

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

BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
PARLIAMENT
(Second Regular Session)

Journal No. 42
August 26 and 27, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

At 2:04 P.M., the Speaker, Hon. Ali Pangalian M. Balindong, called the session to order.

INVOCATION

Upon request of the Speaker, Hon. MP D. Ibrahim Ali led the invocation.

SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND THE BANGSAMORO HYMN

Thereafter, the singing of the National Anthem and the Bangsamoro Hymn followed.

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretariat called the Roll and the following Members of the BTA Parliament were physically present:

1. Hon. Akmad I. Abas
2. Hon. Haron M. Abas
3. Hon. Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong
4. Hon. Abdulla A. Ahang
5. Hon. Faiz S. Alauddin
6. Hon. Ibrahim D. Ali
7. Hon. Lanang T. Ali, Jr.
8. Hon. Zesar H. Alil
9. Hon. Suharto M. Ambolodto
10. Hon. Susana S. Anayatin
11. Hon. Ali Pangalian M. Balindong
12. Hon. Hadji Abduladzis M. Esmael
13. Hon. Abdullah E. Gayak
14. Hon. Rasul E. Ismael
15. Hon. Raissa H. Jajurie
16. Hon. Bainon G. Karon
17. Hon. Mussolini S. Lidasan
18. Hon. Don Mustapha A. Loong
19. Hon. Amilbahar S. Mawallil
20. Hon. Datu Midpantao M. Midtimbang
21. Hon. Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr.

22. Hon. Hussein P. Muñoz
23. Hon. Suwaib L. Oranon
24. Hon. Ubaida C. Pacasem
25. Hon. Abdulwahab M. Pak
26. Hon. Edrieza N.H. Rimbang
27. Hon. Said Z. Salendab
28. Hon. Romeo C. Saliga
29. Hon. Ali O. Salik
30. Hon. Alzad T. Sattar
31. Hon. Omar Yasser C. Sema
32. Hon. Romeo K. Sema
33. Hon. Aida M. Silongan
34. Hon. Ali B. Solaiman
35. Hon. Paisalin P. Tago
36. Hon. Melanio U. Ulama
37. Hon. Adzfar H. Usman
38. Hon. Mohammad S. Yacob
39. Hon. Narciso C. Yu Ekey

The following Members of the BTA Parliament were virtually present:

1. Hon. Laisa M. Alamia
2. Hon. Eddie M. Alih
3. Hon. Baintan A. Ampatuan
4. Hon. Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra
5. Hon. Anna Tarhata S. Basman
6. Hon. Mohammad Zainoden P. Bato
7. Hon. Abraham T. Burahan
8. Hon. Musa K.S. Diamla
9. Hon. Saffrullah M. Dipatuan
10. Hon. Bai Maleiha B. Candao
11. Hon. Abdullah B. Hashim
12. Hon. Maisara D. Latiph
13. Hon. Jose I. Lorena
14. Hon. Abdullah G. Macapaar
15. Hon. Jamel D. Macaraya
16. Hon. Marjanie S. Macasalong
17. Hon. Khadafeh G. Mangudadatu
18. Hon. Datu Tucao O. Mastura
19. Hon. Sittie Shahara I. Mastura
20. Hon. Abdulmuhmin A. Mujahid
21. Hon. Nabila Margarita P. Pangandaman
22. Hon. Diamila D. Ramos
23. Hon. Modayao M. Sacar
24. Hon. Punduma B. Sani
25. Hon. Said M. Sheik
26. Hon. Nabil A. Tan

The Member of the BTA Parliament who was on official business:

1. Hon. Ahod B. Ebrahim

The following Members of the BTA Parliament were noted absent:

1. Hon. Zul Qarnyen M. Abas
2. Hon. Basit S. Abbas
3. Hon. Mudjib C. Abu

4. Hon. Muslima A. Asmawi
5. Hon. Eduard U. Guerra
6. Hon. Hatimil E. Hassan
7. Hon. Mohagher M. Iqbal
8. Hon. Muslimin A. Jakilan
9. Hon. Abdulraof A. Macacua
10. Hon. Malik A. Mantawil
11. Hon. Abdul R. Sahrin
12. Hon. Al-Syed A. Sali
13. Hon. Sahie S. Udjah

With sixty-five (65) Members of the BTA Parliament physically and virtually present, including the Speaker, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

At 2:09 P.M., the Chair *motu proprio* declared a one (1) minute suspension of the session.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 2:10 P.M., the session resumed with Hon. MP Omar Yasser C. Sema as the Presiding Officer.

READING AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL OF THE PREVIOUS SESSION

On motion of Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Lanang T. Ali Jr., duly seconded by the Presiding Officer Omar Yasser Sema and there being no objection, the reading of the Journal of the previous session, Journal No. 28 dated January 23-24, 2020 was dispensed with and the same was approved.

READING AND REFERRAL OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

Thereafter, the Secretary-General, Prof. Raby B. Angkal, upon direction of the Chair, read the titles of the following proposed resolutions which were, in turn, on separate motions of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, referred by the Chair to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder, viz:

1. Proposed Resolution No. 265, entitled:

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO
ADMINISTER COVID-19 RAPID ANTIBODY TEST TO ALL
THE MEMBERS OF THE BANGSAMORO TRANSITION
AUTHORITY AS WELL AS THEIR IMMEDIATE STAFFS

Author: MP Maisara D. Latiph

To the Committee on Health

2. Proposed Resolution No. 267, entitled:

A RESOLUTION CREATING BOARD OF INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO REVIEW THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION ISSUE AND MARITIME TRANSIT RIGHTS OF BARMM OVER THE SIBUTU CHANNEL IN TAWI-TAWI, DETERMINING ITS ECONOMIC AND SECURITY IMPLICATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE

Authors: MP Ali B. Sangki

Co-Authors: MP Mujib C. Abu and MP Abdulla A. Ahang

To the Committee on Transportation and Communications

3. Proposed Resolution No. 269, entitled:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE BANGSAMORO PARLIAMENT TO PRIORITIZE MENTAL HEALTH AND DIRECTING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND OTHER RELEVANT MINISTRIES/AGENCIES TO FORMULATE COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS) PROGRAMS FOR THE BANGSAMORO REGION

Authors: MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr., MP Laisa M. Alamia, MP Suharto M. Ambolodto, MP Baintan Adil-Ampatuan, MP Maleiha B. Candao, MP Saffrullah M. Dipatuan, MP Bainon G. Karon, MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman

Co-authors: MP Maisara D. Latiph, MP Punduma B. Sani, MP Ziaur Rahman Alonto Adiong, MP Ibrahim D. Ali, MP Aida M. Silongan, MP Nabil Tan, MP Eddie M. Alih, MP Abdulmuhmin A. Mujahid, MP Nabila Margarita Pangandaman, MP Susana S. Anayatin, MP Zesar H. Alil, Ali O. Salik, MP Mohammad Zainoden Bato, MP Modayao Sacar and MP Abdulazis M. Esmael

To the Committee on Health

4. Proposed Resolution No. 270, entitled:

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE BANGSAMORO PARLIAMENT COMMITTEES ON SOCIAL SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT, AND INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE RECENT MASS DEPORTATION OF BANGSAMORO CONSTITUENTS FROM SABAH

Author: MP Maisara Cudia Dandamun-Latiph

Co-Authors: MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil, MP Dr. Susana S. Anayatin, MP Eddie M. Alih, MP Engr. Aida M. Silongan, MP Melanio Ulama, MP Atty. Rasol Y. Mitmug Jr., MP Ibrahim D. Ali, MP Haron M. Abas, MP Modayao M. Sacar, MP Diamila Disimban-Ramos, and MP Mohammad Zainoden P. Bato

To the Committee on Social Services and Development and the
Committee on Local Government

5. Proposed Resolution No. 275, entitled:

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE PROTECTION AND
PRESERVATION OF DIMAPATTOY WATERSHED THAT
SUPPLIES PORTABLE WATER TO COTABATO CITY AND
SOME PARTS OF MAGUINDANAO PROVINCE

Author: MP Susana S. Anayatin

Co-Authors: MP Nabil A. Tan, MP Aida M. Silongan, MP Ali O. Salik,
MP Romeo C. Saliga, MP Melanio U. Ulama, MP Datu Mussolini S.
Lidasan, MP Safrullah M. Dipatuan, MP Omar Yasser C. Sema, MP
Maisara D. Latiph, MP Eddie M. Alih, MP Mohammad S. Yacob
and MP Bainon G. Karon

To the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Energy

TREATMENT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AS SIMPLE RESOLUTIONS AND
THEIR INCLUSION IN THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

Upon further direction of the Chair, the Secretary-General likewise read the titles
of the following proposed resolutions which were, in turn, on separate motions of the
Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, referred to the
appropriate committees, viz:

1. Proposed Resolution No. 286, entitled:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND
MOST SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE
LATE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE
PEACE PROCESS UNDERSECRETARY DIMASANGCAY
ALANGADI PUNDATO

Authors: MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong, Speaker Ali Pangalian M.
Balindong, Deputy Chief Minister Alim B. Solaiman, MP Susana S.
Anayatin, MP Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra, MP Anna Tarhata S.
Basman, MP Jose I. Lorena, MP Abdulraof A. Macacua, MP
Nabilah Margarita P. Pangandaman, MP Punduma S. Sani, MP
Nabil A. Tan, MP Musa K. Diamla, MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr., MP
Paisalin P. Tago and MP Narciso C. Yu Ekey

2. Proposed Resolution No. 289, entitled:

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE AUGUST 24, 2020 TWIN
BOMBINGS IN DOWNTOWN JOLO, SULU, IN THE
STRONGEST TERMS, AND URDING THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE DAY TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO THE
FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS

Authors: Deputy Speaker Hatimil E. Hassan, MP Laisa M. Alamia, MP
Amilbahar S. Mawallil, MP Eddie M. Alih, MP Abraham T.

Burahan, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, MP Atty. Jose I. Lorena, MP Al-Syed A. Sali, MP Atty. Nabil A. Tan, MP Adzfar H. Usman, MP Atty. Suharto M. Ambolodto, MP Baintan A. Ampatuan, MP Rasul E. Ismael and Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr.

FIRST STAGE OF BILL: NONE

SECOND STAGE OF BILLS: NONE

RELINQUISHMENT OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR BY THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER TO THE DEPUTY MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

At this juncture, the Majority Floor Leader relinquished the majority floor to the Deputy Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie, as the former would render a committee report to the body.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 32

Subsequently, the body proceeded to consider Committee Report No. 32 as jointly reported out by the Committee on Rules and the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management, through Committee on Rules Chairman, Hon. MP Lanang T. Ali, Jr., re: Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 entitled:

AN ACT CREATING BANGSAMORO SPORTS COMMISSION,
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANDATE, POWERS, AND FUNCTIONS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

recommending for its approval with amendments hereunder stated, to wit:

1. Delete the word “further” from the second paragraph of *Section 2. Declaration of Policy*, to read as follows:

It shall develop innovative and productive individuals, promote sportsmanship, cooperation, encourage and support indigenous games, martial arts and amateur sports.;

2. Add another paragraph from *Section 2. Declaration of Policy*, to read as follows:

It shall further recognize the diverse culture of the region and consider gender, culture, and religious sensitivity. ;

3. Insert another section for *Definition of Terms* to replace *Section 3. Bangsamoro Sports Commission*, to read as follows:

Section 3. Definition of Terms- As used in this act, the following terms are defined as follows:

(a) Sports- shall refer to an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment.

It includes all forms of competitive physical activity or games which through casual or organized participation, at least in part aim to use, maintain or improve physical ability and skills while providing enjoyment to participants, and in some cases, entertainment for spectators. Sports can bring positive results to one's physical health.

It is also generally recognized as system of activities which are based in physical athleticism or physical dexterity.

(b) Sports Advisory Council – Is a council who give advices to the Chairman of the Sports Commission regarding all matters relating to sport including capital expenditure priorities, allocation of grants to sporting societies, sports development, international competitions, availability and use of sports facilities.

(c) Indigenous Games - Indigenous games are recreational activities that originated from a particular cultural group, community or people. This creates many different versions of the same game. Indigenous games are a very important part of a people's heritage and culture. They preserve age-old traditions and stories of the people group.

In Philippines, Traditional Filipino Games or Indigenous Games (Laro ng Lahi) are games commonly played by children, usually using native materials or instruments. Their games' complexity arises from their flexibility to think and act.

(d) Sportsmanship – Is an ethical, appropriate, polite and fair behavior while participating in a game or athletic event.

