

Normandy Chair for Peace  
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November 13, 2020

The Honorable Alfonso Cusi  
Secretary  
Department of Energy  
4th Floor, PNOB Building V, Energy Center  
Meritt Rd, Taguig, Metro Manila  
<sec.alfonsocusi@gmail.com>

Re: Congratulations and Gratitude

Dear Secretary Cusi:

Greetings from the Normandy Chair for Peace.<sup>1</sup> Yes, we will have peace on Earth when we have peace *with* the Earth.

We write to congratulate and thank you for the Philippines' new policy proclamation on clean energy. [See here.](#)



Under your leadership, The Philippines will no longer accept new applications for coal-fired power plants. In your words, "We are pushing for the transition from fossil fuels to cleaner energy sources for the country's sustainable growth." This statement comes at a most opportune time in the story of the world.

We all know that the burning of fossil fuels is the major cause of the ongoing climate crisis. Recent evidence is the series of powerful typhoons that the Philippines just went through – Typhoons Quinta, Rolly, Siony, Tonyo, Ulysses, etc.

You will be pleased to know that other enlightened individuals in distant lands share your compassion for the Earth. They now happen to hold positions of influence. You are now all happily moving in the same direction. Bravo!

Brian Preston, Chief Justice of the Land and Environment Court of Australia, refused to grant an application for an open-cut coal mine. He said that it was a wrong thing “in the wrong place at the wrong time.” [Oceania Film](#)

Across the Pacific Ocean, the CEO of a major coal power company in Texas said that “coal is on its way out.” [North America Film](#)

This move by your goodself, Secretary Cusi, is a significant step to fulfill a major UN Sustainable Development Goal -- Climate Action (UN-SDG 13).

On behalf of a grateful people around the world -- of the present and future generations who will benefit from your enlightened action --

*Thank you.  
Maraming Salamat.  
Daghang Salamat.*

Very truly yours,



**NICHOLAS ROBINSON**

Executive Governor

International Council for Environmental Law  
Madrid and New York



**DURWOOD ZAEKKE**

President, Institute for Governance  
and Sustainable Development  
Washington DC and Paris



**EMILIE GAILLARD**

Director

Normandy Chair for Peace  
France



**LYE LIN HENG**

Professor of Law

National University of Singapore  
Advisor, Asia-Pacific Centre for  
Environmental Law



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

is the

Golden Sun of Hope



PS. May we request for the confirmation of receipt of this letter.  
[normandychairforpeace@gmail.com](mailto:normandychairforpeace@gmail.com) and/or [goodstoriesmovement101@gmail.com](mailto:goodstoriesmovement101@gmail.com).  
We will publish this letter of congratulations on the websites of the Good Stories Movement and of the Normandy Chair for Peace.

Copy furnished:

Hon. Rodrigo Duterte  
President  
The Philippines

Patricia Espinosa  
Executive Secretary, UNFCCC  
Bonn, Germany

Inger Andersen  
Executive Director  
Nairobi, Kenya

David Forman and Victor Tafur  
Guardians of Future Generations  
Oceania and Latin America

Andrew Raine  
Int'l Environmental Law  
UN Environment Programme  
Nairobi, Kenya

Carroll Muffett  
Center for International Environmental Law  
Washington, D.C.

David Boyd  
UN Special Rapporteur for  
Environment and Human Rights

Antonio Guterres  
UN Secretary General  
Through Ms. Stéphane Dujarric,  
Spokesperson  
New York, NY 10017

Elizabeth Mrema  
Executive Secretary  
UN Convention on Biodiversity  
Montreal, Canada

Dean Richard Ottinger  
US Renewable Energy Visionary  
And Thought Leader  
Haub Law School at Pace University  
White Plains, New York

Scott Fulton  
Environmental Law Institute  
Washington, D.C.

Liza Eisma-Osorio  
Chair, IUCN Academy of Environmental  
Law  
Cebu City, The Philippines

Armin Rosencranz, Dean  
Tarini Mehta, Associate Dean  
Jindal School of Environment and  
Sustainability, India

Climate Change Commission  
Malacanang Palace  
Manila

## Normandy Chair for Peace

Normandy, once a symbol of war, is now a symbol of peace. The Normandy Chair for Peace was put up on June 5, 2019, UN World Environment Day and the 75th anniversary of the Normandy Beach landings. This Chair for Peace is a joint effort of the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research), The University of Caen, and the Government of Normandy, France.



The Chair is dedicated to the rights of future generations, and to the truth that “We will have peace on Earth when we have peace *with* the Earth.” With like-hearted friends around the world, the Chair seeks good stories of people making peace with the Earth. It is time to shift the narrative from the negative to the positive. It is time to shine the spotlight on the good, the right, and the bright.

***“We change the story of the world when we change the storyline.”***

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**Resources:**

For more on the Normandy Chair for Peace, please visit

<https://chairpeace.hypotheses.org>

Good Stories Concept Film. [Click here](#). For other good stories, please visit <goodstories101.net>

ii Photo on page 1-

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rappler.com%2Fvoices%2Fimho%2Ffossil-fuels-destroy-philippines-biodiversity&psig=AOvVaw3w4cI9LIP\\_dXBk1NG\\_14r&ust=1605265990845000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCMCUjYzw\\_OwCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rappler.com%2Fvoices%2Fimho%2Ffossil-fuels-destroy-philippines-biodiversity&psig=AOvVaw3w4cI9LIP_dXBk1NG_14r&ust=1605265990845000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCMCUjYzw_OwCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD)

iii Rappler article- <https://www.rappler.com/business/moratorium-endorsement-new-coal-power-plants-philippine-energy-policy-2020>

iv Photo on page 2- Courtesy of Shutterstock <https://thebulletin.org/2019/03/texas-coal-plant-owner-coal-is-on-its-way-out/>