



# PHILIPPINES

## **NATIONAL STATEMENT Summit of the Future**

**Theme: Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow**

**to be delivered by**

**ENRIQUE A. MANALO  
Secretary for Foreign Affairs  
Head of Philippine Delegation**

**Speaker No. 42 | 22 September 2024**

Mr. President,

UN Secretary Antonio Guterres,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Today, the Philippines stands with the global community to chart our work to secure not just our future, but also future generations.

Secretary-General Guterres sent a resounding alarm last year, reminding us that growing dangers compel us to strengthen the multilateral system.

As leaders of the community of nations, we grapple with difficult

decisions to stay the course in these moments of complex crises, conflicts, as well as climate change.

The Philippines joins our *Pact* and hails it as a triumph of the persistence of multilateralism to affirm that a better world is possible, with the solidarity of nations.

The Pact binds us in words and in action, bridging the collective hopes of the past with our contemporary aspirations, with the UN Charter anchoring our will.

It is a Pact for transformative multilateralism.

With decisive, deliberate and far-seeing action, this pact can guide the UN in delivering meaningful outcomes for peace and security, for human rights, for fairness and equality, for resilience from crises and disasters and for empowering individuals and all communities in the world.

The Pact encompasses an agenda where the well-being of present and future generations meet, and where principles and declarations translate into deeds.

*Mr. President,*

Through the wisdom of our forebears, we have built the United Nations on the foundation of the rule of law.

Multilateralism, with the UN at the center, flourishes on the grounds of a rules-based order that provides conditions for trust, solidarity, equity, and

peace. The rule of law safeguards global peace and security and enables the international community to confront complex current and future challenges together.

It anchors a stable and predictable order that we need to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. It is the touchstone for all international efforts to resolve disputes, prevent conflicts, protect human rights, and enhance global governance.

Preserving a rules-based international order is a collective duty, in faithfulness to our collective adherence to the UN Charter.

*Mr. President,*

Our Pact is a call to action for multilateralism that puts people at the center.

Conflict, disasters, hunger, and displacement are arduous pressures on global humanitarian system and our climate resilience framework. The capacity of multilateral institutions to protect populations from terrorism, organized crime, war and conflict, health emergencies, sea level rise and other consequences of global warming, and to broker agreements through diplomacy, is challenged on many fronts.

Our Pact orients us to persevere ever more for peoples whose hope lies in coordinated action that can only arise in the context of effective processes of the UN system.

The UN must rise to the demands of accountability.

The development system is the face of the UN to people worldwide.

We must support and guide this system as it reforms, for more coherence, efficiency and impact. To be meaningful, UN programs must enjoy the full ownership and consent of the host country.

The Pact sets a paradigm for inclusive multilateralism, and fosters a new international and inter-generational solidarity on the role of women, youth, migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons, and indigenous peoples, in shaping more humane, equal and just societies.

The Pact brings new vigor to our unfinished business of eliminating nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. At the same time, it propels our endeavors to establish norms to prevent an arms race in space, govern lethal autonomous weapons, and address risks of emerging technologies to international peace and security.

*Mr. President,*

It is important that this Pact renews our collective determination to promote understanding among States, defuse tensions, and seek the peaceful resolution of disputes and conflicts. This is the essence of the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Resolution of Disputes. In pledging to the Pact, States abide by the obligation of rejecting force and the threat of use of force, to settle disputes.

As a founding Member of the UN and the first Asian Republic, the Philippines shall always be, a voice for peace, equity and justice, human

rights and human dignity, the rule of law and constructive multilateralism.

The Philippines welcomes the compelling guidance that our Pact brings to the United Nations, and the uncompromising clarity that it sets forth to serve the good of the human race.

Thank you.