



Republic of the Philippines  
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
**BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**  
BARMM Compound, Cotabato City

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**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 47**

**RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) TO LOOK INTO THE PLIGHT OF DISTRESSED OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS FROM BARMM, TO KNOW THEIR CONDITIONS, AND TO ASSIST THEM IN OBTAINING ALL THE HELP AND BENEFITS THEY OUGHT TO RECEIVE FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 10801 an Act Governing the Operations and Administration of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration provides in Section 2 thereof, that “it is the policy of the state to afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment opportunities for all. Towards this end, it shall be the State’s responsibility to protect the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs);

**WHEREAS**, it further provides “the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) shall be one of the principal agencies of the state to serve and promote the rights, interest and welfare of the OFWs and their families. Welfare assistance, services, and programs provided by the OWWA shall be gender-responsive, taking into consideration the different impacts of labor migration to men and women”;

**WHEREAS**, a substantial number of residents from the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao are Overseas Filipino Workers and majority of them are women;

**WHEREAS**, a number of women OFWs from the BARMM are poorly paid, treated as slaves and are victims of employer abuse and maltreatment, and of illegal recruitment;

**WHEREAS**, returning maltreated, abused and illegally recruited women OFWs are classified as distressed workers due to the trauma they have experienced from their employers;

**WHEREAS**, reports on distressed BARMM OFWs obtained from Non-Government Organizations reveal that there are 52 cases both in 2017 and in 2018, and 92 cases in 2019;

**WHEREAS**, every distressed OFWs need every help the OWWA can provide in order that they can extricate themselves from the sting and trauma they experienced and to help them rebuild their lives;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it

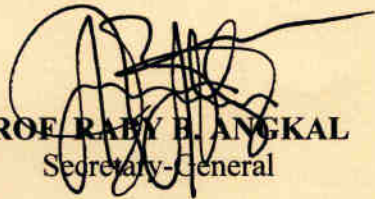
**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, the BTA Parliament strongly calls on the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration to look into the plight of distressed Overseas Filipino Workers from the BARMM, to know their conditions and assist them in obtaining all the help and benefits they ought to receive from the national or regional government.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the OWWA should provide the BTA Parliament official data on distressed OFWs from the BARMM, on their current conditions and the assistance already provided them.

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Administrator of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration for his/her consideration and appropriate action and to the Minister of Labor and Employment for his information and guidance.

**Adopted**, October 24, 2019.

Certified Correct:

  
**PROE RABY B. ANGKAL**  
Secretary-General

Attested:

  
**ATTY. ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG**  
Speaker

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