

1 Republic of the Philippines
2 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
3 **Bangsamoro Transition Authority**
4 Cotabato City

5
6 First Regular Session

7
8 **PARLIAMENT BILL NO. 34**
9

10
11 Introduced By: GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY
12

13
14
15
16 **AN ACT CREATING THE BANGSAMORO WOMEN COMMISSION, PROVIDING FOR**
17 **ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND COMPOSITIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**
18 **THEREFOR**
19

20
21 *Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority in session assembled:*
22

23
24 **Section 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the *Bangsamoro Women*
25 *Commission Act of 2019.*
26

27 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** The Bangsamoro Government reaffirms the
28 important role of women in nation building and regional development, as
29 enshrined in Republic Act 11054, otherwise known as the Organic Law for the
30 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.
31

32 It also recognizes, promotes, protects, and upholds the fundamental rights of
33 women including the right to engage in lawful employment and be protected from
34 exploitation, abuse or discrimination.
35

36 It also ensures that women are at the forefront of all peace-building efforts,
37 including conflict prevention, conflict resolution and conflict management, in
38 keeping with its commitment under United Nation Security Council Resolution
39 (UNSCR) 1325.
40

41 It is designed to create the right conditions and environment for the harmonious
42 development of the Bangsamoro women.
43

44
45 **TITLE I: THE BANGSAMORO WOMEN COMMISSION**
46

1 A. Nature of the Commission

2
3 **Section 3. Bangsamoro Women Commission: Creation, Nature and Status.** There
4 is hereby created a Bangsamoro Women Commission, hereinafter referred to as
5 the 'Commission'. The Chief Minister shall exercise supervision and control over
6 the Commission.

7
8 The Commission shall be the primary policy-making, coordinating, and monitoring
9 body on women, gender and development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

10
11 The Commission shall exercise corporate powers. It shall have a seal and may sue
12 and be sued.

13
14 B. The Chairperson and Members

15
16 **Section 4. Composition.** The Commission shall be composed of one (1) Chairperson
17 and four (4) Commissioners representing the territorial jurisdiction of the
18 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region namely, the Province of Basilan including
19 Lamitan City, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Lanao del Sur including Marawi City, and
20 Maguindanao including Cotabato City and the 63 barangays of North Cotabato.

21
22 **Section 5. Qualification.** No person shall be appointed as Chairperson or a
23 Commissioner, unless she possesses the following qualifications:

- 24
25 (1) Natural-born citizen of the Philippines;
26 (2) Resident of the Autonomous Region at least five (5) years prior to the date
27 of appointment;
28 (3) Holder of a bachelor's degree;
29 (4) With a good track record in holding positions of responsibility and leadership
30 in the government, duly registered women's organizations, or women-
31 serving organizations and/or institutions;
32 (5) Possesses good moral character;
33 (6) Have not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude.

34
35 **Section 6. Appointment and Term of Office.** The Chief Minister shall appoint the
36 Chairperson and the four Commissioners of the Bangsamoro Women Commission.

37
38 Registered women's organizations, people's organizations serving women in the
39 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region may submit list of nominees for the Chairperson
40 and the four (4) Commissioners to the Chief Minister for his/her consideration.

41
42
43 The Chairperson and Commissioners shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years
44 and without prejudice to reappointment for another term.

1 TITLE II: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS
2

3 Section 7. Powers of the Commission. The following powers shall be exercised by
4 the following:

5
6 A. Chairperson

7
8 (1) To recommend to the Chief Minister the approval of appointment of the
9 officers and other personnel of the Commission and fix their compensation,
10 allowances and other emoluments, subject to civil service and other existing
11 applicable laws, rules and regulations;

12
13 B. Commission as Collegial Body

14
15 (2) To suspend, dismiss, or otherwise discipline for cause, any employee, and/or
16 to recommend the approval or disapproval of the appointment, transfer or
17 detail of employees, subject to the provisions of existing laws and
18 regulations;

19
20 (3) To enter into contracts subject to the approval of the Chief Minister;

21
22 (4) To purchase, own, possess and dispose of properties, real or personal,
23 including use and control of any land, building, facilities, equipment,
24 instruments, tools and rights required or otherwise necessary for the
25 accomplishment of the objectives of the Commission.

