RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE DECLARATION OF EVERY MONTH OF JANUARY AS ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT MONTH IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state to adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program in pursuit of sustainable development pursuant to Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9003, otherwise known as the “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000” (Section 2, R.A. No. 9003);

WHEREAS, the ecological solid waste program shall, among others, (a) ensure the protection of public health and environment; (b) utilize environmentally-sound methods that maximize the utilization of valuable resources and encourage resources conservation and recovery; (c) set guidelines and targets for solid waste avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization measures, including composting, recycling, re-use, recovery, green charcoal process, and others, before collection, treatment and disposal in appropriate and environmentally sound solid waste management facilities in accordance with ecologically sustainable development principles; (d) encourage greater private sector participation in solid waste management; (e) retain primary enforcement and responsibility of solid waste management with local government units while establishing a cooperative effort among the national government, other local government units, non-government organizations, and the private sector; and (f) institutionalize public participation in the development and implementation of national and local integrated, comprehensive and ecological waste management programs (Section 2, R.A. 9003);

WHEREAS, environmental groups and some local government units already celebrate July as the Zero Waste Month, in remembrance of the Payatas tragedy that paved the way for the passing of the Republic Act 9003, a landmark legislation on Ecological Solid Waste Management;

WHEREAS, the National Solid Waste Management Commission during its meeting held on December 13, 2013, approved the proclamation of the month of January to be declared as Zero Waste Month instead of July to coincide with the anniversary of the enactment of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000;

WHEREAS, declaring January as the Zero Waste Month would lead to a synchronized celebration among national and local government agencies, schools, civil society organizations, business and other sectors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that every month of January be declared as Zero Waste Month in the Philippines.

APPROVED on this 13TH day of December, 2013.

RAMOS J.P. PAJE
Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Chairman, National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC)

ATTESTED BY:

EMELITA C. AGUINALDO
OIC-Executive Director, NSWMC

Waste No More! Waste No Time!
MALACANANG RECORDS OFFICE

Manila, May 8, 2014

HON. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA
Director
Environmental Management Bureau
Quezon City

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit for your information and guidance, certified copy of Proclamation No. 760 dated May 5, 2014 entitled "DECLARING EVERY MONTH OF JANUARY AS "ZERO WASTE MONTH."

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

MARIANITO M. DIMAANDAL
Director IV

Rm 101, Mabini Hall, Malacañang, Manila Trunkline 784-4266 loc. 4184/ 4008/ 4717
MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 760

DECLARING EVERY MONTH OF JANUARY AS "ZERO WASTE MONTH"

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9003, or the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000," promotes environmental awareness and action among the citizenry and institutionalizes public participation in the development of national and local integrated, comprehensive and ecological waste management programs;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above policy, "zero waste" is an advocacy that promotes designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, and to conserve and recover all resources, and not indiscriminately dispose or burn them; and

WHEREAS, "zero waste" is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO, III, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare every month of January as "Zero Waste Month." All heads of departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the national government, including Government-Owned or -Controlled Corporations, Local Government Units, and other sectors are hereby encouraged to extend their support and participate in the programs and activities to be held for this purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 5th day of May, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fourteen.

By the President:

RAQUITO N. OCHOA, JR.
Executive Secretary

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
WHEREAS, Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not indiscriminately dispose or burn them;

WHEREAS, Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use;

WHEREAS, environmental groups and some local government units already celebrate July as the Zero Waste Month, in remembrance of the Payatas tragedy that paved the way for the passing of the Republic Act 9003, a landmark legislation on Ecological Solid Waste Management;

WHEREAS, during the Zero Waste Youth Festival held last October 2012, more than 5,000 youth leaders signed a declaration calling for the official declaration of July as the Zero Waste Month in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the National Solid Waste Management Commission during its meeting held on December 13, 2013, approved the proclamation of month of January to be declared as Zero Waste Month instead of July to coincide with the anniversary of the enactment of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

WHEREAS, declaring January as the Zero Waste Month would lead to a synchronized celebration among national and local government agencies, schools, civil society organizations, business and other sectors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAQUITO N. OCHOA JR., Executive Secretary, by authority of His Excellency, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, do hereby declare every month of January, as Zero Waste Month in the Philippines.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this _____ of __________________ in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

By Authority of the President:

(Sgd.) PAQUITO N.OCHOA Jr.,
Executive Secretary