

**PRESIDENT FERDINAND ROMUALDEZ MARCOS, JR.'s
ARRIVAL STATEMENT FROM STATE VISIT
TO SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

Hanoi, Vietnam

January 31, 2024

(00:00:00)

Magandang umaga po.

I am pleased to inform you and the Filipino people of the outcomes of the state visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The state visit aim to further strengthen our strategic partnership with Vietnam.

Vietnam, being our only strategic partner in ASEAN and further to explore areas of the cooperation while building on existing ones.

I met with His Excellency, Vo Van Thuong, President of Vietnam. And we discussed areas of cooperation including defense, maritime, trade and investment, economic, education, tourism and culture. We also witnessed the exchange of several agreements, including on rice, agriculture, culture and maritime cooperation.

I also met with other leaders of Vietnam. The Prime Minister of Vietnam and the Chairman of Vietnam's National Assembly. We discussed the strengthening of bilateral relations through people-to-people exchanges, parliamentary cooperation and many other areas of collaboration.

On trade and investment, we have successfully safeguarded the interest of Filipino businesses operating in Vietnam by providing them with the platform to voice their experiences, plans, and challenges at the very highest level.

We want to assure them that the Philippine government stands ready to support in their endeavors in competing foreign markets.

In my dialogue with Vietnamese business leaders they expressed interest in expanding their businesses in the Philippines as well as exploring cooperation with our business sector in various traditional and non-traditional economic activities.

Furthermore, we have engaged in discussions with the Vingroup Company to explore a collaboration in the fields of AI, medical courses and scholarships for Filipino students. Our shared objectives include active participation in the electric vehicle and battery supply chains.

I had the pleasure of course to speak with the Filipinos living in Vietnam and I expressed my appreciation for their continued good work in projecting a very positive image of the Philippines in Vietnam.

I acknowledge the sacrifice that they have made for their families and I lauded them for their contributions to the socio-economic development of the Philippines and of Vietnam.

I gave them my assurances that my administration will continue to strive for the betterment of all Filipinos in the Philippines and abroad.

Maraming salamat po!

(00:02:27)
