

## AMB. ALEX G. CHUA PRESENTS CREDENTIALS AS PHL PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNEP AND UN HABITAT IN KENYA



Ambassador and Permanent Representative Alex G. Chua presents his credentials to Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Acting Director of UNON and UN-Habitat Executive Director, as the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) on 30 July 2019. (Photos: Courtesy of UNON)

**30 July 2019, Nairobi.** PHL Ambassador to Kenya Alex G. Chua presented his credentials to Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Acting Director General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON) and Executive Director of United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat), Kenya, as Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the UN-Habitat and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) on 30 July 2019 at the UN-Habitat Executive Director's Office at UNON.

Ambassador and Permanent Representative Chua's conveyed his appreciation to Madam Maimunah for generously giving him the opportunity to officially present his credentials as the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the UN Habitat and UNEP. He likewise expressed the Philippine Government's full support to the activities, programs and projects of the UNON, UN-Habitat and UNEP, and looks forward to a fruitful collaboration with the UNON.

Madam Maimunah was happy to officially receive Ambassador and Permanent Representative Chua to UNON. She briefed Ambassador Chua on the general set-up of the UNON as well as on the programs and activities, particularly those of the UNEP and UN-Habitat. As a UN body mandated to handle human settlement concerns, she shared that UN Habitat's main mandate at present is to implement the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 on sustainable cities and communities. Among the many notable projects, she particularly highlighted the UN Habitat's project or intervention in the Philippines during the Typhoon Yolanda in Tacloban on disaster risk reduction and resilience which they now adopted for Mozambique.

She also shared that before assuming her position as the UN-Habitat's Executive Director, she was a mayor of Penang, Malaysia for seven years. She has participated in various regional and international programs and meetings which allowed her to cultivate and nurture friendship with mayors and heads of local government units in the Philippines and other ASEAN member countries. She expressed that she wants to strengthen collaboration with the Philippines. She shared that on 14-16 October 2019, there will be an Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in Penang, Malaysia as part of the UN-Habitat's one-month celebration of the Urban October this year. She hopes that the Philippines could join in this activity considering that the two countries are close neighbors. She also conveyed that the first meeting of the Executive Board of UN Habitat Assembly will be held in November 2019 and hopes that the Philippines could also actively participate.

Ambassador Chua told the Acting Director General that he will convey this invitation to the Department and assured her of Philippine support to UNEP and UN Habitat's programs and activities. He also thanked UN-Habitat for the offer of sympathy and support for the victims of the 27 July 2019 earthquake in Batanes and Itbayat.

Ambassador Chua was accompanied by Consul General and Minister Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian and Ms. May P. Ofrasio, UN Focal Person. END



Ambassador and Permanent Representative Alex G. Chua signing the guest book at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) and of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) on 30 July 2019 as Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Acting UNON Director-General and UN-Habitat Executive Director, looks on.



Ambassador and Permanent Representative Chua (middle) during his meeting with Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Acting Director-General at UNON and UN-Habitat Executive Director, together with other UNON officials, and Minister and Consul General Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian (right), 30 July 2019. (Photo: Courtesy of UNON)





Ambassador and Permanent Representative Chua with Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Acting UNON Director-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat during the presentation of credentials. Accompanying the Ambassador were Consul General and Minister Edgar Tomas Q. Auxilian and Ms. May P. Ofrasio, Post's UN Focal Person.