



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
NEW YORK

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Philippine Consulate General Witnesses Signing of A MOA on Preventive Education and Values Formation In Response to the Anti-Illegal Drugs Strategy of the Philippines



*Ms. Nena Lozada-Smith, President of Friends Indeed, USA Inc. and Ret. Col. Rodrigo D. Bonifacio, Founding Chairperson of People's Volunteer Against Illegal Drugs sign the MOA, with Vice Consul Tanya Faye Ramiro and the rest of the members of Friends Indeed, USA, Inc. serving as witnesses (Photo by Cesar Loverita).*

06 June 2018, New York – The Philippine Consulate General in New York witnessed the signing of a landmark Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between *Friends Indeed, USA Inc.*, a non-profit organization based in the USA, and *People's Volunteer Against Illegal Drugs*, a non-government organization based in the Philippines last 27 May 2018 at Astoria World Manor, Queens, New York City.

The MOA aims to support the “war on drugs” of Philippine President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Citing the policy of the state found in the *Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002* (Republic Act 9165), of pursuing “an intensive and unrelenting campaign against the trafficking and use of dangerous drugs and other similar substances through an integrated system of planning, implementation and enforcement of anti-drug abuse policies, programs, and projects,” the People’s Volunteer Against Illegal Drugs will undertake immersion programs in all barangays by conducting “Preventive Education and Values Formation.” Friends Indeed, USA, on the other hand, “will provide and conduct medical, surgical, and humanitarian mission to the same barangays.”

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Vice Consul Tanya Faye Ramiro of the Philippine Consulate General in New York, together with members and guests of Friends Indeed, USA. **END**

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