



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



FDA DG
Opening Statement
DOH Press Conference
November 16, 2017

Good morning.

I am pleased and honored to join our Secretary of Health, the Honorable Francisco T. Duque III in today's press conference.

At the outset, I would like to say that Secretary Duque's acceptance of the health portfolio was well-timed and was a blessing to the FDA. In more ways than one, Secretary Duque's guidance to, as well as his confidence and trust in the processes and procedures of the FDA, proved to be very valuable as the reevaluation and recertification process came to the homestretch.

For this, I would like to publicly express my gratitude to Secretary Duque on behalf of the scientists and the technical teams of the FDA.

Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

For the FDA's part, we are happy to have done our part in making sure that the government's Reproductive Health Program gets back on track.



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We are happy that President Duterte has given us his full support in the task of recertifying the contraceptive products covered by a resolution of the Supreme Court.

The President's trust and confidence enabled us to adhere to the highest standards of scientific and technical testing which, in turn, assures the public that the contraceptives recertified by the FDA are safe and are non-abortifacient.

We thank the President for helping us get our job done and done well.

Thank you everyone.

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