

- Disaster Risk Reduction Management Awareness/Preparedness

QC gears up for storms, aims for zero casualty

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THE Quezon City government through its Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (DRRMC) has declared its readiness for typhoons with the country expected to experience between 13 to 16 weather disturbances this year.

Zero casualty remains the city government's target, according to Mayor Joy Belmonte. "Everything we need for the onset of the rainy season and when La Niña hits the country is ready," Belmonte was quoted saying in Tagalog, in a news release posted on the Quezon City official website on Thursday, May 30.

Belmonte said every department in the local government unit was given specific tasks to ensure the safety of QC citizens and to speed up the delivery of public services.

Quezon City's readiness was quickly put to a test during the recent onslaught of Typhoon Aghon, the first storm to hit the country in 2024, and this level of preparedness will be maintained throughout the year.

In times of typhoons, the QC DRRM Council will be immediately activated with all member-offices on standby, while the city's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will closely monitor the movement of typhoons, wind strengths, and the amount of rainfall in Quezon City. "Our Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team members will also be placed on full alert and ready to respond immediately in case of emergencies," Belmonte explained, adding the teams are equipped with rescue boats, protective gears, sonar equipment, rescue cans, and other life-saving equipment.