



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

MESSAGE

I congratulate the men and women of Earthsavers UNESCO Dream Center in their collective efforts to lead and organize the **Asia-Pacific Performing Arts Network (APPAN) Festival-Forum for Peace and Climate Justice**.

Maintenance of peace and combating climate change are critical issues of our time. Failure to address these issues put all our past efforts in vain. Maintenance of peace is one of our foremost concerns. Let us not wait for conflict, violence, and crimes to make us value the peace we have.

Climate change, on the other hand, has made our country even more vulnerable to natural disasters. The effects of climate change can quickly erase socio-economic gains and hamper economic growth, and lessen our chances for sustainable development.

I commend the Earthsavers UNESCO Dream Center's efforts to bring together the countries of the Asia-Pacific region, through art, to achieve greater awareness on peace concerns and deliver climate justice in the region.

  
TEODORO L. LOCSIN, JR.  
Secretary of Foreign Affairs