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Headline: Marcos urges world leaders to work together on food security, fight vs climate change

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MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Sunday urged several world leaders to work together in boosting food security in East Asia, as well as to act “decisively and immediately” on climate change.

“It has become glaringly clear that there is a dire need to strengthen food security towards self-sufficiency in our region, to increase adaptability and resilience in the face of threats to the global supply chain,” Marcos said during the 17th East Asia Summit (EAS).

“It is incumbent upon us, for our sake and that of future generations, to act decisively and immediately on climate change,” he added.

Marcos made the call during his intervention at the said summit among global leaders which included Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, US President Joe Biden, New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Kate Ardern, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, India Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, South Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol and Australia Prime Minister Anthony Norman Albanese.

“Our people look to their leaders, to us, to correctly navigate the uncertain waters of this new world. Our partnerships will make us strong. Our partnerships will give us wisdom. The future awaits,” Marcos said.

According to Marcos, apart from working together, stakeholders in the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and East Asia must also improve existing strategies towards holistic and sustainable development to ensure environmentally-sound economic progress.

He then expressed support for EAS initiatives, which included promoting women’s economic empowerment, energy security, and volunteerism for sustainable development.

Marcos also said he was looking forward to working closely together with Indonesia, the incoming ASEAN Chair for the year 2023, in continuing community-building efforts.

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