

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

BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY

Third Regular Session

Proposed Resolution No. 622



Introduced by BTA Member **Atty. Maisara Cudia Dandamun-Latiph**

Co-authors: **MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr., MP Baintan A. Ampatuan, MP Faiz S. Alauddin, MP Bai Maleiha B. Candao, MP Said Z. Salendab, MP Paisalin P. Tago, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, MP Abdullah B. Hashim, MP Melanio U. Ulama, MP Suwaib L. Oranon, MP Musa K. Diamlala, MP Diamila Disimban-Ramos, MP Abdullah E. Gayak, MP Faiz S. Alauddin, MP Suharto M. Ambolodto**

RESOLUTION

CALLING ON THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, BUDGET, AND MANAGEMENT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS) IN THE PREPARATION AND AUTHORIZATION OF THE ANNUAL REGIONAL BUDGET BY PROVIDING EFFECTIVE MECHANISMS THEREFOR

WHEREAS, government budgeting enables the government to plan and manage its financial resources to support the implementation of various programs and projects that best promote the development of the country;

WHEREAS, the regional budget also reflects the government's sincerity and political will to achieve social and economic change;

WHEREAS, the budget process is an arena where a citizen can directly influence the social and economic priorities for his/her community;

WHEREAS, by making mandatory and allowing civil society organizations (CSOs) to focus their efforts into analyzing and scrutinizing the budget, the government will have an *amicus curiae* in creating meaningful development that is felt by the marginalized sectors;

WHEREAS, a people-oriented budget establishes transparency and accountability in the budget process;

WHEREAS, while a representative is presumed to be knowledgeable of the plight, concerns, and needs of his/her constituents, a collaboration with CSOs gives life to the saying that “*two heads are better than one*”;

WHEREAS, there is a house bill pending before the Congress which seeks to institutionalize civil society participation in the budget process;

WHEREAS, considering its pendency which could take years, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority can benefit to the idea by implementing it during the transition period in order to promote inclusivity and responsiveness;

WHEREAS, the significance of the regional budget in the life of every Bangsamoro makes it imperative that a mechanism be developed to enable citizens to participate in the budget process in order to rectify, if not improve spending priorities and to ensure transparency in the use of taxpayer’s money;

WHEREAS, Section 40, Article XII of the Bangsamoro Organic Law stipulates the Bangsamoro Government's full disclosure policy and ensures the participation of representatives from CSOs, to wit:

Section 40. Full Disclosure Policy. - *The Bangsamoro Government adopts a policy of full disclosure of its budget, finances, bids and public offerings, and shall provide protocols for the guidance of local authorities in the implementations of said policy which shall include, among the others, the posting of the Summary of Income and Expenditures, and the participation of representatives from civil society in the budget process. The same policy shall apply to its constituent local government units as may be provided in a Bangsamoro local government code to be enacted by the Parliament;*

WHEREAS, the same is likewise echoed in Section 3 (i) and (j), Declaration of Principles and Policies in the Introductory Provisions of the Bangsamoro Administrative Code (BAA No. 13):

i. The Bangsamoro Government shall encourage the participation of non-governmental, community-based, and sectoral organizations in government affairs that promote the welfare of the region and its people;

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j. The Bangsamoro Government, in pursuit of moral governance, shall maintain honesty, integrity, transparency and accountability,

participation in governance and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption; and

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority:

TO CALL ON THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, BUDGET, AND MANAGEMENT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS) IN THE PREPARATION AND AUTHORIZATION OF THE ANNUAL REGIONAL BUDGET BY PROVIDING EFFECTIVE MECHANISMS THEREFOR

Adopted,


ATTY. MAISARA C. DANDAMUN-LATIPH
Member of Parliament – Bangsamoro Transition Authority