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## ULAP CONDEMNS NEG. OR. GOV. DEGAMO MURDER

The Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines has condemned the murder of Negros Oriental governor Roel Degamo and called on authorities to use all legal means to put the perpetrators to justice.

"These brutalities and senseless attacks mark a worrying escalation of violence that no cause can ever justify. The deplorable and cowardly acts targeting local officials is an affront to our democracy and rule of law and must stop immediately. "

"We call for all perpetrators to be held accountable the soonest possible time," a statement released by ULAP read.

Degamo was shot dead inside his home in Barangay Isidro, Pamplona town on Saturday morning by six assailants in full battle gear and pixelized uniform as he was distributing aid to beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).

Along with Degamo, five others have been killed. Some civilians were also wounded in the attack.

ULAP vowed to work closely with the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Philippine National Police in its efforts against criminality and lawlessness.

Meanwhile, ULAP president and Quirino governor Dax Cua, expressed regret at Degamo's untimely death.

"I have worked closely with Gov. Roel, and I have witnessed firsthand his efforts to serve not only his province, but the whole country," said Cua.

"Nakakapanghinayang dahil marami pa sana kaming magagawa para sa bayan. Hindi lang Negros Oriental ang nagluluksa sa kanyang pagpanaw," he added.

He also said that he would actively work with the national government in finding solutions that would keep public servants and constituents safe.

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"Nakakapangilabot na nangyayari ang ganitong krimen habang nagsasagawa ng tungkulin ang ating mga lingkod-bayan. Hindi lang sila, kundi pati mga kababayan natin ang nanganganib. Aktibo po tayong kikilos para maiwasan ang ganitong mga krimen sa susunod," said Cua.

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ULAP is the umbrella organization of all leagues of local government units and local government officials in country, serving as the focal representative and mouthpiece of the subnational government in all policy and program platforms to amplify our unified advocacy towards the strengthening of LGUs into able partners in nation-building.

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