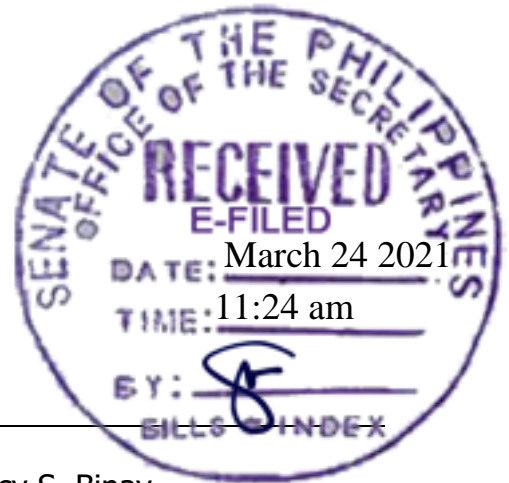


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )**

**SENATE  
P. S. Res No. 692**



Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

### RESOLUTION

**COMMENDING DR. DEO FLORENCE L. ONDA OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE, FOR BEING THE FIRST FILIPINO TO REACH EMDEN DEEP IN THE PHILIPPINE TRENCH, THE THIRD DEEPEST SPOT ON EARTH**

1 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines has recognized Filipinos who brought  
2 pride and prestige to the country;

3  
4 WHEREAS, Filipino scientist Dr. Deo Florence L. Onda made history as the first  
5 Filipino to reach the third deepest part on Earth, the Emden Deep located in the  
6 Philippine Trench<sup>1</sup>;

7  
8 WHEREAS, Dr. Onda is a microbial oceanographer of the University of the  
9 Philippines Marine Science Institute (UPMSI)<sup>2</sup>;

10  
11 WHEREAS, he serves as the deputy director for research of the UPMSI<sup>3</sup> and is  
12 known for his research on host-symbiont interactions, microbial biogeography,  
13 diversity, dynamics and trophic interactions, and consequences of changing  
14 conditions<sup>4</sup>;

15  
16 WHEREAS, he has participated in a number of scientific expeditions, such as  
17 the Joint Ocean Ice Studies and Beaufort Gyre Exploration Project. He received  
18 multiple grants from different institutions and programmes for his research, along with  
19 internships and further trainings abroad<sup>5</sup>;

20  
21 WHEREAS, Dr. Onda was invited by private firm Caladan Oceanic to join the  
22 Emden Deep Expedition scheduled on March 22 to 28, 2021<sup>6</sup>;

<sup>1</sup> Philstar News website, UP scientist makes history as first Filipino to reach Earth's 3rd deepest part, March 23, 2021, <https://www.philstar.com/lifestyle/on-the-radar/2021/03/23/2086411/scientist-makes-history-first-filipino-reach-earths-3rd-deepest-part>.

<sup>2</sup> University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute website, Press Release, Filipino scientist to make history by reaching the 3rd deepest spot on Earth (Emden Deep in the Philippine Trench, March 17, 2021, [http://www.msi.upd.edu.ph/?fbclid=IwAR3zhak\\_R8Gp8NeeJyKSvKKvNCK9Bx5n800fzK3NmXrbVMRE2jdhW6W9ujg](http://www.msi.upd.edu.ph/?fbclid=IwAR3zhak_R8Gp8NeeJyKSvKKvNCK9Bx5n800fzK3NmXrbVMRE2jdhW6W9ujg).

<sup>3</sup> ABS-CBN News website, UP scientist poised to be first Pinoy to reach 3rd deepest spot on earth, March 18, 2021, <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/03/18/21/up-scientist-poised-to-be-first-pinoy-to-reach-3rd-deepest-spot-on-earth>.

<sup>4</sup> University of the Philippines website, UP marine scientist makes history as the 1st Filipino to reach the 3rd deepest point on Earth, March 23, 2021, <https://up.edu.ph/up-marine-scientist-makes-history-as-the-1st-filipino-to-reach-the-3rd-deepest-point-on-earth/>.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> CNN News website, UP scientist to be one of the first humans, first Filipino to reach 3rd deepest spot on Earth, March 17, 2021, <https://www.cnn.ph/news/2021/3/17/up-scientist-first-filipino-to-reach-third-deepest-spot-on-earth.html>.

1 WHEREAS, the Emden Deep is located in the Philippine Trench and is  
2 approximately 34,100 feet or 10,400 meters. On March 23, 2021, the exploration team  
3 made touchdown at 10,045 meters deep<sup>7</sup>;

4  
5 WHEREAS, according to the UPMSI, deep sea expeditions like this one are  
6 equivalent to the first early flights into outer space, thus it would be a major record-  
7 setting scientific and historic achievement. To date, most of these records are held by  
8 foreign scientists or explorers. The Philippine Trench is a unique feature found within  
9 the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Philippines, and it is only appropriate that a Filipino  
10 scientist be one of the first to hold this record in the Emden Deep<sup>8</sup>;

11  
12 WHEREAS, according to the UPMSI, part of the goal is to wave the Philippine  
13 flag in the Emden Deep during its record-setting voyage, highlighting that the  
14 submarine trench is an integral part of our nation's heritage;

15  
16 WHEREAS, the UPMSI stated that such endeavor can spark interest and passion  
17 for many other young Filipinos who would want to make a career in the sciences and  
18 bring more attention to the protection, preservation, and conservation of the Philippine  
19 marine environment<sup>9</sup>;

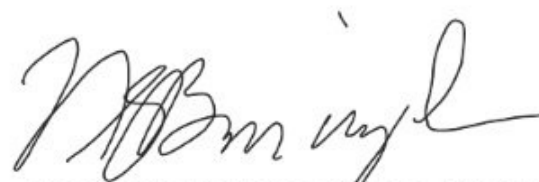
20  
21 WHEREAS, Dr. Onda has brought pride to the country through his remarkable  
22 contributions to the field of science and technology;

23  
24 WHEREAS, recognizing the notable work of Filipino scientists like Dr. Onda, will  
25 further the advancement of science and technology in the country, with its main  
26 purpose of improving the lives of the Filipino people;

27  
28 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE  
29 SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to commend Dr. Deo Florence L. Onda of the University  
30 of the Philippines Marine Science Institute, for being the first Filipino to reach Emden  
31 Deep in the Philippine Trench, the third deepest spot on Earth.

32  
33 RESOLVED, FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be given to Dr. Deo  
34 Florence L. Onda.

Adopted,



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

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<sup>7</sup> University of the Philippines website, UP marine scientist makes history as the 1st Filipino to reach the 3rd deepest point on Earth, March 23, 2021, <https://up.edu.ph/up-marine-scientist-makes-history-as-the-1st-filipino-to-reach-the-3rd-deepest-point-on-earth/>.

<sup>8</sup> University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute website, Press Release, Filipino scientist to make history by reaching the 3rd deepest spot on Earth (Emden Deep in the Philippine Trench), March 17, 2021, [http://www.msi.upd.edu.ph/?fbclid=IwAR3zhak\\_R8Gp8NeeJyKSvKkVnCK9Bx5n800fzK3NmXrbVMRE2jdhW6W9ujg](http://www.msi.upd.edu.ph/?fbclid=IwAR3zhak_R8Gp8NeeJyKSvKkVnCK9Bx5n800fzK3NmXrbVMRE2jdhW6W9ujg).

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.