

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**OPENING REMARKS OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE BILATERAL MEETING WITH
CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING**

[Delivered at Diaoyutai State Guest House, Villa No. 18 in Beijing, China | 29 August 2019]

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE: Your Excellency, I am pleased to see you again and to undertake this visit upon your cordial invitation. I thank you and your government for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements.

We met just four months ago at the successful 2nd Belt and Road Forum. But given our friendship and the value of our ties, it is never too soon to resume our conversation.

Today, let us reaffirm the value of our relationship --- both personal and official --- as well as the trust, respect and pursuit of mutual benefit that we have been building over the last three years.

To be sure, there have been challenges. Yet we are living up to our commitment to define our ties as a Comprehensive Strategic Cooperation.

With channels for dialogue fully opened, agreements signed and projects underway, there is a clear path of partnership and convergence.

Today, we can add fresh impetus --- indeed a stronger momentum --- to work together. That is, to determine steps needed along a common road that lead to the goal of a strong and special relationship that is mutually respectful, collectively beneficial and decidedly reciprocal.

On defense and security cooperation, our political and security cooperation, I am pleased that our cooperation has been expanding in the field of defense. I appreciate China's support for our defense modernization including the various forms of gratis military aid you have provided since 2017 this include...

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List of agreements signed between the Philippines and China:

- 1) MOU on Higher Education Cooperation between the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) of the Philippines and Ministry of Education of China
- 2) MOU on Science and Technology Cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) of the Philippines and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China
- 3) Cooperative Arrangement between the Bureau of Customs (BoC) of the Department of Finance (DOF) of the Philippines and the General Administration of Customs of China on the Implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters
- 4) Implementation Contract on Project of China-Aid Container Inspection Equipment between the BoC and the Ministry of Commerce
- 5) Exchange of Notes on Cooperation Procedure for the Availment and Utilization of Concessional Loan under a Renminbi-denominated Loan Facility between the DOF and China International Development Cooperation Agency
- 6) Preferential Buyer's Credit Loan Agreement of Project Management Consultancy of the Philippine National Railways (PNR) South Long Haul Project between the DOF and the Export-Import Bank of China