<u>Press release: Filipinos awarded the</u> <u>prestigious Chevening Scholarships</u>

Twenty seven Filipino future leaders were awarded the prestigious Chevening Scholarships by the British government to study a one-year postgraduate course in the UK.

Funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and local partner organisations Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), Unilever Philippines, Megaworld Foundation, GlaxoSmithKline Philippines and HSBC, the Chevening scholarships enable outstanding emerging leaders to pursue a one-year master's degrees in their field of expertise at any UK university. The programme provides leaders a unique opportunity to advance academically, develop professionally, build networks, and explore the UK and its culture through fully-funded scholarships.

Ambassador-designate to the Philippines Daniel Pruce said:

Home to some of the world's best universities, the UK's higher education sector promotes the exchange of information and ideas, as well as the building of networks. Chevening enables emerging leaders from the Philippines to deepen their knowledge, expand their networks while immersing themselves in the UK culture. I congratulate the Chevening scholars from the Philippines and wish them the very best of luck with their studies in the UK.

This is the most diverse group of Chevening scholars from the Philippines. The scholars will be pursuing a wide variety of fields ranging through Health Policy, Sustainability and Environmental Policy, Security and Peace studies, Islamic Finance, Finance, Data Analytics, Material Engineering, Transport, Gender studies, law, Film and Media Arts.

The Chevening scholars are: Stephanie Tan, Micheline Rama, Bai Baraguir, Christian Yap, Cristina Villaraza, Danilo Vidad, Kristal Gazmen, Mary Baylosis, Richard Bolisay, Ben Kalaw, Ira Zamudio, Julius Cesar Alejandre, Antoinette Ramos, Loraine Gallevo, Renee Karunungan, Carmela Maranan, Twyla Rubin, Chiara Zambrano, Jam Usman, Miguel Paala, Camille Aromas, Carla Nochesada, Gerry Alcantara, Zayra Abraham, Geisha Sanchez, Francis Tiopanco and Carolyn Bonquin.

For more information on Chevening scholarships, visit the official <u>website</u> Applications are open for 2018/19 until 7 November 2017.

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Notes to the Editor:

Chevening began in 1983 and has developed into a prestigious international awards scheme. Chevening Scholars come from over 160 countries and territories worldwide (excluding the USA and the EU), and more than 1,500 scholarships were awarded in 2017/2018. There are over 48,000 Chevening Alumni around the world who comprise an influential and highly regarded global network.

The name 'Chevening' comes from Chevening House in Sevenoaks, Kent – currently the joint official residence of the UK's Foreign Secretary.

More information is available at the official website