It is also a conduct and attitude of participants in sports, especially when considered commendable as in fair play, courtesy, and grace in losing.;

4. The section provided for *Bangsamoro Sports Commission*, previously Section 3, will now become Section 4;

5. Insert another section for *Nature of the Commission* to become Section 5, to read as follows:

Section 5. Nature of the Commission. — The Commission shall exercise corporate powers. It shall have a seal, may sue and be sued, and shall be the policy-making and coordinating body of all amateur sports development programs and institutions in the Bangsamoro: Provided, That in the case of the school sports development program, the same shall be formulated and implemented by the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE) with the assistance of the Commission within the framework of the regional and national sports development program.;

6. The section provided for *Mandate*, previously Section 4, will now become Section 6. Moreover, insert another sentence to read as follows:

*Section 6. Mandate. — The BSC shall formulate policy, promote, regulate, coordinate, and implement programs for sports. It shall also provide for system, support and assistance in the development of sports. **It shall, as a policy, make sure that sports is a tool for peace and transitional justice.** ;*

7. The section provided for *Composition*, previously Section 5, will now become Section 7. Moreover, insert the phrases “including Lamitan City” and “including Marawi City” to numbers (1) and (2), accordingly, of letter (a) to read as follows:

1. Province of Basilan **including Lamitan City**;
2. Province of Lanao del Sur **including Marawi City**;
3. x x x ;

8. The section provided for *Appointment and Term of Office*, previously Section 6, will now become Section 8. Furthermore, the section is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 8. Appointment and Term of Office. — The Chief Minister shall appoint with fix term of seven (7) years, the Chairperson and the Commissioners of the BSC for a term of seven years. For the first appointees under this Act, the term of office shall be staggered. The Chairperson shall hold office for seven (7) years, the two regular commissioners shall serve five (5) years, and the remaining two (2) regular commissioners shall serve three (3) years.

The term of the Chairperson and Commissioners shall start on the day immediately after the end of the previous term regardless of the date of appointment. Appointment to any vacancy occurring during the term shall be only for the remaining portion of said term and the appointee therein shall not be eligible for reappointment except when the latter served less than two years of the unexpired term.

The two (2) ex officio Commissioners shall be designated by Chief Minister among the three nominees submitted each by the Ministry of Indigenous People's Affairs and the Office for Settler Communities. In no case, an ex officio be designated for more than seven (7) years. Further, they must be organic personnel of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Government and had meet the requirements in the next two (2) provisions.;

9. The section provided for *Qualification*, previously Section 7, will now become 9. Moreover, the section is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 9. Qualification. —No person shall be appointed as Chairperson or a Commissioner, unless he/she possesses the following qualifications:

(a) A citizen of the Philippines;

(b) Must be of proven integrity, professional competence, probity, and independence;

*(c) **At least 21 years of age at the time of appointment;***

(d) A resident of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region for at least five (5) years prior to the date of appointment;

*(e) **A registered voter in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of the Major Political Subdivisions he/she represents as provided in section 7 hereof;***

(f) Have occupied positions of responsibility and leadership in the government, duly registered sport's organizations, or sport-serving organizations and/or institutions; and

(g) Have not been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude.

A majority of the Commissioners shall hold a bachelor's degree from recognized colleges or universities.;

10. Delete, entirely, the section provided for *Disqualifications*, previously Section 8;
11. Delete, entirely, the section provided for *Prohibition*, previously Section 9;
12. The section provided for *Salary, Retirement, Benefits and Other Privileges of the Chairperson and the Commissioners* will remain Section 10;
13. *Section 11. Powers and Functions of the BSC* is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 11. Powers and Functions of the BSC. – The BSC shall have the following powers and functions:

(a) On Plan and Policy-Making:

- 1. prepare Bangsamoro Sports and Development Plan with the participation of relevant ministries, agencies, offices and other stakeholders;*
- 2. recommend sports policies for legislations by the Parliament;*
- 3. undertake basic and applied research on sports development including the promotion and preservation of indigenous sports;*
- 4. conduct research that seeks to develop sports, promote, uphold, and protect the welfare and rights of Bangsamoro athletes;*
- 5. undertake research in making sports as instrument to fight against criminalities, drugs, violent extremism; and as a vehicle for peace;*
- 6. pilot special programs for the development of sports in the Bangsamoro;*
- 7. for appropriate action by the Bangsamoro Government; and*
- 8. making sports as a tool for peace and transitional justice;*

(b) On Coordination and Sports Promotion:

- 1. coordinate and maintain linkages with the Philippine Sports Commission, National Sports Commission or organizations of other countries, and other non-governmental organizations, local or foreign, whose main objective is sports promotion and development;*
- 2. coordinate with the Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education regarding Palarong Pambansa, BARMMAA and other athletic competitions;*
- 3. in coordination with the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, engage with organizations dealing youth, out-of-school youth, marginalized children, persons with disability, and other vulnerable sectors to develop their potential in sports;*
- 4. convene appropriate sports bodies both from public and private sectors;*
- 5. assist in the establishment of regional, provincial, municipal and barangay or school district sports promotion and development councils,*

which shall initiate, conduct and coordinate sports activities in their respective jurisdictions;

6. assist the local government units (LGUs) in promoting sports at the community level, especially those included in the calendar of events of regional, national and international competitions;

7. provide technical assistance and capacity building to relevant stakeholders;

8. participate in the reporting to international bodies tasked to monitor implementation of sports programs;

9. provide such incentives, recognition and awards to deserving athletes and other persons and entities involved in or supporting sports development as may be permissible under the rules of amateurism; and

10. refer specific cases of athletes needing assistance and interventions to Bangsamoro Government agencies, national government agencies and other stakeholders; and as far as practicable, establish and maintain fully-equipped sports facilities and centers in strategic places in the area of autonomy and supervise the management and maintenance thereof;

(c) On Regulation:

1. impose sanctions upon any regional sports association, institution, association, body, entity, and team including athletes and sports official for violation of its policies, rules and regulations;

2. accreditation sports club and people's organizations operating in the Bangsamoro engaged in the protection and promotion of sports;

3. acquire, procure and distribute sportswear, equipment, instruments, tools and other sports necessities necessary and required for training of regional pool of athletes;

4. define and delineate areas of responsibilities in different sports competition of all sectors involved in sports promotion and development; and

5. monitor, assess and ensure compliance of Bangsamoro Government agencies with the issued guidelines and implementation of their sports programs. For this purpose, the BSC may require all ministries, agencies and offices of the Bangsamoro Government to submit their sports plan and budget as well as regular reports on the status of implementation and utilization thereof;

(d) To enter into contract in relation to their mandates;

(e) To acquire, possess, and dispose of real and personal properties in furtherance of its mandates;

(f) In close coordination with the Office of the Chief Minister (OCM), solicit and accept grants, aid, donations and gift, in cash or in kind, or enter into agreements with any legitimate entity, local or foreign, consistent with its mandate subject to the limitations as set for under section 26, Article 12 of the Bangsamoro Organic Law.

(g) To acquire, use and control any land, building, facilities, equipment, instruments, tools and rights required or otherwise necessary for the accomplishment of the purposes of the BSC; and

(h) Ensure the implementation by various government departments and agencies of their sports promotion and development programs as indicated in their respective budgets.

The BSC may perform any and all other acts incidental to delivery of its mandate.;

14. Amend letter (c) of *Section 12. Organizational Structure* to read as follows

(c) Office of the Secretariat composed of; (1) Policy, Research, and Development Division; (2) Regulatory, Promotion, and Coordination Division; and (3) Finance and Administrative Division. ;

15. *Section 16. Office of the Chairperson* is hereby amended and simplified to read as follows:

Section 16. Office of the Chairperson. - The Chairperson shall ensure that the powers and functions of the Commission will be carried out. ;

16. *Section 19. Office of the Secretariat of the Commission* is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 19. Office of the Secretariat of the Commission. — There shall be Office of the Secretariat of the Commission who shall serve as the Executive Director, with Salary Grade 26, its function is to assist and support the Commission Proper. The Secretariat is composed of three (3) divisions such as: (1) Policy, Research and Development Division; (2) Regulatory, Promotion and Coordination Division; and (3) Financial and Administrative Division. ;

17. Insert another section after *Section 19*, to provide for *Powers and Functions of the Chief Executive Officer* to become *Section 20*, to read as follows:

Section 20. Powers and Functions of the Chief Executive Officer. The following are the powers and functions of the Executive Director:

(a) exercises administrative supervision over all officials and employees of the BSC except the Commissioners;

(b) exercises personnel action of appointment, hiring, designation, reassignment, rotation, secondment, detail, and disciplining. Provided that when the action involves the removal of a personnel, it should be with the concurrence of the Commission Proper;

(c) exercises full supervision and oversees the implementation of all programs, projects, services, and activities of the BSC;

(d) represents the BSC in all its business transactions and signs, on its behalf, contracts, and obligations, and such other documents made pursuant to a resolution of the Commission Proper; and

(e) performs such other powers as may be vested by the Commission Proper. ;

18. The section provided for *Policy, Research, and Development Division*, previously Section 20, will now become Section 21 and is hereby amended to read as follows:

*Section 21. Policy, Research, and Development Division. —The Policy, Research and Development Division, **which shall be headed by a Division Chief, with Salary Grade 25**, shall assist the BSC in the research, policy, and development of sports in the Bangsamoro. It shall also develop the knowledge, skills, abilities, tools, and technical approaches of the BSC. ;*

19. The section provided for *Regulatory, Promotion, and Coordination Division*, previously Section 21, will now become Section 22 and is hereby amended to read as follows:

*Section 22. Regulatory, Promotion, and Coordination Division.—The Regulatory, Promotion and Coordination Division, **which shall be headed by a Division Chief, with Salary Grade 25**, shall assist the BSC in regulatory powers such as issuance of rules and regulations, guidelines, compliance, monitoring and evaluation, and other related matters on regulatory power of the BSC. It shall also be responsible for sports education and training, programming, technical assistance, public information and production, coordination and cooperation, and linkages with other sports associations, commissions or organizations. ;*

20. The section provided for *Financial and Administrative Division*, previously Section 22, will now become Section 23 and is hereby amended to read as follows:

*Section 23. Financial and Administrative Division.—The Financial and Management Division, **which shall be headed by a Division Chief, with Salary Grade 25**, shall provide advice, support and assist the BSC on matters of budget, finance, planning, management, information technology, planning, personnel, records, supplies and equipment and other support and administrative services. ;*

21. The section provided for *Assistance by Bangsamoro Government Entities*, previously Section 23, will now become Section 24;

22. The section provided for *Appropriations*, previously Section 24, will now become Section 25;

23. The section provided for *Repealing Clause*, previously Section 25, will now become Section 26;

24. The section provided for *Separability Clause*, previously Section 26, will now become Section 27; and

25. The section provided for *Effectivity*, previously Section 27, will now become Section 28 and is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 28. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least (1) newspaper of general circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 32

Thereupon, on the motion of the Deputy Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie, duly seconded and there being no objection, the Committee Report No. 52 was adopted.

TURNING OVER OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR TO THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER BY THE DEPUTY MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

At this point, the Deputy Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie turned over the majority floor to the Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Lanang T. Ali, Jr.

MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Thereafter, Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Lanang T. Ali, Jr., when recognized, manifested that the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 had been deliberated in the period of debate and interpellation, stressing that, in fact, in their last session, they were already in period of amendments for the said bill. In view thereof, he moved that the body dispense the period of debate and interpellation and proceed to the period of amendments.

QUERY OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan inquired if the committee amendments during the committee hearings had already been included in the committee report, to which the Majority Floor Leader responded affirmatively.

As to what those amendments are, the Majority Floor Leader answered that the amendments pertain to the Declaration of Policies in Section 2 and Definition of Terms in Section 3 of the bill as proposed by Hon. MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr., Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan, Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong and Hon. MP Jamel D. Macaraya.

QUERY OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair inquired if the Majority Floor Leader had a presentation of the summary of the amendments.

RESPONSE OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

In response to the query of the Chair, the Majority Floor Leader stated that he did not have a presentation. He, however, mentioned that the body agreed in the previous session that the Committee on Rules would be the one to decide whether to accept or not the proposed amendments submitted to it. He explained that the bill was recommitted, so that there would be no more deliberations in the plenary since they were already in the period of amendments that time.

FURTHER QUERY OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Chair further inquired if Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan was satisfied with the response of the Majority Floor Leader, to which Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan replied that he just wanted to be clarified if the committee amendments were incorporated before they would go to the individual amendments.

