

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Bangsamoro People's Complex, Cotabato City

Bangsamoro Transition Authority
Second Regular Session

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

RECEIVED

Resolution No. 414

By: NORIA Y. TALA
Signature: 

Date: MARCH 16, 2021
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A RESOLUTION ASKING THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION DECLARING LAKE LANAOK AS A PROTECTED AREA AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR TO BARMM TO CONTINUE OR TO UNDERTAKE PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THE LAKE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONS.

By:

HON. MUSA K.S. DIAMLA
Author

WHEREAS, consistent with Section 15, Article X of the 1987 Constitution, mandating the creation of the autonomous regions, which is now made by the Congress of the Republic of the Philippines into law as R. A. 11054 otherwise known as Bangsamoro Organic Law;

WHEREAS, under Article XIII of the Bangsamoro Organic Law, it states: Section 22. *Management of Inland Waters.*—The Bangsamoro




Government shall have exclusive powers over inland waters, including lakes, marshes, rivers, and tributaries within its territorial jurisdiction, except those that provide energy to power generating plants. Hence, the National Government exercises concurrent authority with the Bangsamoro Government in the management, regulation, conservation, and protection of the Lake Lanao and its immediate environs, the latter being an energy source of hydroelectric plants that provide electricity even to places outside the Bangsamoro Region;

WHEREAS, Lake Lanao is the largest lake in Mindanao, the second largest in the Philippines and is considered as one of the 15 ancient lakes in the world. It has five watersheds with rivers and major tributaries totaling 431 kilometers. The waters from these rivers and tributaries drain into the lake and goes out through only one outlet, the Agus River. Lake Lanao has a surface area of about 36,300 ha.

WHEREAS, the Agus River is home to the Six (6) Hydroelectric Plants of the National Power Corporation that provides around forty (40%) percent of the electric power requirements of the island of Mindanao;

WHEREAS, In 1992 following Presidential Proclamation 871 establishing the Lake Lanao Watershed Reserve, Memorandum Order No. 421 created a Lake Lanao Watershed Protection and Development Council (LLWPDC) to be headed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Various management plans had been formulated and some projects initiated such as the LLWPDC's Integrated Development Plan, the Food and Agriculture Organization Environmental Management Plan, a USAID-EcoGov pilot project on Forest Land Use Planning, and an Asian Development Bank Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Project. However, these have either not been implemented nor completed due to budgetary constraints and/or political circumstances;

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WHEREAS, In January 2011, an interim Protected Area Management Board was organized inasmuch as under the NIPAS Act of 1992, proclaimed watershed reserves are an initial component of NIPAS. However, it requires a Protected Area Suitability Assessment before it can be legislated as a Protected Area; such assessment was completed in February 2012.

WHEREAS, recently, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the provincial government of Lanao del Sur signed the implementation agreement for the Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management Project (INREMP) covering Lake Lanao. One of the major projects of the DENR's Forest Management Bureau (FMB), INREMP aims to manage the upper river basins and component watersheds to support poverty reduction, watershed management, biodiversity conservation and climate change policy objectives by developing the capacities of local government units (LGUs), institutions and upland communities as development partners. Together with other projects, the project is funded with a loan from the Asian Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development and grants from the Global Environmental Facility and the Climate Change Fund of the Philippine government. The total fund for the project is US\$154.12 million.

WHEREAS, a number of environmental degradation issues (e.g. lake water greening, E. coli contamination, deforestation, siltation, invasive species, flooding) have been raised. These critical issues and concerns signal the immediate implementation of a participatory management approach involving users, planners and policy-makers at all levels.

WHEREAS, despite the completion of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment for Lake Lanao in 2012, the Lake was not yet proclaimed as a Protected Area.

WHEREAS, there is a need for the continuation or undertaking of programs and projects intended for the protection and conservation of Lake

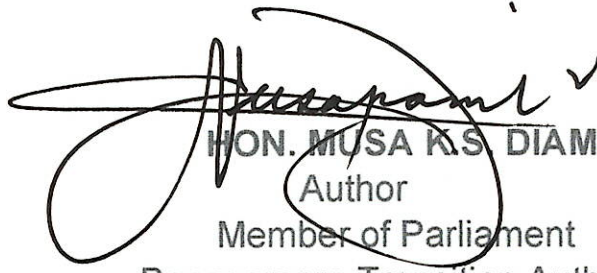
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Lanao, which the applicable provisions of the Bangsamoro Organic Law mandate the need for joint efforts and cooperation of the National Government and the Bangsamoro Government;

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby RESOLVED, by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority:

1. asking the President of the Republic, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, to issue proclamation declaring Lake Lanao as a Protected Area; and
2. providing funds to BARMM to continue or to undertake programs, projects, activities to protect and conserve the Lake.

Done this _____ day of March 2021, at City of Cotabato, BARMM, Philippines.


HON. MUSA K.S. DIAMLA
Author
Member of Parliament
Bangsamoro Transition Authority