

## Republic of the Philippines Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

## BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY

Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City

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Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mino
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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Proposed Resolution No. 383

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A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO PREPARE A VACCINATION PROGRAM PLAN AHEAD OF THE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF COVID-19 VACCINES IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, ENSURING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION TO LOWER INCOME GROUPS AND TO THE MOST VULNERABLE FAMILIES.

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government shall exercise its authority over health matters without prejudice to the general supervision of the President of the Republic of the Philippines. (Article V, Section 2, Paragraph bb, of R.A. No. 11054, emphasis supplied)

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government shall promote the health and safety of its inhabitants. (Article V, Section 3 of R.A. No. 11054)

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government shall adopt a policy on health that

provides for a comprehensive and integrated health service delivery for its constituents. It shall establish by law a general hospital system to serve the health requirements of its people and ensure that the individual basic right to life shall be attainable through the prompt intervention of excellent and affordable medical services. (Article IX, Section 22 of R.A. No. 11054, Emphasis and underscoring supplied)

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It shall also uphold the peoples' right to have access to essential goods, health, and other social services that promote their well-being. The Parliament shall enact appropriate legislation towards this end, including the regulation of the manufacture and distribution of food, drinks, drugs, and tobacco in accordance with the policies, rules and regulations of concerned national government agencies. The Bangsamoro Government shall assist and cooperate with the National Government in the provision of quarantine services for the prevention and control of epidemic and other communicable diseases. (Ibid, Emphasis and underscoring supplied)

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health shall be <u>primarily responsible for the formulation</u>, <u>planning</u>, <u>implementation and coordination of policies and programs for health</u>. It shall promote, protect, preserve and restore the health of the people through the provision and delivery of health services through regulation and encouragement of providers of health goods and services. (Title V, Chapter 1, Section 2 of the Bangsamoro Administrative Code [hereinafter referred as BAA 13], Emphasis and underscoring supplied)

WHEREAS, the Infectious Disease Control Unit shall formulate plans, policies, programs, standards, and techniques relative to the control of communicable diseases, specifically on the major causes or mortality and morbidity, such as Leprosy, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Filariasis, Tuberculosis, Schistosomiasis, Soil Transmitted Diseases, Dengue, Malaria including emerging diseases like Meningococcimia, SARS, Avian Influenza, Corona Virus Disease and other infectious diseases; provide consultative, training, and advisory services to implementing agencies; and conduct studies and research related to these other communicable diseases. (Title V, Chapter 6, Section 21 of BAA 13, Emphasis and underscoring supplied)

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has taken the world by storm and changed all of our lives including our income potential, peculiarly those belonging to lower income groups and to the most vulnerable families, almost instantaneously.

WHEREAS, the Poverty Incidence in BARMM or the proportion of the population living below the poverty line to the total population in BARMM as of year 2018 is a

staggering **61.80%**. (Republic of the Philippines. *Philippine Statistics Authority*. 2018, <a href="http://rssoarmm.psa.gov.ph/statistics/poverty">http://rssoarmm.psa.gov.ph/statistics/poverty</a>, *Emphasis supplied*)

WHEREAS, the population living below the poverty line will probably not have any other access with the COVID-19 vaccine except those to be given gratuitously by the government or at no cost.

WHEREAS, a well-planned and well-implemented vaccination program can rapidly normalize our lives particularly those belonging to lower income groups and to the most vulnerable families in BARMM and eventually ease their financial burden.

## NOW THEREFORE, be it;

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, to politely urge the Ministry of Health to prepare a vaccination program plan ahead of the public distribution of Covid-19 vaccines in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, ensuring equitable distribution to lower income groups and to the most vulnerable families.

ABDUKAHBHASHIM

Adopted, .

Member of the Parliament