

Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines NEW YORK

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Secretary Jesus DurezaUpdates Fil-Am Community in New York on Peace Developments in the Philippines



Secretary Jesus Dureza(top left) briefs members of Fil-Am community and media on the peace process during a focus group discussion in New York. (Photo by New York PCG)

21 November 2018, New York – Presidential Adviser on Peace Process Jesus Durezakept the members of the Filipino-American media and Fil-Am community in New York abreast with the latest peace developments in the Philippines at a focus group discussion organized by the Philippine Consulate General on 20 November 2018 at the Philippine Center's Kalayaan Hall.

The event was attended by members of the Fil-Am community and media.

Secretary Dureza updated the participants on developments in the different peace tables. He said that the Philippine government decided to cancel peace talks with the CPP-NPA-NDF due to lack of reciprocity on the part of the latter.

He stressed that the PH government sees the need for an inclusive approach for peace, where the concerns of all stakeholders – whether they are peaceful citizens or those who have taken up arms - are taken into consideration in order for these peace

initiatives to work and so as not to marginalize the aspirations and concerns of the indigenous peoples, the youth, and women.

At the end of the dialogue, Secretary Dureza recognized the time and effort given by the participants in attending the forum which he said is a testament to their strong resolve to work for peace. The Secretary awarded them certificates as Ambassadors of Peace in their community, helping the Philippine government in the daunting task of promoting awareness of the Philippine peace process.

Philippine Consul General in New York Claro S. Cristobal moderated the focus group discussion. END.



Secretary Dureza and Consulate Officials with members of the Fil-Am community in New York. (Photo by New York PCG)