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

Third Regular Session

BTA PARLIAMENT BTA Resolution No. <u>5</u> 3 1 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
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A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY (GOTD) THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF BASIC, HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (MBHTE) AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS (MPW) TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL COVERED COURTS OR OPEN STRUCTURES TO BE USED AS ALTERNATIVE SPACE FOR STUDENTS AND PUPILS DURING THE PANDEMIC, INSTEAD OF REGULAR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

WHEREAS, Section 7, Article IX of R.A. 11054 or the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) provides that the Bangsamoro Government shall provide, maintain, and ensure the delivery of basic and responsive health programs, **quality education**, appropriate services, livelihood opportunities, affordable and progressive housing projects, power and electricity, and water inhabitants of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (emphasis supplied);

WHEREAS, Section 8, Chapter 2 of Bangsamoro Autonomy Act No. 18 or the Bangsamoro Education Code provides that the Bangsamoro Government shall promote and protect the constitutional right of all to quality education and accessible education at all levels and to establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant and responsive to the needs, ideals, and aspirations of the Bangsamoro people;

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and <u>instill</u> <u>health</u> <u>consciousness</u> <u>among</u> <u>them</u> (emphasis supplied);

WHEREAS, in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Philippine Government has implemented physical distancing measures to slow the spread of the virus;

WHEREAS, with the growing and imminent threat to the safety and health of the people, it is necessary to take all possible precautions and preventive actions to contain or lessen local transmission, especially to the students;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the Bangsamoro Government to formulate measures and policies to address the ongoing education crisis that the Bangsamoro Region is facing. Such measures should aim to make education available and accessible to both the students and the teachers;

WHEREAS, in formulating policies, the welfare of both the students and the teachers, as well as the survival and sustainability of the schools, shall be taken into consideration;

WHEREAS, not all students and teachers in the Bangsamoro Region have access to internet services and online classes and/or modules, thus constraining them to meet in person, in order not to disrupt the continuity of learning;

WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization, the risks of getting COVID-19 are higher in crowded and inadequately ventilated spaces where infected people spend long periods of time together in close proximity. Thus, it is important to avoid the three Cs: spaces that are closed, crowded or involve close contact. These environments are where the virus appears to spread by respiratory droplets or aerosols more efficiently, so taking precautions is even more important;

WHEREAS, there is a growing fear amongst people and families that the limited structures and enclosed spaces might expose the students to the virus, thus exposing them to harm and danger;

WHEREAS, the construction of additional covered courts or open structures, as an alternative space for the students, may be able to address the aforecited concern, so that they may be able to conduct classes in open and well-ventilated venues;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government is cognizant and mindful of its mandate to protect its people from all forms of harm, be it imminent or actual ones;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the BTA Parliament, to pass and approve this Resolution Urging the Government of the Day (GOTD) through the Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education (MBHTE) and the Ministry of Public Works (MPW), to Construct Additional Covered Courts or Open Structures to be Used as Alternative Space for Students and Pupils During the Pandemic, Instead of Regular School Buildings.

Adopted,

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