INFORMATION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Thereafter, the Majority Floor Leader, when recognized, informed the body during their last deliberation of the bill, they were already in the period of amendments. He added that there were four (4) to five (5) Members of the Parliament who lined up in the podium but the body decided to transmit their proposed amendments to the Committee on Rules which would decide to either accept or deny the proposed amendments. Thus, he stressed that the Committee on Rules was returning the amendments back to the plenary session in the period of amendments since they had concluded the period of debate and interpellation.

QUERY OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair inquired from the Secretary-General if the Members of the Parliament on zoom had been e-mailed copies of Committee Report No. 32, to which the Secretary-General responded that the Committee Affairs Division have already e-mailed copies of the committee report to the Members of the Parliament.

FURTHER QUERY OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Chair inquired if Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan was satisfied with the answer of the Secretary-General that the committee report has been emailed to him.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP TAN

In response to the query of the Chair, Hon. MP Nabil Tan stated that he would look for the emailed committee report. He, however, manifested that since they were already in the period of amendments, he had no any other comments on the matter.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Chair commented that Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan still has the right to propose amendments.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

When still recognized, Hon. MP Atty. Nabil Tan manifested that he just wanted to be clarified, especially on the salary grades which according to him should be uniform with the salary grades of the other commissions which the BTA Parliament has created.

COMMENT OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Thereafter, the Presiding Officer commented that the manifestation of Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan was noted.

QUERY OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR MAWALLIL

Subsequently, Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil inquired on the procedure for the consideration of the recommitted bill, since it was the first time that a bill was recommitted by the Parliament.

RESPONSE OF MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Whereupon, the Majority Floor Leader, when recognized, responded that they could still have a period of debate interpellation. He explained that his motion was to dispense with the period of debate and interpellation because they had already interpellation on the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 in their previous session. He stressed that if his motion would be approved, then they could proceed to the period of amendments.

REMARK OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair remarked that in their last session, they had agreed to recommit the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 after they terminated the Period of debate and Interpellation. He explained that they recommitted the bill because they would want the Committee on Rules to review the proposed amendments on the said bill and come up with a committee report.

COMMENT OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

In his comment, Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil stated that he was not questioning the way how they recommitted the bill, saying that his question was on the procedure for the consideration of the recommitted bill which the Majority had said that they could still have a period of debate and interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

At 2:44 P.M., the Chair *motu proprio* declared a one-minute suspension of the session.

RESUMPTION

At 2:45 P.M., the session resumed.

APPROVAL OF THE MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Considering that the motion of the Majority Floor Leader to dispense with the period of debate and interpellation and to proceed to the period of amendments for the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 was duly seconded, and there being no objection, the same was approved.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

When recognized, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago manifested that the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 was recommitted to the Committee on Rules with the understanding that the individual amendments would be reviewed and incorporated in the Committee, so that when the bill would be returned to the plenary, it would be approved by the body. He stressed that if the bill would be discussed again in the plenary, the amendments incorporated in the Committee would be pointless as it would only prolong the approval of the bill. He emphasized that there would be no further amendments as the individual amendment were already submitted to the Committee for incorporation in the bill.

COMMENT OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Whereupon, the Majority Floor Leader, when recognized, commented that he shared the manifestation of Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago. He mentioned that they have already given the Members of the Parliament time to submit their proposed amendments to the Committee on Rules. Hence, he emphasized that it was the reason why they should proceed to the approval of the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 on Second Reading.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP JOSE I. LORENA

When recognized, Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena mentioned that it is clear under Rule XXI, Section 2 that the first amendment is the committee amendment. He pointed out that

Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 was deliberated upon on the floor and that they have completed the interpellation. He added that they were already in the period of individual amendments before they recommitted the bill to the Committee on Rules. He stated that the idea of recommitting the bill was for the Committee to incorporate the individual amendments, since there were many amendments proposed.

He manifested that considering they were already in the period of individual amendments, he would just want to see whether the individual amendments have already been incorporated in the bill. He shared the idea of Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago that there would be no need any more for further amendments.

COMMENT OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Thereafter, the Majority Floor Leader commented that he agreed to the manifestation of Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Chair commented that the manifestation of Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena was duly noted.

QUERY OF HON. MP ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG

When recognized, MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong expressed that he has a separate opinion on the matter but he would reserve it. Then, he asked clarification on Section 25 of the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 as to whether the amount mentioned would be charged to the present budget or to the 2021 budget, because they would still have to deliberate on the 2021 budget.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader, the Chair declared a one-minute suspension of the session at 2:51 P.M.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 2:53 P.M., the session resumed.

CLARIFICATION OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair stated that the query of Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong would be addressed and clarified later, saying that the period of

amendments had not yet been terminated and they still had opportunities for individual amendments.

MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

In view of the query of Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong on the appropriation, the Majority Floor Leader, when recognized, moved to defer the consideration of Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 until the submission by the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management of the proposed formulation of the appropriation section of the said bill after the joint meeting the Committee on Rules and the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management.

QUERY OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair asked if the Majority Floor Leader could call for a meeting with the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management the following day in the morning, to which the Majority Floor Leader replied in the affirmative.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG

Thereupon, Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong, when recognized, manifested that he subscribed to the wisdom of the Majority Floor Leader and seconded latter's motion.

CLARIFICATION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

Subsequently, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago, when recognized, clarified that they already had a meeting with the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management and that the initial funding of the Bangsamoro Sports Commission was already approved. He emphasized that there was already a committee report and the availability of the initial funds was duly certified by the Minister of Finance, and Budget and Management.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader, the Chair declared a one-minute suspension of the session at 2:55 P.M.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 2:56 P.M., the session resumed.

APPROVAL OF THE MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

The motion of the Majority Floor Leader to defer the consideration of Committee Substitute Bill No. 52, having been duly seconded, and there being no objection, was approved.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader, the Chair declared a 15-minute suspension of the session for As'r Prayer at 2:58 P.M.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 3:38 P.M., the session resumed.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 28

At this juncture, the body proceed to consider Committee Report No. 28 as reported out by the Committee on Labor and Employment, through Committee Chairman, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema, re: BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36, entitled:

AN ACT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE POLICIES FOR THE BANGSAMORO OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT AND ESTABLISHING A STANDARD OF PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE OF OVERSEAS BANGSAMORO WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Principal Author: MP Romeo K. Sema

Co-Authors: MP Akmad I. Abas, MP Zul Qarney M. Abas, MP Bassit S. Abbas, MP Abdullah A. Ahang, MP Laisa M. Alamia, MP Faiz S. Alauddin, MP Eddie M. Alih, Speaker Ali Pangalian M. Balindong, MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman, ICM Ahod B. Ebrahim, MP Eduard U. Guerra, MP Abdullah B. Hashim, MP Mohagher M. Iqbal, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, MP Abdullah G. Macapaar, MP Marjanie S. Macasalong, MP Malik A. Mantawil, MP Datu Tucao O. Mastura, MP Sittie Shahara I. Mastura, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil, MP Maisara D. Latiph, MP Ubaida C. Pacasem, MP Nabila Margarita P. Pangandaman, MP Diamila D. Ramos, MP Said Z. Salendab, MP Romeo C. Saliga, MP Alzad T. Sattar, MP Nabil A. Tan, MP Ali O. Salik, MP Suwaib L. Oranon, MP Narciso C. Yu Ekey and MP Abraham T. Burahan.

respectfully recommending for its approval with amendments, to wit:

1. Insertion of Whereas clause after the Enactment Clause to read as:

“WHEREAS, the Article XIII, Section 3 of the 1987 Constitution, the State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all.”

2. The insertion of “Article I. GENERAL PROVISIONS” as the title before Section 1 of the proposed bill.
3. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, a short title “The Bangsamoro Government:” were added before the paragraph (a).
4. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, the words “The Bangsamoro Government” at the beginning of paragraph (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (i), (j), and (k) were deleted.
5. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, the word “the” was inserted between the words “dignity of” and “Bangsamoro” in paragraph (b).
6. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, the words “in country” after the word “whether” and before the words “or overseas” were deleted and replaced with the word “local” in paragraph (b).
7. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, paragraph (c) to read as

(c) The Bangsamoro government shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. Towards this end, it shall provide adequate and timely social, economic and legal services to overseas Bangsamoro workers;

was changed to

(c) Shall provide adequate and timely social, economic and legal services to overseas Bangsamoro workers;

8. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, the words “Shall provide” at the beginning of paragraph (g) were deleted.
9. In section 2. Declaration of Policies, the word “Recognizes” at the beginning of paragraph (h) was deleted.
10. Addition of another section, Section 3. Coverage to read as
Section 3. Coverage - This Act applies to all Overseas Bangsamoro Workers and Overseas Bangsamoro within or outside Bangsamoro territory.
11. In section 4. Definitions, all the terms defined were punctuated with quotation marks and are followed with a dash before their definitions.
12. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (a), the insertion of the word “people” after the word “Bangsamoro” and before the word “refers”.
13. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (b), the insertion of the words “shall be engaged” after the word “who” and before the words “is engaged”.
14. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (b), the deletion of the words “is to be engaged” after the word “who” and before the words “is engaged”.

15. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (b), the word “a” after the words “activity in” and before the word “state” was replaced with the word “another”.
16. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (b), the insertion of the words “shall be engaged” after the word “who” and before the words “is engaged”.
17. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (c), the insertion of the words “resident” after the word “permanent,” and after the word “temporary”.
18. In Section 4. Definitions, paragraph (c), the word “legal” after the word “temporary” and before the words “or unauthorized” was replaced with the word “authorized”.
19. In section 4. Definitions, additional paragraphs ((f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q), (r), (s), (t)) were added to read as

(f) “Employment Contract/Offer of Employment”- refers to an individual written agreement between the principal/employer and the worker who is hired through a licensed recruitment agency or through the Administration, containing the minimum terms and conditions of employment as provided under these Rules.

(g) “Employer”- refers to a person, partnership, or corporation that directly signs an employment contract, and employs, and pays salaries and benefits of workers, as well as repatriates hired Overseas Bangsamoro Workers.

(h) “Placement Fee”- refers to any and all amounts charged by a recruitment agency from a worker for its recruitment and placement services as prescribed by the Minister of Labor and Employment.

(i) “Recruitment Agency”- refers to any person, partnership or corporation duly authorized to engage in the recruitment and placement of workers for overseas employment.

(j) “Repatriation”- is the process of returning a person—voluntarily or forcibly—to its owner or their place of origin or citizenship.

(k) “Documentation cost”- refers to the actual costs incurred in the documentation of an applicant/worker in relation to his/her application for overseas employment.

(l) “Licensed Recruitment Agency”- refers to a Recruitment Agency whether local or foreign which is registered before the Philippines Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) to engage in a manpower recruitment activity within the Philippines.

(m) “MOLE Accredited Recruitment Agency”- refers to a Licensed Recruitment Agency which is registered before the Ministry of Labor Employment to engage in a Right to equality. There shall be equal treatment on workers based on race, color, sex, language, religion, political beliefs, and age.

- (n) “DFA” — refers to the Department of Foreign Affairs.
- (o) “MOLE” – refers to Ministry of Labor and Employment.
- (p) “OFW”- refers to Overseas Filipino Workers.
- (q) “OBW”- refers to Overseas Bangsamoro Workers.
- (r) “OB”- refers to Overseas Bangsamoro.
- (s) “BEPW” refers to Bureau of Employment and Promotion Welfare.
- (t) “OWWB” refers to Overseas Workers Welfare Bureau.

20. Another Article. Article II. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BANGSAMORO OVERSEAS WORKERS with Sections 5 and 6. To read as

Article II.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BANGSAMORO OVERSEAS WORKERS

Section 5. Every OBW shall have the following rights;

The preceding enumerated rights shall include all the rights and privileges recognized under the national laws and international laws, declaration and agreement on the rights and privileges of Overseas workers as well as those rights and privileges granted to them by the host country.

