52nd Year of Independence of Singapore

Manila Bulletin

The people and government of Singapore celebrated the 52nd anniversary of their independence from Malaysia on August 9. The Singapore National Day Parade (NDP) and ceremony is scheduled at The Float at Marina Bay, which was built in 2007 for the annual NDP celebrations and marks its 10th year of establishment this year.

With the theme "#OneNationTogether," this year's celebration calls on all Singaporeans, regardless of origin and background, to unite as one nation and leave no one behind as they strive towards an even brighter future. The hash symbol (#) is being used for the first time in the NDP theme to enable Singaporeans to share the rally call through social media. The "#" also serves as symbol of unity and home while the word "together" underscores the importance of unity in times of uncertainty and challenges. The NDP 2017 logo depicts four interlocked hands in unity (as inspired by the iconic image on Singapore's first ten dollar Orchid note series that was launched in 1967) symbolizing Singaporeans setting aside their differences and coming together to build a better Singapore of tomorrow. The image of the island of Singapore nestled at the center of the four hands, represents the special place that Singapore has in the hearts of its citizens. In red color, the logo indicates the celebratory mood as the nation mark its birth anniversary.

Singapore is a highly urbanized city-state located at the southern tip of the Malaysian peninsula in Southeast Asia. It is separated from Indonesia by the Singapore Strait and from Malaysia by the Strait of Johor.

The Philippines and Singapore are founding fathers and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Full diplomatic relations between the two countries commenced on May 16, 1969, when the Philippine consulate-general in Singapore was raised to embassy level. Singapore has an embassy in Taguig City, Metro Manila. Last July, the Philippine Embassy in Singapore, in cooperation with the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies of the Nanyang Technological University (RSIS-NTU), hosted a panel discussion on "Women, Peace, and Security in Southeast Asia" in Singapore in line with the Gender and Development (GAD) program of the Embassy, and as part of the series of activities lined up by the Embassy to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ASEAN. In the same month, the Embassy pioneered a seminar-workshop on the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security (NAP WPS) 2017-2022 for its personnel and attached agencies in Singapore.

We greet the People and Government of Singapore led by President Tony Tan Keng Yam, on the occasion of its 52nd Independence Day anniversary.