Republic of the Philippines Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Cotabato City

BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY

Second Regular Session

Proposed Resolution No. 2 4 9

Introduced by BTA Member Atty. Maisara Cudia Dandamun-Latiph

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE BANGSAMORO PARLIAMENT THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUARANTINE FACILITY IN LANAO DEL SUR AND THE GIVING OF ASSISTANCE TO APPROPRIATE MEDICAL HOSPITAL IN THE SAME PROVINCE FOR ACCREDITATION AS COVID-19 (PCR) TESTING CENTER IS URGENT

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 114, s. 2020 institutionalized the "Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pagasa Program" which is geared towards addressing Metro Manila's congested urban areas by encouraging people, especially informal settlers to return to their home provinces and assist them in this transition with support and incentives on transportation, family, livelihood, housing, subsistence and education, among others;1

WHEREAS, as of June 18, 2020, there are (40) active COVID-19 cases confirmed by Xpert Express (PCR) test in the Province of Lanao del Sur according to the reports of the Integrated Provincial Health Office;2

WHEREAS, according to reports, most of the persons who tested positive from the virus came either from the category of Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) or persons who availed of the Balik Probinsya Program;

WHEREAS, the province of Lanao del Sur is expected to receive more constituents who will avail of the aforementioned program in addition to the returning Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs);

https://www.facebook.com/PIO.LanaoDelSur/photos/a.415314158621595/1584301601722839/ Transition Authority Parliament

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

NORIA Y. TAHA

Signature:

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority constructed and subsequently inaugurated the Bangsamoro region's first of its kind isolation and treatment facility for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) located in the Municipality of Sultan Kudarat;³

WHEREAS, the 100-bed capacity isolation facility was completed in just forty (40) days through the BARMM Government's Ministry of Public Works;⁴

WHEREAS, the Cotabato Regional and Medical Center (CRMC) has been issued a license to operate the first testing laboratory for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM);⁵

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) accredited CRMC to perform rapid polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests using the GeneXpert Machine that is also used for testing tuberculosis patients;⁶

WHEREAS, the BARMM Government provided Php14.1-Million fund for the procurement and upgrading of medical laboratory supplies to carry out diagnostic testing for COVID-19;⁷

WHEREAS, the BARMM Government vowed to be a partner of health institutions as the it also looks forward to extending the same assistance to other areas in the region;

WHEREAS, according to an online newspaper publication, an 18-year old male student stranded for two months in Davao City and who availed of the Balik-Probinsya program of the city government of Cotabato, has tested positive for COVID-19;8

WHEREAS, in a newspaper of general circulation, it was reported that "one of the five seafarers from Misamis Occidental, who went home last week courtesy of the government's Balik-Probinsya program, has tested positive for the coronavirus disease;"9

WHEREAS, the aforementioned incidents are occurring in various regions of the Philippines and the proliferation of these incidents is alarming and requires immediate attention;

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health advised not to be complacent under the new normal;

WHEREAS, recognizing the seriousness of the matter as well as the increasing number of incidents in the aforementioned province, the establishment of additional quarantine

³ https://bangsamoro.gov.ph/news/latest-news/barmm-inaugurates-100-bed-covid-19-isolation-center-in-maguindanao/

⁴ https://bangsamoro.gov.ph/news/latest-news/barmm-inaugurates-100-bed-covid-19-isolation-center-in-maguindanao/

⁵ https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1103491

⁶ https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1103491

⁷ https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1103491

⁸ https://www.mindanews.com/top-stories/2020/05/student-stranded-in-davao-city-but-now-back-in-cotabato-city-tests-positive-for-covid-19/

⁹https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1271843/seafarer-returning-to-misamis-occidental-from-manila-tests-positive-for-covid-19#ixzz6NCkUz5aF

facility as well as the giving of assistance to appropriate hospitals in the province of Lanao del Sur in order to capacitate them to conduct polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing must be certified as urgent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED TO EXPRESS, AS IT HEREBY EXPRESSES, the sense of the Bangsamoro Parliament, THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUARANTINE FACILITY IN LANAO DEL SUR AND THE GIVING OF ASSISTANCE TO APPROPRIATE MEDICAL HOSPITAL IN THE SAME PROVINCE FOR ACCREDITATION AS COVID-19 (PCR) TESTING CENTER IS URGENT

Adopted,

Atty. Maisara C. Dandamun-Latiph

Member of the Parliament - Bangsamoro Transition Authority