26
27 (5) To accept donations, gifts, bequests, and grants from benevolent individuals,
28 entity, corporations, organizations, businesses, establishments and
29 foundations, whether domestic or foreign;

30
31 (6) To monitor and ensure the implementation by various ministries and
32 agencies of the Bangsamoro Government of their women development
33 projects and activities as indicated in their respective annual budget,
34 including its GAD plan;

35
36 (7) To issue the rules and regulations in pursuance of the provisions of this Act;
37 and

38
39 (8) To perform any and all other acts incident to or required by virtue of its
40 creation.

41
42 Section 8. Functions of the Commission. The Commission shall perform the
43 following functions:
44

- 1 1. Promote, protect, and uphold women’s rights as human rights, work for the
2 elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and ensure that
3 legal measures are taken to promote gender equality;
4
- 5 2. Ensure that the Bangsamoro Government shall implement gender-
6 responsive policies, plans and programs;
7
- 8 3. Pilot the implementation of gender-sensitive policies and programs for
9 women who are not regular clientele of the different ministries and offices
10 to demonstrate good practices on promoting gender equality and women’s
11 empowerment;
12
- 13
- 14 4. Prepare the development plan for Bangsamoro women that shall serve as
15 the blue print for their social, economic and political development, in
16 coordination with relevant ministries, agencies, offices, LGUs and other
17 stakeholders;
18
- 19 5. Ensure that all ministries, offices and agencies of the Bangsamoro
20 Government shall collate and maintain gender-disaggregated data, including
21 list of programs, projects and activities benefitting women;
22
- 23 6. Formulate and implement policies and programs on women to promote their
24 economic, social and political empowerment;
25
- 26 7. Review and recommend policies and legislation to the Bangsamoro
27 Parliament relating to women, in coordination with concerned ministries,
28 offices or agencies of the Bangsamoro Government;
29
- 30 8. Ensures that all ministries, agencies and offices of the Bangsamoro
31 Government will submit their respective GAD Plans and Budgets (GPBs) as
32 they submit their proposed annual budget for approval of the Parliament;
33
- 34 9. Reviews and recommends the GPBs of all ministries, agencies and offices of
35 the Bangsamoro Government;
36
- 37 10. Monitor and assess the compliance of the Bangsamoro Government on the
38 Magna Carta of Women (MCW), CEDAW, UNSCR 1325, and all other
39 international instruments on Women’s Rights to which the Philippines is a
40 signatory;
41
- 42 11. Provide legal aid and referral services to women whose rights have been
43 violated or needing protection;
44
- 45 12. Establish a continuing program of research, education, advocacy and
46 information to enhance respect for the importance of women;

- 1
2 13. Provide technical assistance on gender mainstreaming to ministries,
3 agencies, offices and local government units of the Bangsamoro
4 Autonomous Region;
5
6 14. Coordinate with law enforcement agencies, the Shari'ah and regular courts
7 on cases of Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) within the
8 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region;
9
10 15. Accredit women's and women's rights organization and people's
11 organizations involved in women protection and promotion; and
12
13 16. Create, establish, organize, restructure and manage such offices and centers
14 the Commission deems necessary, fit and appropriate for the effective
15 fulfillment of its mandate including provincial offices and specific thematic
16 matters such as the women peace centers.
17
18 17. Ensure the meaningful participation of women in all levels of governance,
19 policy and decision-making;
20
21 18. Perform such other duties and functions as may be provided by law or as
22 directed by the Chief Minister.
23
24

25 TITLE III: ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE 26

27 **Section 9. The Commission as a Collegial Body.** The Bangsamoro Women
28 Commission composed of the Chairperson and four (4) Commissioners, as a
29 collegial body, shall promulgate policies, orders, and resolutions necessary for the
30 efficient administration of the Commission and for proper execution of its mandate
31 under this Act.
32

33 In the exercise of its powers and functions, the Commission shall sit and render its
34 order and resolution *en banc*. Every such order or resolution of the Commission
35 must bear the concurrence and signature of majority of Members thereof.
36

37 The Commission shall meet regularly. A majority of the Members constitutes a
38 quorum needed in any *en banc* meeting of the Commission.
39

