



MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 316

**DECLARING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS THE MARITIME AND ARCHIPELAGIC NATION AWARENESS MONTH AND AMENDING PROCLAMATION NO. 176 (S. 1963) TO TRANSFER THE OBSERVANCE OF THE FISH CONSERVATION WEEK FROM THE THIRD WEEK OF OCTOBER TO THE THIRD WEEK OF SEPTEMBER OF EVERY YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, Article XII, Section 2 of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect the nation's marine wealth in its archipelagic waters, territorial sea, and exclusive economic zone, and reserve its use and enjoyment exclusively to Filipino citizens;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 470 (s. 2003) declared the third Saturday of September of every year as the "International Coastal Clean-up Day" to remind and re-awaken the Filipino vigilance in support of the continuing crusade against the debris crisis all over the world;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation 866 (s. 1996), as amended, declared the last Friday of September of every year as "National Maritime Day" for the purpose of focusing the public's attention on the vital role of the maritime industry in developments in global shipping;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation 176 (s. 1963) declared the third week of October of every year as "Fish Conservation Week" to promote the importance of fish and other aquatic products to the people's well-being and the country's economy;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to harmonize, integrate and synchronize programs and activities that will raise national consciousness on maritime and archipelagic issues and policies;

**WHEREAS**, a continuous partnership between the public and private sectors can help raise public awareness on such maritime and archipelagic concerns;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby declare the month of September of every year as the "**Maritime and Archipelagic Nation Awareness Month**" (MANA Mo).

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

To synchronize the observance of the Fish Conservation Week with the International Coastal Clean-up Day and the National Maritime Day, both of which are celebrated in September, Proclamation No. 176 (s. 1963) is hereby amended to transfer the said celebration from the third week of October to the third week of September of every year, beginning 2018.

All agencies and instrumentalities of the National Government, including government-owned or -controlled corporations and local government units, as well as the private sector, are hereby encouraged to implement programs and activities that seek to raise awareness and consciousness on maritime and archipelagic issues and concerns.

The National Coast Watch Council shall coordinate the programs and activities for the yearly observance and celebration of MANA Mo.

Subject to the immediately preceding paragraph, nothing in this Proclamation shall alter the existing administrative arrangements for the planning and implementation of programs and activities relative to the observance of the International Coastal Clean-up Day, the National Maritime Day, and the Fish Conservation Week.

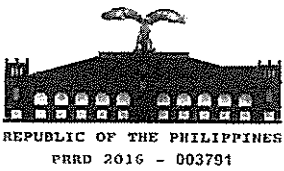
**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.


**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this **4<sup>th</sup>** day of **September**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

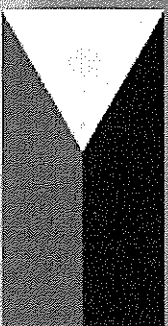
*R Duterte* 

By authority of the President:

  
**SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA**  
*Executive Secretary*

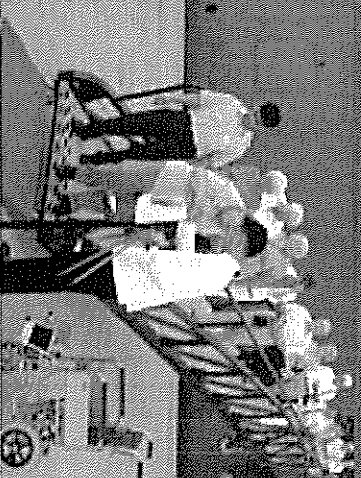
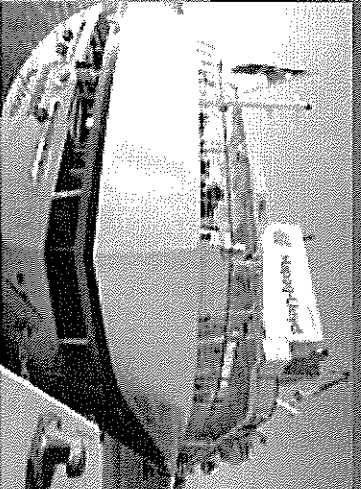
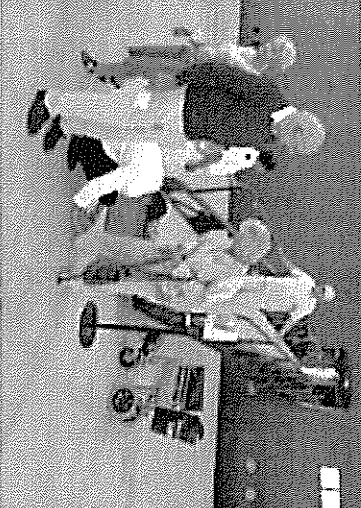
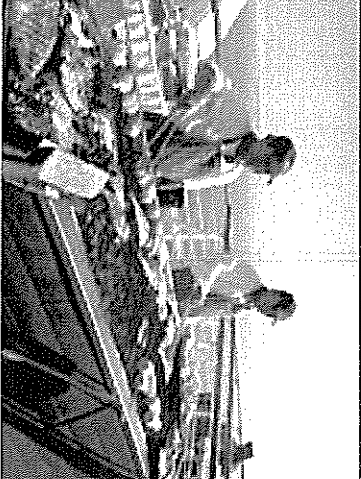


Office of the President  
MALACAÑANG RECORDS OFFICE  
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ATTY. CONCEPCION ZERY E. FERROLING-ENAD  
DIRECTOR III - ACTING HEAD  
*09-08-2017*

