QC, Manila under state of calamity

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The Quezon City and Manila governments yesterday declared a state of calamity following heavy rainfall and widespread flooding caused by the southwest monsoon and other weather systems.

The Quezon City council held a special session to approve a resolution declaring the state of calamity.

In Manila, Mayor Isko Moreno also placed the city under a state of calamity due to the monsoon rains.

Moreno said he ordered the city council to convene an emergency session today to formalize the declaration.

Both QC Mayor Joy Belmonte and Moreno said the declaration would allow the two city governments and barangays to utilize quick response and calamity funds to help affected residents.

In a radio interview, Belmonte said the funding would be used for rehabilitation and cleanup efforts.

It will also be used to procure medicines, especially for those who are still in evacuation centers.

Over 10,300 families are staying in 152 evacuation sites in 64 barangays in the city. Most of the evacuees are in Diosdado P. Macapagal Elementary School in Barangay Tatalon, where 975 families are taking shelter.

Belmonte, Vice Mayor Gian Sotto and other local officials have visited the evacuees.

The city's disaster risk reduction and management council is also on standby around the clock to ensure immediate response to residents in need.