40 **Section 10. Structural Organization of the Commission.** The Commission shall have
41 the following offices and units:
42

- 43 1. Office of the Chairperson;
- 44 2. Office of the Commissioners;
- 45 3. Office of the Executive Director in charged with the over-all supervision of
46 the operations of the Commission;

- 1 4. Administrative and Finance Services Division which shall provide
2 administrative support services to the Commission and to its division and
3 offices;
- 4 5. Technical Services Division which shall be responsible for providing the
5 Commission with efficient and effective services in terms of planning,
6 implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It shall be composed of 4 units,
7 namely: Policy and Program Development Unit (PPDU), Program
8 Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PIMEU), Gender and
9 Family Development Unit (GFDU) and the Research and Information Unit
10 (RIU);
- 11 6. Legal Division which shall be responsible for providing legal assistance to
12 victim-survivors of violence against women (VAWC), in coordination with
13 other relevant ministries and offices of the BARMM;
- 14 7. Special Concerns which shall cater to needs and concerns of Bangsamoro
15 women and girls outside the BARMM;
- 16 8. Provincial Offices which shall coordinate the implementation of policies and
17 programs of the commission on the ground, in coordination with the
18 provincial offices of relevant ministries, offices and agencies of the BARMM;

19
20 **Section 11. Provincial Office.** The Commission shall be authorized to establish,
21 operate and maintain a provincial office in each of the major provinces of the
22 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. Each provincial office shall be supervised by a
23 commissioner.

24
25 The provincial offices shall have the following powers and functions:

- 26
27 1) Implement plans, policies, programs, projects, rules and regulations of the
28 Commission, in coordination with other relevant provincial offices of
29 ministries, agencies and offices of the BARMM;
- 30
31 2) Provide efficient and effective service to women and families;
- 32
33 3) Coordinate with other provincial line agencies and other ministries, agencies
34 and offices, as well as with the local government units, for programs on
35 women;
- 36
37 4) Perform such other functions as may be provided by this Act or assigned by
38 the Commission.

39
40 **Section 12. Access to Funds.** The budget allocated for the Commission shall be
41 directly transferred to the Commission, for efficiency of operation, subject to usual
42 accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

43
44 **Section 13. Appropriations.** Following the enactment of this Act into law, the
45 budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 of the existing Regional Commission on
46 Bangsamoro Women (RCBW) shall be transferred to the Commission including all

1 the assets, properties, facilities, equipment, furniture, fixtures, acquired, owned
2 and possessed by RCBW prior to the passage of this Act. Succeeding budget of the
3 Commission shall be incorporated in the appropriation act passed by the
4 Bangsamoro Parliament.

5
6 The Commission shall prepare and submit its annual budget for the ensuing fiscal
7 year and thereafter.

8
9 **Section 14. Transitory Provision.** The appointed Chairperson, Commissioners and
10 employees of the Commission during the Transition Period under RA No. 11054
11 shall continue to hold office until 2022. Appointed officials and employees of the
12 Commission who do not have the required eligibility shall be granted a reasonable
13 period of until year 2022 within which to meet the eligibility requirement pending
14 which they shall be allowed to continue discharging their duties.

15
16 **Section 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within Sixty (60) days from the
17 approval of this Act, the Commission shall formulate the implementing rules and
18 regulations in consultation with other concerned ministries and agencies, as well
19 as local government units in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

20
21 **Section 16. Separability Clause.** If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be
22 held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not
23 otherwise affected shall remain valid and binding.

24
25 **Section 17. Repealing Clause.** All regional laws, orders, rules and regulations or
26 parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
27 accordingly.

28
29 **Section 18. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
30 publication in a newspaper of regional circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous
31 Region.

32
33 Approved:

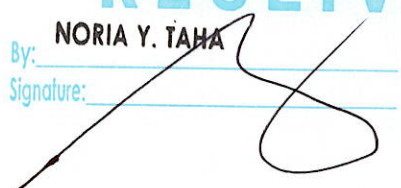
34
35
36 **ATTY. ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG**
37 Speaker

38
39 APPROVED:

40
41
42 **HON. AHOD B. EBRAHIM**
43 Interim Chief Minister

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

RECEIVED

By: NORIA Y. TAHA
Signature: 

Date: 12-10-19
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