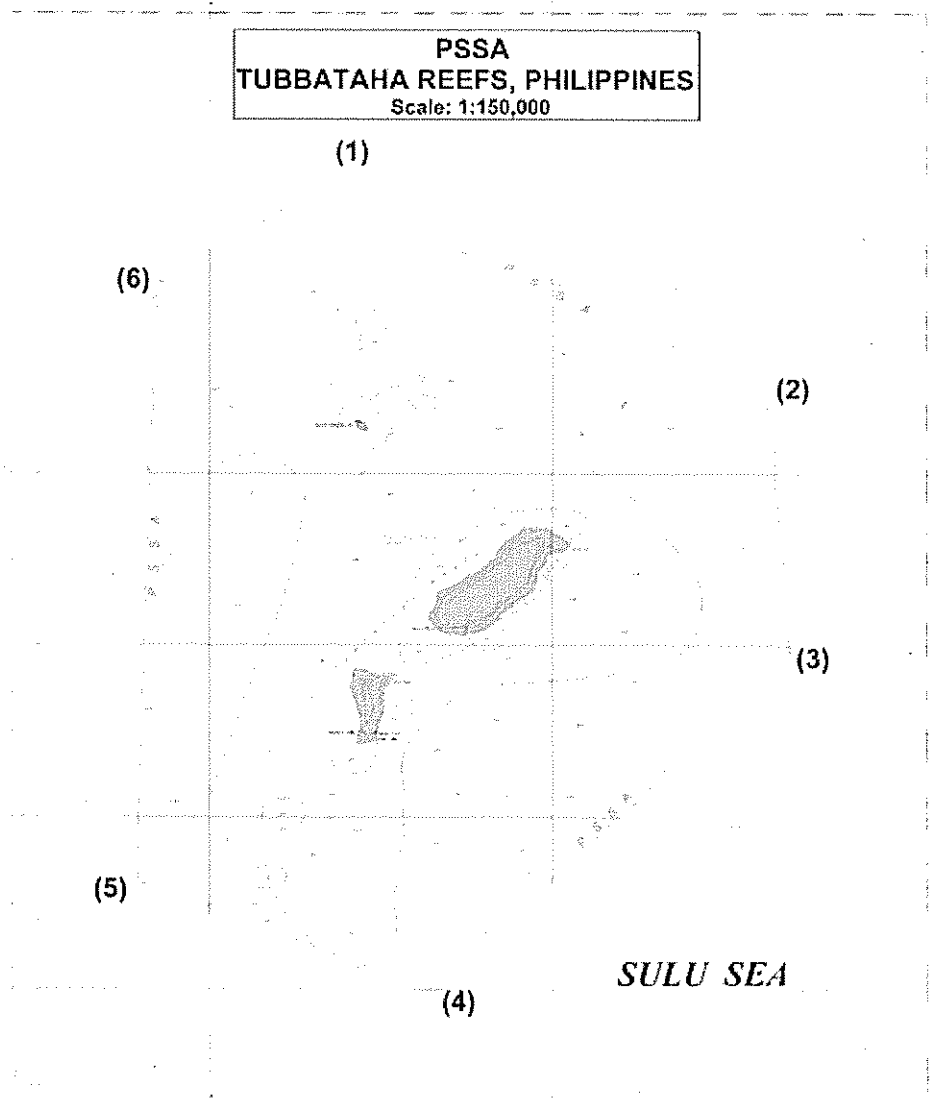


# **Republic of the Philippines** **Candidate for Council Member** **of the**

## **International Maritime Organization** **under Category C** **for 2018 to 2019**



## IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee Approves Designation of Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area



20 September 2017 - The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) approved on 07 July 2017 during its 71<sup>st</sup> session the Philippine application for the designation of the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (TRNP-PSSA) with the adoption of the MEPC Resolution on the TRNP in the Sulu Sea PSSA.

In adopting the resolution, MEPC 71 took note "of the ecological criteria, in particular the criteria relating to uniqueness or rarity, naturalness, diversity and fragility criteria, and the socio-economic and scientific criteria of the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park as well as its

vulnerability to damage by international shipping activities and the steps taken by the Philippines to address that vulnerability.”

Earlier, MEPC 71 adopted the recommendation of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee approving the TRNP area as an Area To Be Avoided (ATBA) by all types of ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards. The ATBA is aimed at minimizing the risk of damage from ship groundings and pollution damage by international shipping activities and to protect the area's unique and threatened species as well as to preserve as far as practicable its critical habitat and diversity. The MEPC resolution stated that mariners should exercise extreme care when navigating in the area bounded by the geographical coordinates of the PSSA and adhere to the ATBA, which is defined by the following coordinates:

(1) 09° 17'.75 N, 119° 47'.79 E

(2) 09° 04'.73 N, 120° 12'.76 E

(3) 08° 49'.63 N, 120° 13'.99 E

(4) 08° 29'.63 N, 119° 53'.16 E

(5) 08° 36'.15 N, 119° 35'.46 E

(6) 09° 11'.06 N, 119° 36'.67 E

thence back to point (1).

The ATBA for the PSSA will take effect on 1 January 2018 at 0000 hours UTC based on an IMO Safety of Navigation Circular

In the resolution designating the region surrounding the TRNP as a PSSA, the MEPC invites IMO Member Governments to recognize the ecological, socio-economic and scientific criteria of the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park area as well as its vulnerability to damage by international shipping activities. The MEPC also invites Member Governments to note the ATBA to address the area's vulnerability. – *Philippine Embassy in London*