Section 6. Obligations of OBW. Consistent with the existing rules and regulations governing the Recruitment and Employment of Land based Overseas Filipino Workers, it is the duty of all Bangsamoro Overseas Filipino Workers to conduct themselves in the most professional, responsible and ethical manner in the performance of their duties and fulfill the following obligations:

- a. As to their family. Every OBW is obliged to provide the family ample financial and moral support; to communicate regularly; and to preserve the integrity of the family.
- b. As to their fellow workers. Every OBW shall assist, support, and cooperate with fellow workers; and refrain from committing acts which are detrimental to the interest of fellow workers.
- c. As to the country. Every OBW shall obey the laws of the Republic of the Philippines at all times; abide by this rules and regulations; and be an ambassador of goodwill of the country.
- d. As to their Licensed Recruitment Agency and Principal/Employer. Every OBW shall provide the licensed recruitment agency and principal/employer with accurate statements/certifications regarding his/her skill, experience and other qualifications; understand and abide with the terms and conditions of the employment contract as well as the company rules and regulations; and maintain a high level of professionalism and productivity in the performance of contractual obligations; and
- e. As to the host country. Every OBW shall respect the customs, traditions and religious practices of the host country, and obey the laws of the host country.

21. Another Article. Article III. PRE-EMPLOYMENT was added before section 23 with Sections 7 until Section 22. To read as

Article III. PRE-EMPLOYMENT

Section 7. Employment Standards. The Bangsamoro Government shall secure the best possible terms and conditions of employment for OBW. As such, it shall develop and continually review employment standards in accordance with policy thrusts and market developments.

Section 8. Minimum Provisions of Employment Contracts. Consistent with welfare promotion thrusts of the Bangsamoro Government, the following shall be the minimum provisions in employment contract for OBW:

- a. Complete name and address of the employer/company;
- b. Position and jobsite of the OBW;
- c. Basic monthly salary, including benefits and allowances and mode of payment. The salary shall not be lower than the prescribed minimum wage in the host country or prevailing minimum wage in the National Capital Region of the Philippines, whichever is higher;
- d. Food and accommodation or the monetary equivalent which shall be commensurate to the cost of living in the host country, or off-setting benefits;
- e. Commencement and duration of contract;
- f. Free transportation from and back to the point of hire, or off-setting benefits, and free inland transportation at the jobsite or off-setting benefits;
- g. Regular work hours and day off;
- h. Overtime pay for services rendered beyond the regular working hours, rest days and holidays;
- i. Vacation leave and sick leave for every year of service;
- j. Free emergency medical and dental treatment;
- k. Just/valid/authorized causes for termination of the contract or of the services of the workers, taking into consideration the customs, tradition, norms, mores, practices, company policies and the labor laws and social legislations of the host country;
- l. Settlements of disputes;
- m. Repatriation of worker in case of imminent danger due to war, calamity and other analogous circumstances, at the expense of employer; and
- n. In case of worker's death/repatriation of OBW human remains and personal belongings, at the expense of the employer.

The Bangsamoro Government in participation with the appropriate agency may formulate country-or-skills-specific policies and guidelines based on the following:

- a. Existing labor and social laws of the host country;
- b. Relevant and bilateral and multilateral agreements or arrangements with the host country; and
- c. Prevailing conditions/realities in the market.

Section 9. Freedom to stipulate. Parties to overseas employment contracts are allowed to stipulate other terms and conditions and other benefits. These benefits should be over and above the minimum requirements. Said benefits shall not be contrary to law, public policy and morals.

Section 10. Disclosure of Terms and Conditions of Employment. The Recruitment Agency shall, prior to the signing of the employment contracts, inform the OBWs of their rights and obligations; and disclosed the full terms and conditions of employment. The licensed recruitment agency shall likewise ensure that the OBW is provided with a copy of the BEPW-MOLE approved contract, to give the OBW ample opportunity to examine the same.

Section 11. Fees and Costs Chargeable to the Principal/Employer. Unless otherwise provided by law, regulations, or bilateral agreement or arrangement, the Principal/Employer shall pay the following:

- a. Visa and/or work permit fee;
- b. Air fare;
- c. BEPW – MOLE processing fee; and
- d. OWWB-MOLE Membership contribution;

Section 12. Fees/Costs Chargeable to the OBW. Unless otherwise provided by law, regulations, or bilateral agreement or arrangement, the OBW shall pay for the following documentary costs:

- a. Passport;
- b. NBI/police clearance;
- c. Authentication/notarization;
- d. Birth certificate;
- e. School credentials;
- f. Trade test/assessment, if necessary;
- g. Medical/health examination; and
- h. Inoculation, when required by host country.

Section 13. Prohibition Against Charging of Other Fees. No other charges in whatever amount, form, manner or purpose shall be charge against OBW, except those specified.

Section 14. Skills Testing for Applicant. An applicant for overseas employment shall undergo a skills test in a TESDA-MBHTE accredited skills testing center only after the licensed agency and/or its principal employer has pre-qualified him/her for work covered by an approved job order. The licensed recruitment agency shall ensure that the appropriate skills test shall be administered to the worker, corresponding to the position/job category applied for.

Section 15. Medical/Health Examination. The licensed recruitment agency shall require an applicant to undergo a medical/health examination as required by the medical protocol of the host country. The medical examination shall be conducted through a DOH-accredited medical clinic of his/her choice, and only after reasonable certainty that the worker shall be hired by the principal/employer under an approved job order.

The licensed recruitment agency shall ensure that the coverage of medical examination is in accordance with the standard requirements of the host government and the principal/employer.

Section 16. Applicant Workers' Registry. The Bangsamoro Government shall adopt system of registration of applicants-workers and maintain a registry of qualified applicants in accordance with the requirements of their occupations.

Section 17. Reports on Employment Status. Whenever the public interest requires, the Ministry may direct all persons or entities within the coverage of this Act. To submit report on the status of employment, and other employment data.

Section 18. Employment Age. The applicant must be of legal age to be ascertained by the Recruitment Agency during the early stage of his/her employment application.

If collusion has been committed by both parties to falsify the age of applicant, MOLE or any authorized Agency may intervene and may file appropriate action before a competent court.

Section 19. Employment Contract. An applicant must, after complying documentary and physical fitness requirements, be advised by the Recruitment Agency to be deployed in a certain foreign country an employment contract must be presented to the applicant and explain to him/her its content before signing the document.

Intent of non-disclosure and without explanation of the content of such contract shall be dealt accordingly by the Authorized Authority.

Section 20. MOLE Accredited Recruitment Agency. The applicant is advised to apply in a licensed and MOLE accredited Recruitment Agency.

Section 21. Documentary Cost. The process of employment application requires documents, necessarily costs must be borne by the Principal/Recruitment Agency.

Section 22. Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS). The applicant within the stage of the process of application but before departing the territory of Bangsamoro Region or origin country must undergo a mandatory Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS).

22. In section 23. Illegal Recruitment. The line “Article 13(f) of Presidential Decree No. 442, as amended, otherwise known as the Labor Code of the Philippines:” was replaced with “Bangsamoro Autonomous Act No. 9”. To read as

Section 23. Illegal Recruitment. For purposes of this Act, shall mean any act of canvassing, enlisting, contracting, transporting, utilizing, hiring, or procuring workers and includes referring, contract services, promising or advertising for employment abroad, whether for profit or not, when undertaken by non-licensee or non-holder of authority contemplated under Bangsamoro Autonomous Act No. 9. Provided, ...

23. In Section 23. Illegal Recruitment. Sub-paragraph (1), the line “with interest exceeding eight percent (8%) per annum” was replaced with the line “in violation of Islamic Financing” to read as

- (1) Grant a loan to an overseas Bangsamoro worker in violation of Islamic Financing with interest exceeding eight percent (8%) per annum, which will be used for payment of legal and allowable placement fees and make the migrant worker issue, either personally or through a guarantor or accommodation party, post-dated checks in relation to the said loan;

24. In Section 24. Deployment of Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. Paragraph (c), the words “National or Bangsamoro” were inserted after the words “with the” and before the word “government”.

25. In Section 26. Discrimination. In all process for the deployment of OBWs, there shall be no discrimination based on a person's appearance by reason of his religion, culture.

was changed to

Section 26. Discrimination. In all process for the deployment of OBWs, there shall be no discrimination based on a person's appearance by reason of his religion, tribe, gender, age, culture and political affiliation.

26. The title "Article V. POST-DEPLOYMENT" was inserted before Section 27 of this Proposed Bill.

Section 27. Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk. The MOLE in coordination with DFA and other agencies, shall have an overseas Bangsamoro workers Help Desk in every Philippine embassy of the country where OBWs has been deploy, which shall act primarily as help desk to assist, monitor, make inventory of all OBWs in respective country.

was changed to

Section 27. Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk. The MOLE in coordination with DFA and other agencies, shall have an overseas Bangsamoro workers Help Desk in every Philippine embassy of the country where OBWs has been deployed, which shall act primarily as help desk to assist, monitor, make and submit inventory of all OBWs in respective country, their employment status and condition to MOLE. The Overseas Bangsamoro Worker Help Desk Officer shall be appointed in a co-terminous position with the Chief Minister who shall appoint him/her upon the recommendation of Ministry of MOLE.

The personal services component shall be included in the budget of MOLE subject to the accounting rules and regulation.

27. In Section 28. Repatriation of Workers; Emergency Repatriation of Fund. The word "is" was inserted before the word "not" and after the word "agency".

28. In Section 30. Reintegration Program. The words "replacement" was replaced with the word "integration".

29. Addition of another section, Section 31 to read as

Section 31. Comprehensive Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Programs (CMHPSP). The MOLE through OWWB shall establish a program that will support the Mental Health and Psychosocial of the returning or repatriated and distressed OBW or OB.

30. The title "Article VI. PENALTIES" was inserted before Section 32 of this Proposed Bill.

31. In Section 3, the phrase "after final conviction" was inserted between the words "guilty" and "of illegal".

32. The title "Article VII. LEGAL ASSISTANCE" was inserted before Section 36 of this Proposed Bill.

33. In Section 36. Authority to File the Complaint. The last words of the first paragraph "prosecute the accused" was deleted and replaced with the line "to file a complaint against the respondent".

34. In Section 36. Authority to File the Complaint. Second Paragraph

In the prosecution of offenses punishable under this section, the MOLE and its bureaus will collaborate with public prosecutors of the Department of Justice (DOJ), in certain case, allow the MOLE through its authorize lawyer to take the lead in the prosecution for cases relating to violation of this act within its jurisdiction, or those outside of its jurisdiction but a subject of such is a Bangsamoro. The MOLE lawyers who act as prosecutors in such cases shall be entitled to receive additional allowances as may be determined by the Minister.

was changed to

In the prosecution of offenses punishable under this section, the MOLE and its bureaus will collaborate with public prosecutors of the Department of Justice (DOJ), in certain case, allow the MOLE through its authorize lawyer in the prosecution for cases relating to violation of this act within its jurisdiction under the direct control and supervision of public prosecutor. The MOLE lawyers who act as prosecutors in such cases shall be entitled to receive additional allowances as may be determined by the Minister.

35. In Section 36. Authority to File Complaint. Third Paragraph, the words "an offense" was replaced with the word "complaint" before the word "punishable" and after the words "the filing of".

36. In Section 36. Authority to File Complaint. Third Paragraph, the word "Sharia'h" was deleted.

37. In Section 36. Authority to File Complaint. Fifth Paragraph, the phrase ",foreign or domestic" were inserted before the words "in order" and after the word "lawyers".

38. In Section 36. Authority to File Complaint. Sixth Paragraph, the word "distress" after the words "available to a" and before the word "OBWs".

39. In Section 36. Authority to File Complaint. Sixth Paragraph, the word "OBWs" was changed into singular form.

40. Article VII was changed into Article VIII. SERVICES.

Section 39. Travel Advisory/Information Dissemination. To give utmost priority to the establishment of programs and services to prevent illegal recruitment, fraud, and exploitation or abuse of OBWs, The MOLE, issues travel advisor or disseminate information on labor and employment conditions, migration realities and other facts; and adherence of particular countries to international standards on human and workers' rights which will adequately prepare individuals into

making informed and intelligent decisions about overseas employment. Such advisory or information shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region at least once every quarter.

was changed to

Section 39. Travel Advisory/Information Dissemination. –The MOLE, shall issue travel advisories or disseminate information on labor and employment conditions on particular countries, migration realities and other relevant facts; which will adequately prepare individuals into making informed and intelligent decisions about overseas employment. Such advisory or information shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation:

41. The title “Article IX. PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER HIGHLY SKILLED BANGSAMORO ABROAD” was deleted.

42. The deletion of Section 28.

SECTION 28. Incentives to Professionals and Other Highly-Skilled Bangsamoro Abroad. – Pursuant to the objective of encouraging professionals and other highly-skilled Bangsamoro abroad especially in the field of science and technology to participate in, and contribute to development, the Bangsamoro government shall provide proper and adequate incentives and programs so as to secure their services in priority development areas of the public and private sectors.

