



PRESS RELEASE

Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines in Geneva

14-16 Allée David-Morse, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland • Telephone No. +41 22 716 1930 • <http://www.genevapcg.dfa.gov.ph>

E-mail: geneva.pcg@dfa.gov.ph • Facebook: Philippine Consulate General, Geneva URL: <https://www.facebook.com/genevapcg/>



MISSION JOINS OVERSEAS FILIPINOS IN 126th INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN GENEVA



(l-r) PH Permanent Representative Carlos D. Sorreta welcomes close to a thousand members of the Filipino community from the cantons of Geneva and Vaud during Philippine Independence celebrations at Asters del Salle, Geneva; Ambassador Sorreta hands a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Rody Guzman, a Filipino pioneer who worked in the UN International Office of Migration, for his dedicated service to the community, with Consul General Felipe Carino III.

15 June 2024, Geneva – Philippine Permanent Representative Carlos D. Sorreta led members of the PH Permanent Mission and Consulate General, PH government officials, and Filipino community members during the celebratory activities held in commemoration of the country's 126th Araw ng Kalayaan in Geneva.

The event, dubbed as *Isang Lahi, Isang Musika*, was organized by the 23-member Filipino community association, *Ugnayang Bayan*, led by its President Mr. Gerry de Rama, and supported by the PH Permanent Mission and Consulate General in Geneva and Swiss Confederation National Council official, Honorable Nicolas Walder.

In his remarks, Ambassador Sorreta acknowledged the contribution to the country's economic development of many Filipinos who have settled in Geneva. He acknowledged the role of the DFA and other agencies in the improvement of government systems for enhanced access to public, consular and passport services, as well as OFW assistance programs related to financial education and post-retirement reintegration in order to prepare the OFWs and their family upon the former's return to the Philippines.



(r-l) PH Ambassador Carlos Sorreta, Swiss Federation's Mr. Nicolas Walder, Deputy Permanent Representative Kristine Leilani Salle, and DMW Undersecretary Caunan join the community in acknowledging prominent Filipinos in Geneva. (Photo courtesy of Ugnayang Bayan)

Swiss Federation Council official, Mr. Nicolas Walder, Department of Migrant Workers Undersecretary Yvonne Patricia Caunan, and close to a thousand community members attended the event which featured a Filipino cultural program, food fair, and musical entertainment featuring Manila-based performers *Acapellago* and local Filipino artists.



Manila-based singing group, Acapellago, perform Filipino hit songs during the program

(photo courtesy of Ugnayang Bayan)

The activity in commemoration of Philippine Independence organized by the association of Filipino community organizations, in addition to its ancillary activities hosted at *Kalayaan Hall*-PH Mission, has been continually supported by the PH Mission pursuant to the promotion of community relations and the appreciation of Filipino culture and heritage. **E N D**