



MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

## MESSAGE

I greet the Filipino people, here in the Philippines and in all corners of the world, as we welcome the **New Year**.

As we spend time with our family, friends and loved ones in turning a new page in our nation's history, let us draw strength from what we have achieved both as individuals and as a community in the past year. It is my hope that we foster solidarity as we move forward in our pursuit of providing a more comfortable and productive life for all.

We are at a time when our resolve is being tested by many trials and difficulties. Corruption, criminality, illegal drugs and terrorism have impeded our progress in the past year. However, I remain hopeful that our resilience will enable us to overcome and rise above these challenges as one nation.

Let us embrace this coming year's uncertainty with a glimmer of hope and remain determined in achieving our vision of a better and more prosperous future.

I wish all of us a fruitful and blessed New Year.

  
RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

MANILA  
1 January 2018