43. Section 48. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or provision not otherwise affected thereof shall remain valid and subsisting.

was changed to

Section 47. Separability Clause. – If any provision, or part hereof, is declared by a competent court as invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or provision, not otherwise affected thereof, shall remain valid and subsisting.

44. Section 50. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in a newspaper of general circulation or in the official website of the Ministry of Labor and Employment or the official website of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

was changed to

Section 50. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in a newspaper of regional circulation.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 28

On motion of Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema duly seconded, and there being no objection, the Committee Report No. 28 was adopted.

OPENING OF PERIOD OF DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION

Thereupon, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the period of debate and interpellation was opened.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP JOSE I. LORENA

When recognized, Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena prefaced his interpellation by manifesting that he was in full support of the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36. Then, he asked clarification on the definition of “repatriation”, saying that there might be a mistake when “Repatriation is defined in the bill as the process of returning a person voluntarily or forcibly to its owner.” He stated that perhaps it was merely a typographical error in the definition of repatriation under the bill that they wanted to post what the intent of the bill is in defining repatriation.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

In response to the query of Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema stated that the definition of “Repatriation” is very clear under the proposed bill.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair commented that the question of Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena should be addressed in the period of amendments. He explained that before the discussion on the bill, the members of the Parliament were furnished copies thereof so that they can insert their proposed amendments if they have any.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP JOSE I. LORENA

Whereupon, Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena manifested that the response of Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema be put on record. He stressed that returning a person to its owner must have some basis. He informed the body that the definition of “Repatriation” is covered under Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003. He asked if how a person can be returned its owner when there is no ownership of a person. Thus, he said that there must be some other language which they could use.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Bantan A. Ampatuan prefaced her interpellation by stating that she is a co-author of the BTA-Bill No. 36 and she just wanted to ask clarification from the principal author, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema. Then she inquired if

there is an existing parallel law at the national level, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded affirmatively, stating that it is Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as “Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995.

As to what is the major difference between the existing national law and the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 which is advantageous to the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema replied that there are provisions under the national law that are not applicable to the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers. He emphasized that they have placed provisions in the bill which protect the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers.

At this juncture, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan pointed out that during their discussion as to how much is the computation of the budget, if they would pass the bill, adding they have also other assistance which is included in the bill. She stressed that, in fact, they are merely formalizing the other structures within MOLE, particularly the Bureaus through the bill. In view thereof, she asked if what is the computation of the budget for the services and the organization of Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE), to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered that the budget is not too big. He explained that what is quite big is the budget for the establishment of Bangsamoro Help Desks in the different embassies of the Philippines. He, however, emphasized that during the transition period, they could establish, a Bangsamoro Help Desk, as a pilot, in one country. Thus, he explained that establishment of Bangsamoro Help Desks would not be done simultaneously in all embassies and that the arrangement would be depending on the discussion with the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Whereupon, Hon. MP Baintan B. Ampatuan manifested that she would want to be clarified on Section 11 of the bill which provides for the charges that are supposed to be paid by the employer but would eventually be passed on to the applicants. Thus, she inquired on the prevailing rate of the processing fee which might be passed on by the employers to their employees, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded that they could include the specific amount of charges in the implementing rules and regulations.

Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan concluded her interpellation by saying that at least the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 has been clarified that it is more advantageous to the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

When recognized, Hon. MP Paisalin Tago stated that he would want to clarify on the definition of “Repatriation” as mentioned in the interpellation of Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena which says that it is a process of returning a person voluntarily or forcibly to its owner, to the place of origin or citizenship. He explained that a person has no owner under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In view thereof, he suggested that they would just amend the said provision to be read as “Repatriation is the process of returning a person to the place of origin or citizenship.”

Thereupon, he inquired from the proponent as to whether the bill can stand on its own, if any of its provisions would be declared unlawful or unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded in the affirmative, explaining that it is clear under the Separability Clause of the bill. Secondly, he explained that they could bring the matter to the Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) Body if in case there would be some problems.

As to what does the Separability Clause say, Hon. MP Romeo read Section 47 of the bill which provides that “If any provision or part hereof is declared by the competent court as invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or provision not otherwise affected thereof shall remain valid and subsisting.”

QUERY OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair inquired from Hon. Paisalin P. Tago as to what will happen to the law if the provisions are substantially declared unconstitutional as the law will lose its relevance and become a useless or toothless law, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago responded that the law will be useless.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. ROMEO SEMA

Thereafter, the proponent, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema stressed that the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 is for the welfare of the Bangsamoro people. He added that they

are only asserting their right and fighting for what they think is good for the Bangsamoro people. He emphasized that they are given the authority and mandate to pass a law for the welfare of the Bangsamoro people. He explained that the bill had been studied by the lawyers or legal experts and if the national government would challenge the bill, he assured the body that the bill has enough legal basis.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

At this point, The Chair, remarked that manifestation of Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema was noted. Considering that latter ascertained that bill would be subjected to the IGR body, the Chair stated that if the law would be questioned in the Supreme Court, before it is submitted to the IGR body, it loses the meaning of the provisions.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan inquired from the proponent, if the Department of Justice and the National Prosecution Service have been consulted regarding the provision vesting prosecutorial power to the MOLE, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded that it is very clear under the provision on penalties that it is the Department of Justice that will lead the prosecution, adding that they will follow the existing law.

When Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan stated that he has serious doubt as to whether the prosecutorial powers could be vested in the MOLE unless properly coordinated with the Department of Justice because it is jurisdictional, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema agreed.

As to why is the Shari'ah involved in the bill, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered that it is very clear under the Republic Act No. 11054 that the Parliament has the power to establish Shar'iah courts, adding that the Shari'ah courts have jurisdiction over criminal cases.

Whereupon, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan stated that the jurisdiction of the Shari'ah courts over criminal cases is limited to minor cases. Thus, he requested the proponent to review those points so that they could do some amendments if needed in the proper time.

As to whether they would be placing one or two staff in the embassy, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered that they would put the number of staff in the implementing rules and regulations, stressing that the number of staff would depend on their budget.

As to whether proponent already knew the budget allocation, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema emphasized that it is possible for them to assign in one country but the number of the staff would be assigned would be based on their budget. He also expressed that the assignment of staff would not be simultaneous because they could not afford in view of the current situation of the MOLE.

Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema informed the body that they have one countryman from Datu Odin Sinsuat who is in Saudi Arabia who has not been buried for five months, as nobody meddled. He added that had it not been reported by the parents to MOLE, it would not be known. Thus, he inferred that he would not want that to happen to his fellow countrymen, explaining that it is the reason why they proposed the provision on healthcare, so that they could closely monitor the situation overseas. He also mentioned the case of Ms. Sangcopan who was abused by her employer and that if her mother and sister did not report to the MOLE that Ms. Sangcopan has been maltreated and not given food by her employer for almost a month, the National Government would not have heard that situation.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

Thereupon, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan manifested that he might have been misunderstood. He expressed his support to whatever will protect the workers whether domestic or foreign. He emphasized that he just wanted to make sure that they will not exceed in the parameters because there are some existing National laws and there might be provisions that exceed their limitation. He expressed his appreciation on the efforts of Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema to protect the workers, saying that it is very laudable. He suggested that they could subject the provisions to a final review because there are some doubtful provisions. He stated that he could not give specific provisions as he was not able to see the provisions earlier and that he could only remember the provisions on the prosecutorial powers and the Shar'iah.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Whereupon, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema expressed his gratitude to Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan. He said that he would welcome additional amendments to enhance the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36. He informed the body that the bill passed an intensive discussion of the legal experts, adding that it is the reason why the bill has many amended provisions.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP ZIAUR-RAHMAN ALONTO ADIONG

When recognized, Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong commended the proponent, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema, saying that the filing of the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 was very timely. He cited Section 27 of the proposed bill which stipulates the repatriation program for the returning Filipino Workers or Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. He mentioned that in the context of the pandemic, the public health emergency that they have been facing, there are several hundreds of the Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs) and Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROF) coming and returning to the BARMM region. He stressed that bill actually specifies or envisions a program that would help the ROF to reintegrate in their society.

He mentioned that Section 27 of the bill also specifies an exact amount of Ten Million Pesos (Php10,000,000.00) which would be charged to the Block Grant. Thus, he inquired whether the proponent had already communicated the said amount to the Chairman of the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management, considering that by September or October, they would be deliberating the 2021 Bangsamoro Appropriations Act, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded in the negative. He explained that the Ten Million Pesos (Php10,000,000.00) is a proposed repatriation and integration fund. He added that during the meeting the Committee on Labor and Employment, after thorough discussions on the provisions of all the provisions, the members of the Committee unanimously approved the bill in the committee level.

Whereupon, Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong manifested that his concern was that once they would allocate specific amount, they would pre-empt the deliberation of the Committee on Finance to allocate funding for the programs. He also manifested

that he would reserve his proposal in the period of amendments, since the proponent already identified the source of the funding for the repatriation program which is the Block Grant. In view thereof, he suggested to the proponent to go back to the original intent of the Block Grant because there are specifications as to how to use the Block Grant which will cover for about 10 years. He stressed that the Block Grant would only be used for the progress and development of the region and that it cannot be used for any other means.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP RAISSA H. JAJURIE

Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie, when recognized, raised a question regarding the coverage of the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 particularly on Sections 3 and 4. She cited that Section 3 says that the coverage will be the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers and Overseas Bangsamoro within or outside of the Bangsamoro territory and Section 4 (a) which substantially repeats definition of Bangsamoro under the Bangsamoro Organic Law. She also cited letter (b) of the same section which says that the Bangsamoro Worker refers to a Bangsamoro who shall be engaged, is actually engaged, and has been engage and so forth. In view thereof, she inquired as to whether the bill covers all the Bangsamoro workers who are native inhabitants or descendants of native inhabitants of the Bangsamoro area or whether they are from the region, the five provinces, the 63 Barangays in North Cotabato and Cotabato City or outside of those areas. She explained that the implication would be that the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers living outside the Bangsamoro would no longer be covered by the office of the National Government that regulate overseas employment. She added that another implication is that those who are not native inhabitants but were employed overseas would not be covered by the proposed law, hence they would not enjoy the same rights and privileges that the proposed law offers to the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers. Then, she asked if it is a correct interpretation.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

In his response, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema stated that as to the first question pertaining to the coverage, it is correct that proposed law would apply only to

Bangsamoro Overseas Workers within or outside the territory of the Bangsamoro. He explained that it is very clear under the Bangsamoro Organic Law that those Bangsamoro outside the Bangsamoro core territory are also the responsibility of the Bangsamoro Government. He informed the body that during their meeting with Secretary Silvestre Bello III, the latter specifically and categorically said that the Muslims in Manila should also be assisted by the Bangsamoro Government.

As to the second question, Hon.MP Romeo K. Sema answered that it is very clear in the reservation of rights under Section 46, Article XII of the bill which states that “The provision of this Act shall not prejudice any rights and benefits of Overseas Bangsamoro Workers granted under Republic Act No. 8042 as amended, other laws, orders, rules and regulations for migrant workers. Thus, he explained that the proposed law does not foreclose other benefits of the Bangsamoro Overseas Workers, as they will still receive the benefits provided under the national law.

FURTHER INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP RAISSA H. JAJURIE

Whereupon, Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie raised a follow up question regarding the second point. She opined that Section 46 of the bill does not correct what is broken, stressing that it only provides for the rights of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. She pointed out that Section 46 says that “Whatever rights of Overseas Bangsamoro Workers may have enjoyed under Republic Act No. 9054 will not be prejudiced by this law.” She emphasized that the said provision does not correct the issue of lack of protection, and that the protection that the bill will offer to the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers will not be offered to the non-Bangsamoro workers. In view thereof, Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajuire suggested that they should study the said provision. She explained that while there are powers granted to the Bangsamoro, there is a concept of territoriality and that their legislative power is only within the region. She clarified that there is a provision that they can offer assistance to the Bangsamoro communities outside the Bangsamoro region but it is not automatic. She added that the Bangsamoro Government may provide assistance to the Bangsamoro Communities outside the region. She, however, stated that to legislate on their rights, maybe the body should study it further, as it would mean that the body is

amending the national law by taking away the jurisdiction of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) over those workers. She said that it might be brought to the Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) Body, if it would become a question.

