Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Herbert M Bautista mpa mnsa

03 October 2011

MS. HELENA MOLIN VALDES
Deputy Director
United Nations International Strategy
for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear **Deputy Director Valdes:**

The Quezon City Government is pleased to have been selected as one of the cities to benefit from the "Making Cities Resilient Campaign" as this promotes strengthening of the local governments' capacities to address disaster risks and hazards.

In order to ensure a better future for our constituents, we have geared our strategies towards adaptation and protection, with continuing programs to (1) reduce our constituents' vulnerability to disaster risks; (2) reduce the overall carbon emission of our city; and, (3) adapt sustainable practices in building construction.

This pushed us to pursue with more earnestness an urban development framework anchored on disaster risk minimization and environmental management. The continuing challenge to the City Government is to balance the needs of urban development, with the just as important need for preserving and maintaining its green spaces. While still endowed with the widest open spaces of Metro Manila, its fast-growing and mostly young population exerts tremendous pressure to the city's environment. Now, climate change considerations and disaster-risk mitigation guide the city's new zoning policies and housing and resettlement program for the poor.

Rest assured that the City Government will continue to be committed in promoting disaster preparedness through knowledge and best practices sharing. We believe that this will also be an opportunity for us to gauge the effectiveness of the City's resiliency programs and identify the areas for improvement.

Again, we look forward to a mutually beneficial partnership with UNISDR and its partner organizations.

Mabuhay!

Very truly yours,

HERBERT M. BAUTISTA, MPA MNSA
City Mayor

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