities and must therefore be resolved through strategic and pointed measures within the framework of the law.

ULAP as DILG's partner remains resolute and focused in supporting all efforts towards a drug-free society. ULAP will continue to work with the DILG and the PNP particularly in its *Buhay ay Ingatan, Droga'y Ayawan* or BIDA Program to implement and promote holistic, balanced, health-and rights-based approaches to drug challenges, all within the framework of the law, with respect for human rights and complemented by rehabilitation and socioeconomic development.

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