COMMENT OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Whereupon, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema expressed his thanks to Hon. MP Raissa H. Jajurie, saying that he would welcome any proposal from her in the period of amendments.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP EDRIEZA H.N. RIMBANG

When recognized, Hon. MP Sultan Edrieza H. N. Rimbang manifested his support to the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36, explaining that it is provided under Bangsamoro Organic Law or RA 11054, particularly Article V, Section 3. General Welfare which states that “The Bangsamoro Parliament can pass laws that promote the general welfare of the Bangsamoro.” He added that the bill would help the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. He informed the proponent that he is a co-author of the bill, but his name is not included as a co-author. In view thereof, he requested that his name be included as a co-author of the bill.

COMMENT OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Thereupon, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema commented that Hon. MP Edrieza H.N. Rimbang is a co-author of the bill and asked the Secretariat to include the latter’s name as co-author.

INTERPELLATION OF THE MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

When recognized, the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M Alamia prefaced by saying that she would raise some fundamental questions and some of which had already been asked by MP Atty. Raissa H. Jajurie and MP Baintan A. Ampatuan. She cited that Republic Act No. 11054 specifies the powers of the government under Article V, Section 2, adding that in fact, the power on labor, employment and occupation is included. She agreed that the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 is a very good law because it is

one of the policies that the body should pass to implement social justice in the Bangsamoro. She added that the bill is for the Bangsamoro who are mostly women Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) or Overseas Bangsamoro Workers (OBWs). She, however, pointed that there are some fundamental questions, considering that in the power on labor, employment and occupation given to BARMM under the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), there is nothing mentioned about OFWs because those powers are within the jurisdiction of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs(DFA) as they have Labor Attaché and budget for the repatriation and other fees that will be provided to Filipinos who are working outside the country. In view thereof, she asked if what is the implication of the bill with respect to the jurisdiction of the OWWA, DFA, and DOLE-National which has assigned Labor Attaché in different countries. As a second question, she also asked if it would not be more prudent, if they would just focus on their resources to provide assistance to the agencies that are already existing by adding to the repatriation fees and the damages fees to the survivors. She said as an instance, an OFW who has been abused and who died in other countries. She mentioned that they would pass the bill but they would focus on the assistance to be provided to the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers (OBWs) without talking on the responsibilities of the national agencies which also have allocated budget for the OFWs, considering that the Ministry of Labor and Employment has minimal resources. Thirdly, she asked if there has been a review on the proposed bill to synchronize and ensure that there is no conflict of laws between the proposed bill and the law creating the DFA, the DOLE and the OWWA. She suggested that a review should be done on the proposed bill first before they would take into consideration the amendments to the bill.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

In his response, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema explained that it is very clear in RA 11054 that the Bangsamoro Government has no authority over the foreign affairs. He stressed that he has not seen any sovereignty issue in the provision of the bill, saying that they would only assist and monitor urgent issues based on their experience and on what

has been happening to the overseas workers. He stated that he has not said the overseas workers were being neglected. He informed the body that every time they encounter problems with the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers, they immediately send communication letters to either POEA, the OWWA or the DOLE central office. He, however, stated that they don't know if their communications were heard by the above-mentioned national agencies.

Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema explained that their budget would depend on their capacity. He informed the body that the Secretary of DOLE invited them to help in the monitoring of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers in the International Labor Bureau of the DOLE, especially the minors working abroad.

As to the rationalization of powers, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema explained that the MOLE and the DOLE have created a Technical Working Group where all the powers have been discussed. He also explained the all the powers and functions of the POEA, OWWA, the DOLE and other attached agencies of the DOLE are incorporated in the structure of the Ministry of Labor and Employment, except the foreign policies. He, however, explained that national agencies have responsibility when it comes to the flights of overseas workers from Manila to other countries. Hence, he inferred that the MOLE has relationship with the national agencies, stressing that they would want to help and assist the institutions or offices of DOLE, OWWA and POEA in the international setting in order to fast track and closely monitor the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers.

FURTHER INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

Whereupon, the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia informed the body that she used to be an Overseas Filipino Worker. Hence, she said that she knows and understands the process of going abroad and returning back. She also informed the body that she had seen first-hand the abuses that were done to Filipinos and Bangsamoro Workers. Thus, she inferred that the BTA-Parliament No. 36 is very welcomed for those who used to be Overseas Filipino Workers. She manifested that she only asked questions because she wanted to fix the bill, so that the National Government would not question the same.

She emphasized that it is very clear that when an Overseas Filipino Worker arrives in the Philippines coming from abroad, the BARMM will have jurisdiction. She said that they could also help the Overseas Workers even if they are located outside the country because most of the time, the financial assistance given by OWWA is insufficient. Hence, she stated that they could extend help outside the Philippines in terms of financial matter.

Then, she inquired regarding the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk under Section 26 where they would assign people and provide funds thereof. She also asked if they would not be stepping on the jurisdiction of DFA, DOLE and OWWA, even if they would start only in country. She further asked if would it not be prudent for them to use the budget allotted to set-up an office in Saudi or other countries for additional assistance to the OFWs for their fare, livelihood, housing and even for the rescue of the OFWs among others. He informed the body that currently the Philippine Government has a rescue team which includes OWWA and some other offices to rescue OFWs who were abused, but the rescue team lacks resources. Thus, she furthermore asked whether they would need to place a person and an office in every embassy of every country or they would use that money to augment the financial assistance that they would provide to the OFWs in coordination with the DFA, DOLE and OWWA.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Thereupon, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded that actually, they have studied the matter raised by the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia. He emphasized that the administrative cost would be placed in the assistance for the overseas workers. He explained that the establishment of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk would be helpful in the close monitoring of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. He stated that the comment of Hon. MP Alamia was noted.

REMARK OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair remarked that they would continue the deliberation on the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 on the following day and the first to interpellate would be Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong to be followed by Hon. Romeo C. Saliga.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, there being no objection, the session was suspended until the following day, August 27, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

On August 27, 2020 at 1:45 P.M., the session resumed with Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong as the Presiding Officer.

INVOCATION

Upon request of the Chair, Hon. MP Faiz S. Alahuddin led the invocation.

RESUMPTION OF THE PERIOD OF DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION

Thereafter, the Chair declared the resumption of the period of debate interpellation on BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG

When recognized, Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong stated that his interpellation was related to Section 26 with regards to Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk. He said that as to the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Government to appoint staff in the respective embassies abroad, essentially, they can see that the Bangsamoro Government has jurisdiction over those Bangsamoro people living within the Bangsamoro Region but for those who are living outside the Bangsamoro region but within the Philippines, it is stated that the Bangsamoro Government would reach out to them in coordination with their respective LGUs. He, however, pointed out that the Bangsamoro-Filipino citizens who are living abroad seem to be outside the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Government. He also said that foreign affairs are retained by the National Government and that perhaps while he lauded and supported the proposed bill, he would like to contribute and help the bill to become enforceable and implementable by recommending that perhaps, through the Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) body, they could request the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to designate from its existing staff to man the Bangsamoro Help Desk, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded that he purely understood Hon. MP Loong's intent. He explained that the appointment issued by the Chief Minister to the Bangsamoro Help Desk is purely administrative and not policy matter, stressing that it is

done merely to assist the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers. He explained that with regards to the cases of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers as well as the appointment to the Bangsamoro Help Desk, there is no contradiction. He stressed that the power of the Chief Minister to appoint the officer to be assigned to the Bangsamoro Help Desk is merely administrative and that the decision, control and supervision would still be under the embassy.

As to how many countries they plan to have Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk Officers and what is the salary grade of the Help Desk Officer and what kind of support would be given to him for travelling expenses to the home country and lodging fees in order for them to imagine its impact on the Ministry of Labor and Employment, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema replied that it is provided in the bill where they are allowed to deploy the assigned officer for the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk, stressing that it would depend on their logistic. He stated that probably in the Muslim countries where most of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers work, they could pilot in one, two, or three countries.

As to the salary grade, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema responded that it is already cited in the provision which is lower than a director level.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG

Thereupon, Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong mentioned that he understood the intention of the author that if ever the Parliament would approve the bill as it is, the intention would be to simply pilot one, two or three countries where they would be appointed. He suggested that in order for it to work, they should also provide in the Inter-governmental Relation body a coordination in some way to allow the Bangsamoro Government to appoint the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers Help Desk in the respective embassies that are controlled and supervised by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

COMMENT OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Whereupon, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema commented that the manifestation of Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong was well noted.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP ROMEO C. SALIGA

Thereupon, Hon. MP Romeo C. Saliga manifested that it only showed that there are various agencies involved in the discussion on Overseas Bangsamoro Workers such as the OWWA, DFA and POEA. Then suggested if they could insert or add one provision stating that shall be a mechanism where they could define the administrative role and administrative relation of each agency concerning their tasks and functions on the issues of the Overseas Workers. He expressed whether it is in the bill, or they would just include it in the Implementary Rules and Regulations (IRR).

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

In his response, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema stated that they could discuss the matter raised by Hon. Romeo C. Saliga in the Period of Amendments.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP KHADAFEH G. MANGUDADATU

When recognized, Hon. MP Khadafeh G. Mangudadatu inquired if they would create an office with a semblance to an embassy, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered in the negative. He explained that they would merely create a help desk which would be part or attached to the embassy and that the officer would be a staff of the embassy purposely to assist and monitor closely the status of the Overseas Bangsamoro Workers.

As to whether the establishment of the Help Desk in every country under the Labor Attaché is due the latter's failure to perform his duties, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema replied that he did not say the Labor Attaché has failed to perform their duties, saying, however, that they have numerous work load. He informed the body that he was willing to show the data which pushed the MOLE to place Help Desks.

He narrated to the body that they had a compatriot Overseas Worker from Malamot, Dimatalam who died abroad four months ago and whose corpse has not yet been brought home. He added that they had also referred it to OWWA to facilitate the return of the corpse to the home place which is outside BARMM. He informed the body that the second case is a fellow countryman from Datu Odin Sinsuat Municipality who had not been buried for six months. He also informed the body that the MOLE has numerous data on the cases and complaints concerning Overseas Bangsamoro Workers.

INFORMATION OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair informed Hon. MP Khadafeh G. Mangudadatu that there was a technical problem in the connection of the Zoom and the Chair would get back to him later on.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP OMAR YASSER C. SEMA

When recognized, Hon. MP Omar Yasser C. Sema pointed out that it is very clear that there is an interplay of jurisdiction in the proposed bill regarding the powers of the National Government and the Regional Government. In view thereof, he asked the proponent if the DOJ, DOLE, DFA and other offices involved in the bill were consulted on the Bill itself and whether there were any position papers from the aforesaid agencies attached to the Committee Report if they were truly consulted, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered in the negative. He explained that the Bangsamoro Government is the given the authority and mandate to pass laws that promote for the welfare of the Bangsamoro people. He said that they have fought for the right to self-determination for more than 40 years and that they are merely interpreting what is stated in the Republic Act 11054. He stated that with regards to the consultation, it is not stated in the law that they have to consult the National Government.

As to the prosecutorial power, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema explained that the authorized lawyer of the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) would merely assist the prosecutors who are under the control and supervision of the DOJ. He stressed that the provision is anchored on the Labor Code of the Philippines and the Migrant Workers Law. Hence, he inferred that they have not perceived any violations of the Constitution, adding that they would merely localize the power mentioned in the Labor Code.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP OMAR YASSER C. SEMA

Whereupon, Hon. MP Atty. Omar Yasser Sema expressed that he understood the stand of the proponent. He, however, pointed out that it is required by the Rules of the Parliament that all the proposed bills must undergo public and experts' consultation. He also pointed out that with respect to the provision on the prosecutorial power of the

MOLE, it requires due coordination with the Department of Justice (DOJ) particularly the National Prosecution Service because it would add to their work. He further pointed out that it would also require budget allocation for DOJ National. He emphasized that the MOLE has not been given sweeping power for prosecution of offenses, adding that they don't have power for the administration of justice which is limited to the National Government. He also emphasized that that the Bangsamoro Government doesn't have powers on immigration because it is limited to the National Government as well.

Hon. MP Omar Yasser C. Sema concluded his manifestation by expressing his support to the BTA Parliament Bill No. 36, stressing, however, that he would not want to crumple upon the powers of the National Government.

