

1000

DAYS

OF STAND STILL

Amnesty International called upon President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. to commit to putting human rights at the center of his plans through an 8-Point Human Rights Agenda.

On his 100th day in office, all eight areas remain at a stand still, especially on the issue of justice for the victims of the 'War on Drugs' and 'Red-Tagging'. The UN High Commission on Human Rights agree.

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL MEMBERS FAILED TO TABLE A RESOLUTION ON THE PHILIPPINES DURING ITS 51ST REGULAR SESSION WHICH RISKS ABANDONING THOUSANDS OF VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS WHO HAVE SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF THE 'WAR ON DRUGS' AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-TERRORISM ACT.

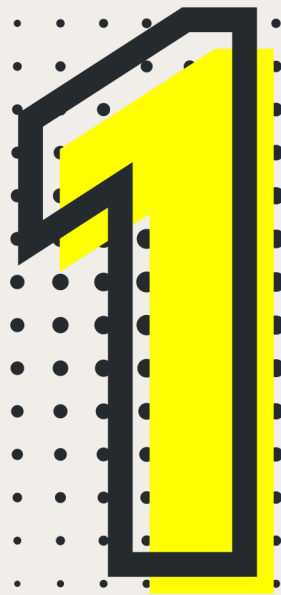
UNHRC SHOULD NOT LET UP ITS SCRUTINY AT THIS PIVOTAL JUNCTURE ESPECIALLY UNDER A MARCOS PRESIDENCY.

BUT THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER IS KEEPING WATCH.

OHCHR'S REQUEST FOR ITS MONITORING MANDATE TO BE EXTENDED SPEAKS VOLUMES ON HOW MARCOS JR. MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO GAP IN THE MONITORING AND REPORTING OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE COUNTRY.

ACCORDING TO OHCHR

**WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INITIATIVES TOWARDS
ADVANCING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS AND ABUSES, ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS
REMAINS LIMITED.**



Investigations were opened into killings in the context of drug-related operations but none resulted in convictions. The same goes for a large number of cases being investigated that involve violence against human rights defenders and environmental activists.

WHAT MARCOS JR. FAILED TO PRIORITIZE

**HE FAILED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE INVESTIGATION OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, REGARDLESS OF RANK, WHERE
THERE IS REASONABLE SUSPICION THAT THEY HAVE DIRECT
COMMAND RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIMES UNDER
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND OTHER SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF
HUMAN RIGHTS DURING DRUG-RELATED OPERATIONS.**

WHAT AMNESTY IS SAYING

**THERE REMAINS AN ABSENCE OF SECURE AND EFFECTIVE
SPACES FOR DELIBERATIONS AT THE DOMESTIC LEVEL, AND
THIS SITUATION NEEDS TO CHANGE, LED BY THE PRESIDENT.**

ACCORDING TO OHCHR

SEVERAL STEPS WERE TAKEN TO IMPROVE DATA-GATHERING ON ALLEGED VIOLATIONS SUCH AS SUPREME COURT-ISSUED RULES REQUIRING POLICE OFFICERS TO WEAR BODY-WORK CAMERAS WHEN EXECUTING WARRANTS.

However, deaths continue to be reported in anti-illegal drug operations, with monthly figures published by the PDEA although these have been decreasing from 2020 to May 2022.



WHAT MARCOS JR. FAILED TO PRIORITIZE

SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE, HIS ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED THE KILLINGS AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS UNDER THE 'WAR ON DRUGS' NOR HAS IT COMMITTED TO ENDING THIS DEADLY APPROACH.

WHAT AMNESTY IS SAYING

THE PRESIDENT MUST EMPOWER AN INDEPENDENT BODY TO CONDUCT PROMPT, IMPARTIAL, AND EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS INTO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, REGARDLESS OF RANK, SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS.

ACCORDING TO OHCHR

DESPITE SOME EFFORTS BEING TAKEN TO REFRAME THE APPROACHES TO DRUG CONTROL TOWARDS BEING MORE HEALTH-CENTERED AND EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT AND PREVENTION, THE OVERALL APPROACH CONTINUES TO BE PUNITIVE AND SECURITY FOCUSED.

Detention centers are heavily congested, in part because of the large number of persons detained on non-bailable drug-related offenses while awaiting trial. The Government has also indicated its intention to reinstate the death penalty by lethal injection for drug-related crimes.



WHAT MARCOS JR. FAILED TO PRIORITIZE

HE FAILED TO INCREASE ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES TO REDUCE THE RISKS AND HARMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG USE, INCLUDING BY ENSURING THAT DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES AFFILIATED TO HEALTH FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE, ACCEPTABLE, OF GOOD QUALITY AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION.

WHAT AMNESTY IS SAYING

THE PRESIDENT MUST IMPLEMENT A DRUG CONTROL POLICY THAT PUTS THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND RIGHTS AT THE CENTER, IN COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

ACCORDING TO OHCHR

WHILE THERE WERE SOME EFFORTS TO ENGAGE WITH SOME CSOS, THE OHCHR CONTINUED TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT AGAINST HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS, JOURNALISTS, LAWYERS, LABOR RIGHTS ACTIVISTS AND HUMANITARIAN WORKERS.



Noted specifically is the tactic of “red-tagging” which threatens the safety of human rights defenders and erodes the trust between Government and CSOs. The Human Rights Defenders Protection Bill was adopted by the House of Representatives but was not tabled in the Senate.

WHAT MARCOS JR. FAILED TO PRIORITIZE

HE HAS NOT TAKEN STEPS TO END THE KILLINGS AND HARASSMENT OF “RED TAGGED” POLITICAL ACTIVISTS, HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT CRITICS AND TARGETED GROUPS .

WHAT AMNESTY IS SAYING

THE PRESIDENT MUST LEAD IN ENDING THE PRACTICE OF “RED-TAGGING ENSURING THAT NO ONE IS TARGETED FOR EXERCISING THEIR RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, PROVIDE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN RED-TAGGED, AND BRING THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THREATS AND ATTACKS TO JUSTICE IN FAIR TRIALS.

ACCORDING TO OHCHR

THERE CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNS THAT THE ANTI-TERRORISM ACT DOES NOT FULLY CONFORM TO INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS.

There were 29 cases filed under it with three being dismissed but not before allegations of torture came out in two cases. Several organizations have already been designated as “terrorists” under the law, and there are concerns that organizations conducting humanitarian work in vulnerable and remote communities could be unfairly labelled as such.



WHAT MARCOS JR. FAILED TO PRIORITIZE

AS EFFORTS TO EVADE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUE UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION, NO STEPS WERE TAKEN TO CONDEMN THE ONGOING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THAT ARE BEING COMMITTED NOR TO ADDRESS IMPUNITY AND THE LACK OF MECHANISMS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY.

WHAT AMNESTY IS SAYING

THE PRESIDENT MUST STOP USING COUNTER-INSURGENCY AND COUNTERTERRORISM TO JUSTIFY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. A REVIEW OF NTF-ELCAC'S POLICIES IS IN ORDER AS IT INFRINGES HUMAN RIGHTS AND DO NOT COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW AND STANDARDS.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
IS A GLOBAL MOVEMENT
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

Be the Light



WHEN INJUSTICE HAPPENS
TO ONE PERSON, IT
MATTERS TO US ALL.