

## Tony Oposa

126 Lapulapu Street  
Southvale Village, Bacoor  
4102 Cavite  
The Philippines

Mobile: <+63.918.909.4868>  
<tonyoposa1024@gmail.com>  
+632.7901.0931

---

October 8, 2020

Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York  
USA

Re: Congratulations and Gratitude

Dear Mr. Cuomo,

Greetings from the Normandy Chair for Peace. We write to congratulate and thank you for your leadership in protecting the Catskill and Adirondack Forest Preserve. Your support has strengthened the resolve of the people to care for their land and its history. You have carried on the noble tradition of protecting Constitutionally protected areas established since 1894!



A scenic view of the Catskill Mountains.

In your own words, *“The Catskills are one of New York’s greatest natural treasures, and today we are shining the spotlight on what makes this region so special.”*

***The nature of business must be the business of nature.***

### Sustainable Tourism

Your vision of sustainable tourism illustrates the principle, *“the nature of business must be the business of nature.”* In your 2020 State of the State address, you announced plans for a billion-dollar bond act that is intended to protect the wetlands and floodplains of Catskills. This was commended by both Catskills Mountain keepers and villagers. By strategically funding major investments that will serve to protect New York's water, lands, and communities, you have committed to a new way of life. One that will enable people and communities to understand how connected we are with the Life around us.

## New Economy

The story you are telling through your great efforts is a part of the New Economy. This new economy shifts from reckless extraction and mindless consumption to a new world of caring and sharing. You have shown the world that maintaining a healthful environment is a legitimate duty of governments.



The Adirondack Mountains in one of its hiking trails.

All this time we have derived and extracted wealth from nature without regard for its finite nature. We now realized that the only economic model for the planet is one which allow us to care for the life-sources of Land, Air, and Waters (LAW) of Life. This new model seeks to Care, Protect and Restore. Also called the CPR Economy. This does not rape and ravage the Land, Air, and Waters of Life. Instead, livelihoods and economic activities will be focused on nourishing and nurturing Life on Earth.


This is the picture of hope and a significant step forward to many UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- (2) Good health and well-being,
- (8) Decent Work and (sound) Economic Growth,
- (11) Sustainable Communities,
- (13) Climate Action,
- (15) Life on Land.

On behalf of grateful people around the world -- of this generation and of generations yet unborn – and from our inmost heart of hearts: Congratulations and

***THANK YOU!***

Very truly yours,



**NICHOLAS ROBINSON**  
Executive Governor

Peace  
International Council for Environmental Law  
Generations  
Madrid and New York



**TONY OPOSA**  
Normandy Chair for

Guardian of Future  
Normandy and Manila



**DURWOOD ZAEELKE**  
**GAILLARD**  
President, Institute for Governance  
and Sustainable Development  
Peace  
Washington DC and Paris



**LYE LIN HENG**  
Professor of Law  
National University of Singapore  
Advisor, Asia-Pacific Center for Environmental Law



**EMILIE**  
Director  
Normandy Chair for  
France

PS. May we respectfully request to confirm receipt of this letter. International mail is still quite difficult.

Once again, Bravo!

Above the Wild Waves,  
the Raging Rain,  
and the  
Clashing Clouds  
of today's  
Crisis of Life ...

is the

Golden Sun of Hope



Copy furnished:

Hon. Donald Trump  
President  
United States of America

Inger Andersen  
Executive Director  
Nairobi, Kenya  
inger.andersen@un.org

Andrew Raine  
Int'l Environmental Law  
UN Environment Programme  
Kenya  
andrew.raine@un.org

David Boyd  
UN Special Rapporteur for  
Environment  
and Human Rights  
drdavidboyd@gmail.com

Antonio Guterres  
UN Secretary General  
Through Ms. Stéphane Dujarric,

Patricia Espinosa  
Executive Secretary, UNFCCC  
Bonn, Germany  
pespinosa@unfccc.int

David Forman and Victor Tafur  
Guardians of Future Generations  
Oceania and Latin America  
dmforman@hawaii.edu  
vtafur@law.pace.edu

Carroll Muffett  
Center for International Environmental Law  
Washington, D.C.  
cmuffett@ciel.org

Scott Fulton  
Environmental Law Institute  
Washington, D.C.  
fulton@eli.org

Liza Eisma-Osorio  
Chair, IUCN Academy of Environmental  
Law