COMMENT OF HON. MP ROMEO K. SEMA

Thereafter, Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema commented that the manifestation of MP Omar Yasser C. Sema was well-taken.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP MAISARA D. LATIPH

When recognized, MP Atty. Maisara Dandamun-Latiph informed the body that she is one of the members of the Committee on Labor and Employment that voted for the Committee Report. She manifested that with respect to the Inter-Government Relations body, if they read the proposed Bill under Article 8 on services, it talks about the Inter-governmental coordination and shared information. She suggested that the MOLE should provide mechanism to establish close coordination with the following agencies: DFA, Tourism, Philippine Statistic Authority, NAIA, DOJ, MILG, MSSD and other relevant Government Agencies concerned. She stated that with respect to migrant affairs and the DFA jurisdiction, DOJ jurisdiction and other oppositions about the Help Desk, she submitted that they had not encroached on the reserved powers of the State. She explained that if they looked at the reserved powers of the state, it is in the Foreign Affairs reserved powers. So, the powers reserved there which are not concurrent nor given as exclusive powers to the Bangsamoro appeared to be very limited. She also stated that as far she could remember, the Bangsamoro does not exercise power over the

banking, foreign currency or the monetary objects and foreign affairs but they are exercising the welfare clause under the Bangsamoro Organic Law.

REMARK OF THE CHAIR

Thereupon, the Chair commended MP Maisara D. Latiph for her manifestation and that since they were in the Period of Interpellation and Debate, all members were free and entitled to share their opinion regarding the subject matter.

CLARIFICATORY QUESTION OF HON. MP OMAR YASSER C. SEMA

Thereafter, Hon. MP Omar Yasser C. Sema inquired from Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph, considering that they were both in the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) when they drafted the Bangsamoro Organic Law, if she meant that they would not give in, although there is a due delineation of powers and the sharing of powers has been determined. He stressed that the powers that have been allocated do not mean that they would not have to consult with the national government. He explained that they should extend courtesy to the National Government with respect to the reserved and the shared powers.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Presiding Officer commented that MP Atty. Maisara Latiph would not have to respond but they would treat statements of MP Atty. Omar Yasser Sema as manifestations. He emphasized that the one having the floor is MP Romeo Sema, the proponent of the bill. He also asked the proponent if the latter had any response to the manifestation of Hon. MP Omar Yasser C. Sema, to which Hon. MP Romeo K. Sema answered in the negative.

QUERY OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

At this juncture, the Majority Floor Leader, when recognized, inquired if there were still Members of the Parliament who had signified their interest to interpellate after Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil, so that the body could decide on what to do with the bill. He stressed that they had already deliberated and interpellated so much.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

When recognized, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil manifested that since the proponent had said that there was no consultation with certain sector concerning the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36, the committee concerned should have done the process on the legislative aspect, so that they would not have to reach the conversation as to whether they would need to have consultation or not.

QUERY OF THE CHAIR

Thereupon, the Chair informed the Majority Floor Leader that it was a question on legislative process and asked the latter if they would need to subject the bill to further public consultation.

RESPONSE OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

In his response, the Majority Floor Leader stated that since there were many views, opinions and clarificatory questions from the Members of the Parliament on the process of legislation as provided in the Rules of the Parliament, the body would need to defer the deliberation on the proposed bill and the committee concerned should continue the consultation with other affected stakeholders.

REMARK OF THE CHAIR

In his remark, the Chair told the Majority Floor Leader that once they would defer the deliberation on BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36, they would not only suspend the period of debate and interpellation, but they would also subject the matter for further public consultation, to which the Majority Floor Leader responded that it would be his advice.

Whereupon, the Chair stated that there should be a motion to recommit the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 for further public consultation.

CLARIFICATORY QUESTION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

When recognized, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago inquired as to whether it would be the plenary as a Committee of the Whole or the Committee on Labor and Employment would conduct a public consultation on the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36, to which the Majority Floor Leader responded that the public consultation would be conducted by the Committee on Labor and Employment.

POINT OF ORDER OF HON. MAISARA D. LATIPH

At this juncture, Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph raised a point of order, explaining that under the Section 1, Rule VIII of the Rules of the Parliament, the word used is not “*shall*” but “*may*” with respect to consultation. Thus, she stated that the question of Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil is duly answered by Section 1, Rule VIII of the Parliamentary Rules, stressing that consultation is not mandatory. She reminded the body that during their deliberation on the Parliamentary Rules, the reason why they had to be strict to themselves, is so that they could move forward in making laws and establishing institutions. After all, she said that they would be judged by the institution that they were building.

Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph suggested to the body to put things in order and say what is provided in the Rules. Hence, she stressed that they should amend the Rules if they would want use the word “*shall*”. She clarified that until the Rules on public consultation is amended, the public consultation is not mandatory and therefore discretionary on the part of the committees.

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER

Whereupon, the Chair remarked that the point of order of Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph was well taken.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader, the Chair declared a one-minute suspension of the session at 2:25 P.M.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 2:26 P.M., the session resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

When recognized, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil manifested that he was not arguing with Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph, saying that he was only asking and addressing his concern to the Committee on Rules of which he and MP Latiph are members. He mentioned that he is aware that the word used in the Rules is “*may*” but he argued that in the bill, there were certain agencies, that have jurisdiction over the bill, that were not consulted. He pointed out the

Committee on Rules should finally lay down guidelines on how to go about when a certain bill is being tackled on the floor.

RECOMMITTING OF THE BTA-PARLIAMENT BILL NO. 36.

Per consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Labor and Employment. on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the BTA-Parliament Bill No. 36 was recommitted to the Committee on Labor and Employment for further consultation with the concerned government agencies and offices.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 35

Thereafter, the body proceeded to consider the Committee Report No. 35 as reported out by the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation, re: Special Report on Marawi.

REQUEST OF HON. MP ANNA TARHATA S. BASMAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Anna TarhataS. Basman respectfully requested that the Chairman of the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation, Deputy Chief Minister and MP Aleem Ali B. Solaiman be recognized for a brief manifestation to put the context to the Committee Report which was granted Chair.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP ALI B. SOLAIMAN

When recognized, Deputy Chief Minister and MP Ali B. Solaiman delivered his manifestation in Arabic.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORT No. 35

Thereafter, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman presented to the body the Committee Report No. 35 of the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation, re: Special Report on Marawi.

COMMENDATION OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair commended Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman for the very comprehensive committee report.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

Thereupon, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader, the Chair declared a fifteen-minute suspension for As'r Prayer at 3:14. PM.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:48 P.M., the session resumed.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 35

At this juncture, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Lanang T. Ali, Jr., duly seconded, and there being no objection, the Committee Report No. 35 was adopted.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

When recognized, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago manifested that he was not supposed to speak on the Special Committee Report on Marawi, saying, however, that when the Deputy Chief Minister and Chairperson of the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation, Hon. MP Ali B. Solaiman spoke in Arabic on behalf of the Committee, he only understood the word “unity” in the Special Committee Chairman’s statements. Thus, with the permission of the Chair, he made statement on the Special Report on Marawi.

In his statement, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago stressed that in spite of the limitation of the BARMM Government in general and the BTA Parliament in particular, the Special Committee on Marawi has articulated the positions of all the stakeholders in Marawi. He added, as a matter of fact and with due respect to other committees, the Special Committee has conducted several public consultations. In that regard and being from Marawi, he extended his personal gratitude to his colleagues in the Parliament, especially the Chief Minister for the latter’s full support in the clamor of the people of Marawi for the immediate recovery and rehabilitation. He heartily commended the officers of the committee, especially its Chairperson, Deputy Chief Minister Ali B. Solaiman, Vice Chairpersons MP Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra and MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman, and MP Abdullah Macapaar for painstakingly and rigorously conducting the public consultation even in the time of pandemic. He also commended the Committee Members who actively participated in the committee meetings and gave their insights which were greatly valuable in arriving at the Committee Report in support of the plight of the people of Marawi. He likewise expressed his gratitude to the Committee Secretariat, Committee Staff and the staff of the Members of the Parliament who helped in gathering data. He

also re-echoed the appeal of the Deputy Chief Minister to support the Committee Report, stating that although it is not a perfect committee report, but at least it is the best gift that they could give to the people of Marawi. He concluded his statement by appealing to his colleagues to fully support the committee report, stressing that it had been a year since they conducted the committee hearings.

OPENING OF THE PERIOD OF DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION

Thereafter, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the period of debate and interpellation was opened.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

In his manifestation, Hon. MP Amlbahar S. Mawallil commended the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation led by Deputy Chief Minister and MP Ali B. Solaiman for a very comprehensive report. He said that he was sifting through the pages of the committee report and that it is a substantive report to the plenary. He expressed hope that other committees could replicate the format of the report.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP MAISARA D. LATIPH

When recognized, Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph manifested that while she signed the Special Committee on Marawi with reservation, she expressed her felicitations to all her colleagues in the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament, the esteemed Speaker of the Day, the two Deputy Chief Ministers, the Chairman of Special Committee on Marawi, her colleagues, Hon. MP Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman, Hon. MP Macapaar G. Abdullah and all the members of the Special Committee on Marawi and the Committee Secretariat for their support.

She cited that pursuant to Section 16, Article VII of the Parliamentary Rules, the undersigned Members of the Parliament thereby issued the statement of reservation upon signing the final report of the Special Committee on Marawi Rehabilitation. She also cited BTA Resolution No. 41 which provides that “Whereas, any complementary action from the Bangsamoro Government should be based on the accurate and complete information on the current status of Marawi City including the state of the residents thereof.” She said that to carry out that mandate, the Special Committee on Marawi was

tasked to gather data and information on the status of Marawi rehabilitation and recovery through public consultations with the stakeholders, relevant government agencies and Development Partners and thereafter, to report the data and information collected in a committee report for the Parliament's guidance and information. She stated that the Special Committee Report must reflect what have been gathered from the series of public consultations. She highlighted that one of the very important data and information that should have been reflected in the Special Committee Report is the faithful recounting of the residents of Marawi during the series of public consultation as to their status, sentiments, realities and current situations.

She lauded the Special Committee on Marawi for coming up with a comprehensive report. She, however, pointed out that there is one missing essential element in the report and that is what the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) of Marawi have said, specifically on the matter of "Kambalingan". She asked why the voices or plights of IDPs and evacuees' clamor for "Kambalingan" have not been highlighted in the report, stressing that if they look at the report, there is no complete documentation and citation on the actual words of the IDPs during the public hearings. She opined that it is public knowledge that in the committee hearings, they have to fully recount on what have been stated and the same should be reproduced. She emphasized that it is important to have complete statements of facts because the Parliament must know and appreciate the facts that have been gathered and that the Parliament must be given the complete picture. She added that instead, the phrase were drawn out in a wordy and lengthy discussion which they would need to analyse and call out one by one what have been said as they were paraphrased by the writer of the report.

She highlighted that the issue on "Kambalingan" or "Home Coming" is the heart of Marawi, saying, however, that there was a failure to give a complete documentation on each and every report of the IDPs as stated in their own exact words. Thus, she stated that it rendered the report incomplete. She also explained that it is important to report accurately what each of the IDPs and the 24 Barangay Officials and other stakeholders stated about "Kambalingan", because those individual statements would serve as

memorialization of the memory of the Maranao people who lost their homes and civilization due to the heartless war.

She emphasized that it is important to remind themselves of their “*maratabat*” as people and that they should do their best to solve the problems of the IDPs. She also stressed that the BTA is tasked in the BOL to be the guardians of the people’s welfare. She clarified that the issue there is not just about property rights but the right of the people to liberty of abode as guaranteed by the Constitution. She expounded that those rights are not about properties but rather about the freedom of the people to exercise the rights to self-determination and to go back to their homes. She voiced out that though she lauded the 127 pages report and the writers, it has not fully and comprehensively captured the context of the issue and heart of all the series of public consultations which were the questions on whether the IDPS could go home and when will they be going back to their homes. She reiterated that those questions are not answered by the report and that it is evident in the manner the report is written.

She pointed out that the report failed to provide the perspectives and summations of facts gathered from the public hearings and that what was presented was an analysis of the one writing the report instead of giving the members of the committee the full recounting of what happened during the series of public hearings where the IDPs’ words poured out their hearts and souls to the committee. She shared that some of them IDPs were in deep anguish including mothers, daughters, men, women, young and old, home-based, renter, those living in transitory shelters, mothers and wives of dead and missing persons. She informed the body that she heard them personally, but the report instead stated that the Bangsamoro Government has no control over government instrumentality, for instance the LGU of Marawi and that it is up to the LGU of Marawi to allow its people to go home despite of their piece.

