

DOT urges travelers, “Discover Calabarzon”

STA. ROSA, LAGUNA – More and more travelers are discovering CALABARZON, the next region southeast of Metro Manila, which offers a complete package for an extraordinary tourism experience as it abounds with natural wonders, modern recreational resorts, as well as cultural and historical heritage sites. Calabarzon (Region 4A) refers to the contiguous provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon.

DOT Assistant Secretary Maria Rica Bueno. Bueno and DOT-Region 4A officer-in-charge Director Marites Castro led the unveiling of the DOT-Region 4A's refreshed regional tourism branding campaign #DiscoverCALABARZON, during Wednesday's CALABARZON Tourism Appreciation Night at the Enchanted Kingdom in Sta. Rosa City, Laguna.

“Truly, CALABARZON should be receiving all of the tourists from Metro Manila. For people who would want to escape the concrete jungle, this should be your playground—closer to nature and everything. Two or three hours, you are already in the beach, trekking mountains or even enjoying fun farm experiences,” said Assistant Secretary Bueno.

Meanwhile, Castro noted how one can find in CALABARZON an array of choices for travel experience: water sports in Cavite, extreme nature adventure in Laguna and Rizal, island-hopping in Quezon province, and discovering historical and pilgrimage sites in Batangas and Rizal.

The new campaign doubles as the



region's “pledge of commitment towards sustainable tourism” in line with the Department's endeavor in cementing a globally competitive, environmentally sustainable, and socially responsible tourism industry.

PHL Embassy launches VIP Tour 2020

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Philippine Embassy recently launched the 2020 edition of the VIP Tour, a signature tourism program of the Philippine Embassy and Consulates General in the United States.

VIP Tour 2020 will feature Manila, Iloilo, and Boracay on 19-26 July 2020. It is made possible through the assistance and support of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Tourism, and Rajah Tours International.



Boxing and legend and Philippine senator Manny Pacquiao lights the cauldron to open the 2019 South East Asian Games at the New Clark City in Tarlac, Philippines. (Photos by Wendell Alinea/OSMP)

Christmas is celebrated by people around the world with a message of love, peace and unity

For interviews, go to [youtube.com/Awee Abayari](https://www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari)

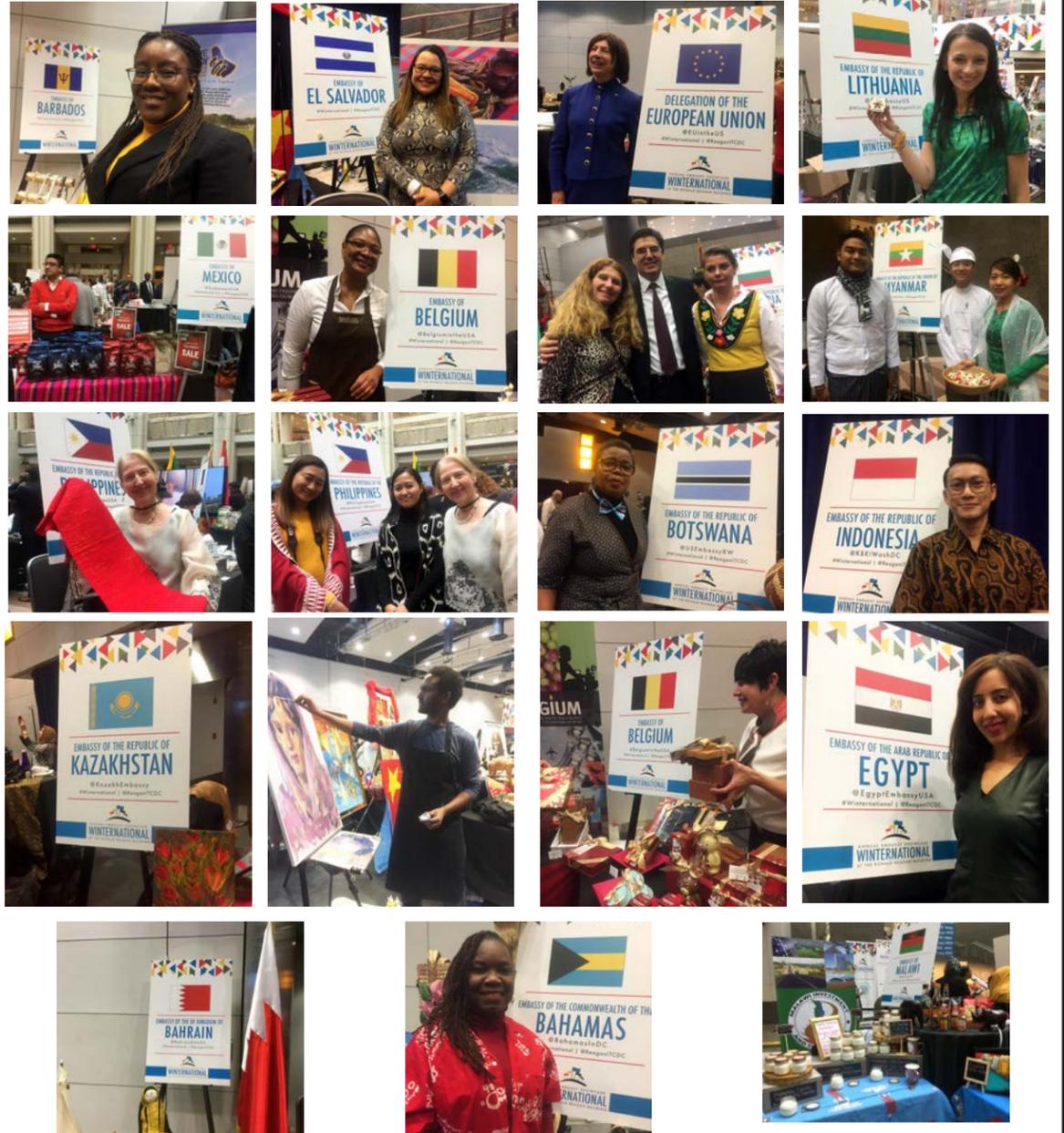
WE ARE ONE WORLD. It is composed of various countries with diverse cultures, languages, customs and traditions but with one heart and soul. There is oneness in the desire to love and communicate to promote peace and harmony.

Filled with the Christmas spirit, over 50 participating embassies and nation groups which included Afghanistan, African Union Mission, Armenia, Australia, Bahamas,

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, European Union Delegation, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Trinidad and

Tobago, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Vietnam gathered together recently at the Ronald Reagan Center to present their culture, exhibit their handicrafts, allowed people to taste their delicious food and entertained the audience with their special type of music.

It was an extraordinary time to meet people, build connections and understand why we are one in spite of our differences. - Awee Abayari/INMN



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