

**Remarks of Ambassador ENDO Kazuya at the Launching Ceremony
of the Solar Power Generation System for the "Renewable Energy and
Energy Efficiency: Access to Climate Security and Health Services
(RE3ACHS) Project."**

25 March 2026

Assalam alaikum. Mapiya kagabi (マピア カガビ)

Good afternoon to you all.

It is an honor to join you all today for this important gathering. I thank the people of Marawi and Lanao del Sur for welcoming me with warmth and enthusiasm.

It was only a few months ago that I joined the ground-breaking ceremony through a video message. Now, I am delighted to celebrate with you in person and witness the successful activation of the solar PV systems.

With this ceremony, we mark a new step for the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: Access to Climate Security and Health Services Project, RE3ACHS for short. This achievement was made possible through the steadfast support of the people of Japan.

We are gathered today by this shared commitment to Lanao del Sur's renewal and progress. Allow me to highlight three key points for today's occasion.

First, Japan remains firmly committed to peace and development in

Mindanao, including Lanao del Sur.

Our engagement in the province has extended beyond renewable energy, hospitals, and health services. As a close partner of Lanao del Sur, we have worked in various sectors to help build a firmer foundation for a green and bountiful region.

In Marawi City's early journey to recovery, we were able to contribute to government and local efforts through the reconstruction and development of basic infrastructure such as roads and housing.

Through JICA, we are now also helping to construct a Manpower Development Center and its dormitories here in Marawi City, ensuring that the region's youth can gain technical education and skills development tailored to the needs of the local labor markets.

We have also been working to strengthen Birth Registration in priority municipalities of Lanao del Sur through UNHCR. You might have seen a mobile birth registration vehicle going around the city these past months.

Moreover, we have ongoing efforts in community and agricultural development across different parts of the province.

As Lanao del Sur continues to progress, we remain committed to supporting the province's development and the aspirations of its people.

Second, this project demonstrates the potential for Lanao del Sur to emerge

as a model for renewable energy across BARMM and Mindanao.

We have heard voices from the province calling for more reliable energy, and this project is a direct response to those concerns. Japan shares similar climate vulnerabilities with the Philippines and has been promoting renewable energy solutions to strengthen energy security.

Hospitals are vital lifelines for their communities, yet they often face unstable power and must rely on generators, especially during emergencies like typhoons.

The RE3ACHS project will serve as a lifeline for hospitals and the essential services they provide, offering a solution for today's challenges and an investment in a more climate-resilient future.

At a time of rising global oil prices, this is an opportune time to highlight the importance of renewable energy as a sustainable and strategic solution for energy security.

With continued leadership from the provincial government and local partners, it can pave the way for the expansion of renewable energy into other sectors, such as schools, local government facilities, and community services, acting as a model—not only for Lanao del Sur, but for BARMM and other regions.

Third, our achievement in Lanao del Sur shows the transformative power of partnership.

This project would not have been possible without the close collaboration and the leadership of the provincial government, local government units, hospital management and healthcare workers of Dr. Serapio Montañer Al Hajs Memorial Hospital, Tamparan Provincial Hospital, Ranaw Provincial Infirmary, and Wao District Hospital. Their tireless, committed, and community-focused dedication has turned shared goals into tangible results.

I also thank Governor Adiong and Minister Sinolinding for their leadership and commitment to advancing peace and sustainable development. In witnessing some of the projects in person today, in hearing the earlier report on the province's energy governance agenda, and seeing various collaborative efforts, I sense a renewed confidence in the province's resilient future.

As we mark the 70th Anniversary of Japan–Philippines friendship this year, we are reminded that strong partnerships—built on trust, shared vision, and cooperation—can deliver meaningful change for communities.

Having switched on these solar panels today, may we power countless possibilities, not only for Lanao del Sur, but for all of BARMM.

Shukran jazilan. Maraming salamat sa inyong lahat.