



The Philippine Embassy in Oslo family decked in Filipiniana attire during the Reception at the Chancery.

12 July 2012- The Philippine Embassy in Norway hosted a diplomatic reception to commemorate the 114<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the declaration of Philippine Independence last June 12.



Ambassador Bayani S. Mercado delivers President Aquino's Independence Day Message as well as his own during the June Independence Day celebration of the Filipino Community in Norway at St. Hanshaugen Park.

The reception was well attended, with guests from the diplomatic corps, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and other top officials from the Norwegian government, and private agencies in attendance.

Norwegian Ambassador to the Philippines Knut Solem, together with Ambassador Ture Lundh, Norway's Chief Mediator for the Peace Process between the Philippine Government and communist insurgents also attended the event.

Representatives from the two major Filipino organizations in Oslo were also invited.



An audio-video presentation of tourist destinations in the Philippines was played during the reception.



Amb. Mercado flanked by family and Oslo PE officers and staff composed of, from left to right, Mr. Bernard Bartolome, Consul Lenna Sison, Consul Leng Duarte, Mrs. Nida Mercado, Ms. Jenny Collado, Ms. Rita Tan, and Ms. Cecil Cabutotan during the 9 June Independence Day celebration of the New Filipino Working Group (NFWG) in Oslo.

Filipino finger food, dessert, fruits and an assortment of drinks were served which were well received by the guests.

An Independence Day mass, followed by a dinner, were also held on the afternoon of June 12 at St. Joseph's Church with a Filipino priest officiating. Officers and staff of the Embassy attended the mass and dinner.

The Embassy also attended two Filipino community-led Independence Day celebrations last June 02 and 09.

The June 02 event, spearheaded by the Filipino community in Norway, started with a grand parade from Karl Johan until St. Hanshaugen Park, which was attended by almost 1,000 Filipinos, Norwegians and friends of the Philippines.

Both ABS-CBN and GMA7 reported about the grand parade on their respective websites and featured video coverage of the same, which could be found on the following links:

▯ *ABS CBN:* [http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/video/global-filipino/06/12/12/how-pinoys-europe-marked-independence-day#ooid=Z4cDgxNTrewWXK11g\\_1pbCm8aPJUeaJ4](http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/video/global-filipino/06/12/12/how-pinoys-europe-marked-independence-day#ooid=Z4cDgxNTrewWXK11g_1pbCm8aPJUeaJ4)

▯ *GMA 7:* <http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/video/122793/mga-pinoy-sa-oslo-norway-ipinagdiwang-ang-114th-independence-day-ng-pilipinas>





The Embassy headlines the Filipino Community in Norway' June 02 Grand Parade along Karl Johan St. in Oslo



The Philippine Embassy in Norway's June 12 Diplomatic Reception

The official Norwegian Film Festival (NFF) and the Norwegian Film Institute (NFI) are proud to present the Norwegian film "The 11th Hour" (11. time) as the official film of the 114th Independence Day of Norway. The film is a historical drama about the Norwegian struggle for independence in 1905. It is a masterpiece of Norwegian cinema and a must-see for all Norwegians and those interested in Norwegian history. The film is available on DVD and Blu-ray. It is a great gift for anyone who loves Norwegian culture and history. The film is a masterpiece of Norwegian cinema and a must-see for all Norwegians and those interested in Norwegian history. The film is available on DVD and Blu-ray. It is a great gift for anyone who loves Norwegian culture and history.