



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Stockholm

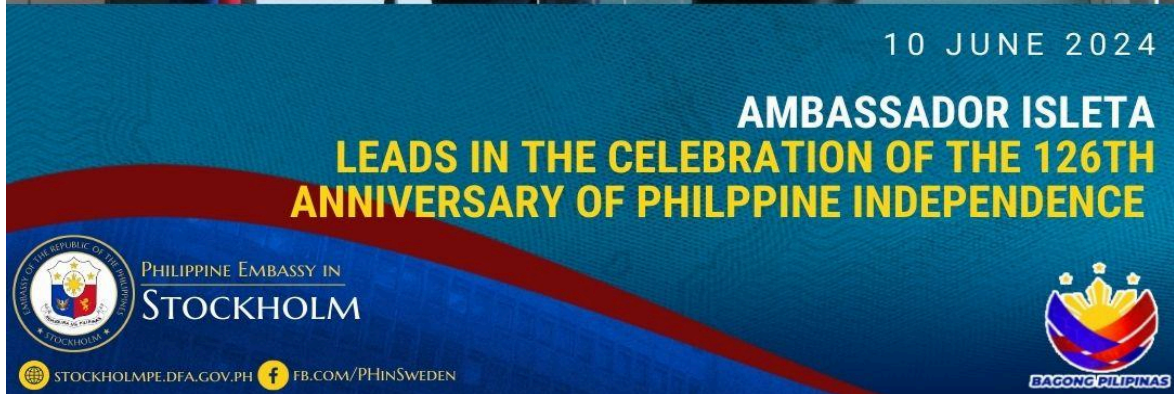


Photo (from left) H.E. Mr. Håkan Jevrell and H.E. Ms. Maria Lumen Isleta

10 June 2024 - H.E. Ambassador of the Philippines Maria Lumen B. Isleta hosted a reception to celebrate the 126th Anniversary of the Philippine Independence Day, on 20 May 2024 (Monday), held at Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden.

The event was attended by over 150 guests from the diplomatic corps, Swedish government, private sector, academia, and Filipino community leaders. Guests of honours included Hon. Håkan Jevrell, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade; H.E. Ambassador Daniel Wolvén, Head of the Department for Asia, Pacific, and Latin America; and H.E. Mr. Henrik Landerholm, Swedish National Security Adviser.



*Ambassador Maria Lumen Isleta raising her glass for a toast.
Photo (from left) H.E. Mr. Daniel Wolvén, H.E. Mr. Henrik Landerholm,
Swedish National Security Adviser, H.E. Mr. Håkan Jevrell and H.E. Ms. Maria Lumen Isleta*

During her remarks, Ambassador Isleta cited the long-standing bilateral relations between the Philippines and Sweden, which celebrated its milestone 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2022. She expressed the hope and determination to build even stronger cooperation between both countries particularly in the areas of green and smart solutions, digitalisation, research and development, education, defence and security, and trade and investments. She also noted the similarities in the geopolitical challenges faced by Sweden and Europe as well as the Philippines and the Asia Pacific region.



Guests raising their glasses for a toast

The award winning Swedish Hågersten A Capella Choir, grand prix winner of the International Baltic Sea Choir Competition and the Euro Asian Dance Group provided musical performances to the delight of the crowd.



Hägersten A Cappella Choir singing the Leron-Leron Sinta



Euro Asian Dance Group performed a Malong Dance



Philippine tapestries from various regions of the Philippines were on display to showcase the weaving and embroidery traditions of the country. Meanwhile Philippine drinks / juices such as Don Papa, Archipelago, calamansi, guyabano were on display / on offer.



Sumptuous Filipino delicacies and guyabano (soursop) and calamansi juices served during the reception

Philippine chefs and home-based cooks/bakers - Ms. Luwie Pascual and Ms. Letty Simpson were tapped to provide delicious and authentic Filipino delicacies such as biko, mango cake, ube flan and pan de coco.

Guests from a wide range of sectors enjoyed the program and noted that the venue provided a picturesque backdrop - a view of the waters along Strandvagen - for the celebration.











Amb Isleta welcomes guests from the diplomatic corps, Swedish government, private sector/community.

The event also provided a platform to showcase the different UNESCO Heritage Sights as well as top tourism destinations / attractions in the Philippines.

DISCOVER PHILIPPINES UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Church of San Agustin, Paay, Ilocos Norte

Church of Santo Tomas de Villanueva, Miagao, Iloilo

Church of Immaculate Conception of San Agustin, Manila

Baroque Churches of the Philippines

1. The Church was completed in 1710 and is famous for an architecture that blends baroque, gothic, Chinese, and Javanese influences.
2. Its facade is considered as Filipino native art, though its architectural style is also Baroque Romanesque, or fortress baroque.
3. Completed in 1607, it is the oldest stone church in the country located inside the historic walled city of Intramuros.

The Philippines

The Philippines is an archipelago comprising of over 7,641 islands located in Southeast Asia. The country is divided into three main geographical divisions: Luzon in the north, Visayas in the central part, and Mindanao in the south. The map above is the first published map of the Philippines in 1734 by Spanish cartographer Pedro Murillo Velarde.

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TUBBATAHA REEFS

The site is a unique example of an atoll reef with a very high density of marine species. It serves as a nesting site for birds and marine turtles and is an excellent example of a pristine coral reef with a spectacular 100-m perpendicular wall, extensive lagoons, and two coral islands.

DISCOVER PHILIPPINES UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

RICE TERRACES OF THE CORDILLERAS

THE RICE TERRACES, LOCATED 1,500 METERS ABOVE SEA LEVEL, WERE BUILT LARGELY BY HAND WITH MINIMAL EQUIPMENT BY THE IFUGAO TRIBE. THESE ARE FED BY AN ANCIENT IRRIGATION SYSTEM FROM THE RAINFORESTS ABOVE THE TERRACES. IT IS SAID THAT IF THE STEPS WERE PUT END TO END, IT WOULD ENCIRCLE HALF OF THE GLOBE.

DISCOVER PHILIPPINES UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

PUERTO PRINCESA SUBTERRANEAN RIVER NATIONAL PARK

Located in the southwest of the Philippine archipelago, the site includes several karstic caves formed by limestones exhibiting various rock formations and a subterranean river which flows to the sea. With a variety of mountain and marine species, its waters and forests are a vital area for biodiversity conservation.

DESTINATION Philippines

BOHOL

COMPRISED BY GENTLE COVES AND WHITE SAND BEACHES, BOHOL IS HOME TO THE TARSIER, THE SMALLEST PRIMATE IN THE WORLD, AND THE 1,268 PERFECTLY CONE-SHAPED MOUNDS DUBBED AS "THE CHOCOLATE HILLS" FOR ITS "CHOCOLATE" COLOUR DURING THE DRY SEASON.



Left photo (from left) Consul Pat Lester Solosa, H.E. Maria Lumen Isleta, Consul David Kristensson, a.h., and Consul General Gines D. Gallaga. Right photo: Amb Isleta delivering her welcome remarks



Ambassador Maria Lumen Isleta and H.E. Håkan Jevrell watching the performances

Philippine Embassy led by Ambassador Isleta, officers and staff with family members, as well as Philippine Honorary Consul David Kristensson and Geneva-based Commercial Attache Clarissa Mae Columna were happy to commemorate this special occasion with their guests.



Philippine Embassy Officers and staff led by H.E. Amb Isleta, with their family members. END