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PRESS RELEASE

PHIVOLCS-DOST
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05:15 PM

Magnitude 8.8 Earthquake near Chile at about 2:34 PM (Philippine Time) on 27 February 2010

TSUNAMI WATCH ALONG THE EAST COAST OF THE PHILIPPINES

At about 2:34 PM of 27 February 2010 (Philippine Time), an earthquake of preliminary magnitude of 8.8 occurred near coast of Central Chile at a depth of about 55 km. Related to this earthquake, information was issued to the Philippines by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. Tsunami was confirmed to have been generated by the earthquake near the epicenter and measured heights reached 1.29 meters in Valparaiso, Chile and 1.15 meters in Talcahuano, Chile.

A **Tsunami Alert Level 1** was issued by PHIVOLCS at 03:10 PM to the East coast of the Philippines. While no evacuation order is in effect, communities along these coasts are advised to prepare for possible evacuation. People from threatened communities are strongly advised to follow safety instructions from the Office of Civil Defense and local disaster officials.

PHIVOLCS will provide updates as soon as new information becomes available.