She cited that it is evident on page 113 of the report that it was contrary to the Bangsamoro Organic Law that granted the BTA its power to regulate the affairs of its constituent Local Government Units. Thus, she said that rendering that plainly in the committee report on institutions that it is not within the control of the BTA or BARMM

government is inappropriate as it undermines the powers granted by the Bangsamoro Organic Law to exercise oversight and regulatory powers over LGUs to faithfully execute the Constitution and the laws. She added that in the same way that the sections spoke of legal concept on property, the report should have also included the constitutional right of abode of the people as enshrined in the Bill of rights and which right is anchored on liberty and has greater importance than property rights in the hierarchy of rights.

She emphasized that the Constitution provides that “The liberty of abode and changing the same within the limits as prescribed by law shall not be impaired except upon lawful order of the courts”. She explained that it is only by virtue of a lawful order of the court that the liberty of abode can be impaired. She cited that as early as 1919, the Supreme Court rendered a decision holding that the domicile is deemed important, so important as to be founded in the Bill of Rights of the Constitution. She said that even the Governor General of the Philippine Islands who was the president at that time and the President of the United States had often been said to exercise more power than any kingdom in the world had no such arbitrary prerogative, inherent or expressed, much less the local chief executive of a municipality who acted within the spirit of delegated powers.

She explicated that if the Mayor and the Chief of Police could, at their mere behest or order even for the most praiseworthy of motives, render the liberty of the citizens so insecure. She added if those officials could take to themselves such power, then, all persons would also have the same right to do so and that if a prostitute according to this case, could be sent away against her wishes from one locality to another within the country, then the officialdom can hold the same club over the head of any citizen. She cited the decision in the Lucban case where the Supreme Court quoted the infamous principle that “ours is a government of laws and not of men.”

She further manifested that on the deliberation part as to the 127-page report, a more intelligent and robust discussion could have been had if the Presiding Chair had allowed the full discussion as to what chances and what should be prioritized by the Members of the Parliament. There was no opportunity to fully discuss the

recommendations as the Special Committee failed to provide substantial clients to fully discuss the recommendations. She revealed that, instead, the committee merely consumed half day and one hour of which was spent on the matter. She said that there is a need to review carefully the 127 pages report and that half day deliberation on a very important matter which involved the interest of both the National Government and the Bangsamoro Government would not be enough to tackle all those points stated in the report.

She suggested that there should be a process on how the members would deliberate on the testimonies and such other data in their respective sobriety, curiosity and legality and that the members should have a heart to come up with a solution. She said that she would still await on the recommendations and that she had prepared an amended executive summary to recapture the essence of the public consultation. She also manifested that although there was a call for unity, she signed the committee report with all of her observations but with a reservation on her right to comment special report in due time. She pointed out that if the recommendations would remain indecisive, the problems would appear to be unresolved.

She emphasized that if the Committee members would not act and give a decisive and concrete recommendations, they would only appear as merely listeners and data gatherers. She added that while access is a necessity, the final decision in the committee level is equally important, appropriate and best action. She stressed that it is appropriate that the committee members should come up with a strong position and decision regarding the issue involved and ultimately recommend the best solutions based on the collected data.

She thanked the Special Committee on Marawi for including her comments and amendments in the report. She said that it was her reason in attending the session physically. She also requested to put on record that even if she would lose in the voting in the Parliament, she would moved to allow the people of Ground Zero to go home.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Thereupon, the Chair thanked Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph for her manifestation. He expressed his agreement with the manifestation, saying that as an IDP of Marawi, his

house is located inside the Most Affected Area (MAA). He expressed that he associated with the way the manifestation and the words were presented to them by Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago. Furthermore, he also associated himself with the way the presentation was made by Assistant Chairman on Special Committee on Marawi and the remarks of MP Mawallil that the presentation of the Committee Report was indeed substantive and comprehensive. He also shared that the report voiced the parliament's desire to request the CFBM to facilitate the return of the IDPs like himself to the Most Affected Area. He reminded the Parliament that the Special Committee on Marawi should closely work with Committee on Finance, Budget and Management (CFBM), LGU Marawi City and LGU Lanao Del Sur.

INFORMATION FROM THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

At this point, the Majority Floor Leader informed the body that they were still in the Period of Interpellation.

MANIFESTATION AND OF HON. MP ZUL QARNEYN M. ABAS

When recognized, Hon. MP Zul Qarneyn M. Abas commended the Special Committee on Marawi for submitting a very comprehensive report and manifested his support for the recommendations of the special committee.

He then asked if the DOH written on page 104 of the report refers to DOH Central Office or DOH ARMM or is it the Ministry of Health at the present. He mentioned that in the recommendations, the committee has two structural organization, the Project Management Office and the Coordinating Committee which could be BTA-LED or BARMM-LED. Relative thereto, he inquired as to what would be the relationship of the committee if it is a coordinating committee or if it is a Project Management Office to the Task Force Bangon Marawi.

He also asked as to which is higher, if it is a coordinative and collaborative in nature, explaining that one is created or organized by the Central Government and the other is by the BTA. He pointed out a perceived conflict as it is unclear as to who takes directives from whom. He opined that it would create more problems than solutions.

RESPONSE OF HON. MP ANNA TARHATA S. BASMAN

In her response, Special Committee Vice-Chairperson, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman stated that a portion of that report is summation of the issues. As to the first question of Hon. MP Zul Qarney M. Abas on whether the DOH written in the report refers to DOH National, she responded that it refers to regional office or the Ministry of Health. She also stated that they classified those given by the National Government, the Regional Government as distinguished further between ARMM and BARMM.

As to the second question, she stated that for the reference of the Parliament, they were referring to what is mentioned on page 116 of the report. She explained that the first part of their recommendations refer to the recommendation directed at the Bangsamoro Government and those offices are actually to be created by the Executive Branch of the Bangsamoro Transition Authority.

In her response to the question of the relationship of either the Coordinating Board or the Technical Management Office with the Task Force Bangon Marawi, she said that since they are instrumentalities of the Bangsamoro Government, it is optimal for them to have a coordinative and collaborative relationship with the Task Force Bangon Marawi.

As to the follow up question, she responded that the Special Committee on Marawi would recommend to create a body to spearhead the interventions to be given by the Bangsamoro Government. She also stated that as to the concerns regarding their performance and functions, they have sole authority and that the list of recommendations included in the report are the things that Bangsamoro Government could proceed with. She reiterated that most of those recommendations could be considered by the Bangsamoro Government without authorization or without getting the consent of the National Government such as the focus on delivery of services which are outside the jurisdiction of the Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM). She emphasized that they would merely say that there should be optimal collaboration with the TFBM because of plugging of data gaps and those data were already gathered officially by the TFBM and other agencies within that Task Force. She manifested that they should not come up with their own data set. She further stated that the proposal is for them to enrich what the

TFBM already have and to use the data that they have enriched for their own interventions. So, she stated that the cooperation, collaboration and other matters that would necessitate that kind of cooperative action end there, but as to the rest of the things that they have recommended in the report, the Coordinating BARMM can move the Project Management Office on its own.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP BAIN TAN A. AMPATUAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan stated that she is a very technical person to the point that she doesn't miss even a period and comma but in the case of the Marawi Report, she would like to manifest to the august body that it is really a comprehensive report. She expressed her appreciation on the way the report was presented. She commended the Special Committee on Marawi because it has never happened in the Parliament where a very comprehensive report was submitted. She seconded the opinion of Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil that other committees should replicate such kind of reporting. She reiterated her appreciation, saying that all the issues were captured in the report.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP JOSE I. LORENA

When recognized, Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena extended his congratulations to the Special Committee on Marawi for coming up with a substantive report. He also congratulated the Deputy Chief Minister, Hon. Ali B. Solaiman, for stewarding the Special Committee on Marawi well. He expressed hope that the Bangsamoro Government would take the report seriously and put the recommendations not only into proper perspective but also into concrete action.

He reminded the body that Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago also has a resolution to declare Marawi as an area for community development. He emphasized that the impact of the committee report was not only directed to the Parliament but to the entire Bangsamoro Government because the people of Marawi have been expecting so much from the Bangsamoro Government. He appealed to his colleagues in the Parliament to support the translation of the recommendations of the Special Committee on Marawi into proper actions. He also urged the Government of the Day to translate those

recommendations into programs to be implemented by the different Ministries of the Bangsamoro Government. He stated that time must come for the people to realize that Bangsamoro Government is there and that the Bangsamoro Transition Authority would be the best representative to address their common problems. In view thereof, he expressed his strong support for the report with a plea that the report should not be left in the chambers of the committee and the Parliament but should be delivered to the appropriate agencies to concretize the proposals and recommendations into appropriate actions.

Hon. MP Jose I. Lorena challenged the Bangsamoro Government and its leadership to come up with programs to alleviate the lives of the people of Marawi. He said that they have to show the people of Marawi that the Bangsamoro Government is truly the government of the Bangsamoro which includes people whether in Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao or Marawi. He manifested that he merely called for actions to address the report appropriately.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP MUSA K.S. DIAMLA

When recognized, MP Musa K.S. Diamla manifested that it was very happy for him to stand between the protagonists on some ideas that were presented by both parties, saying that one idea is that there is a comprehensive report prepared by the members of the Special Committee on Marawi. He, however, stated that there was also a strong comment that they received from the lady of Lanao del Sur, Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph. He expressed that he associated with the Presiding Officer as what the latter have said that they are residents of Marawi and they are IDPs from Ground Zero. He informed the body that his only house which was built in 1970 and that everything he earned during his 50 years of life were there in his house which was raised from the ground. He manifested that he even allowed the Task Force Bangon Marawi to take out all the debris so that he could have the chance to rebuild his house.

He reminded Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph that the problem or issue on “Kambalingan” is addressed in the report, particularly on page number 13 with the summary of the issues in the Most Affected Area. He informed the body that the Task

Force Bangon Marawi will allow and will turn over to the IPDs their lands but as of now they cannot yet return and that he hoped that the home owner IDPs would understand that they can return to their respective areas. He also expressed his commendation and appreciation to the Task Force Bangon Marawi for religiously performing the task as assigned to them by virtue of an Executive Order but because of the circumstances, they have to do it based on what is and what has to be done in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Marawi.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan expressed his commendation and appreciation for the great work done by the Special Committee on Marawi led by Deputy Chief Minister Ali B. Solaiman, the able Vice-Chairperson, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman and all the members of the Special Committee on Marawi. As the Special Committee Report on Marawi has reached the plenary for them to review and decide what further actions to take, they should possibly come out with the terms of reference on how to transition from the Special Committee on Marawi to a certain actions that may be needed to implement some of the doables, if not all the doable recommendations contained in the report. He informed the body that a major transition would happen in the committee, saying that, as he has understood, the Special Committee on Marawi is tasked to gather information, to listen and do things that could be done in their powers. Thus, he suggested that they should check the Terms of Reference because it might need minor changes in order to have an effective road for the Special Committee. He lauded the comprehensive and insightful report rendered by the Special Committee on Marawi, adding that he takes pride on it.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP SUSANA S. ANAYATIN

When recognized, Hon. MP Susana S. Anayatin expressed her appreciation to Deputy Chief Minister Ali B. Solaiman, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman and the Special Committee on Marawi for coming up with a comprehensive and impressive report despite all the challenges behind while they were doing the works. She concluded that the report could be a tool or a guide for the Local Government of Marawi, the

BARMM Government and even the National Government in coming up with future plans to rehabilitate Marawi. She ended her manifestation by expressing her full support to the report.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG

When recognized, Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong extended his commendation to the Special Committee on Marawi for making a very comprehensive Committee Report which, according to him, is a good example of complete staff works. He emphasized that the impact of the Special Committee did not start with the report but even during the process of consultation, it had already facilitated more responsive national taskforce for responding fellowmen in Marawi based on the public hearings that had started from January to July. He mentioned that one of the greatest assets of their fellowmen in Marawi that could be burned down is their capacity and competency which is well-shown by the Special Committee on Marawi led by Deputy Chief Minister Ali Solaiman, Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman and the rest of the Members, stating that their competency would hopefully pave way to the second level which is bringing the policies into actions.

After which, he inquired if the document to be distributed to all ministries and all Members of the Parliament would also reach the National level especially the Task Force Bangon Marawi, to which Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman stated that it is up to what the Parliament would wish to do with the report, stressing that the original mandate given to the Special Committee on Marawi is to come up with the recommendations addressed to the Bangsamoro Government. She informed the body that they addressed those matters that are outside the full control of the Bangsamoro Government to the National Government instrumentalities.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG

Thereupon, Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong pointed out that the report exhibited the competency level of the Bangsamoro and their fellowmen from Marawi and that while Marawi had been burnt, the competency and complete staff work of their colleagues is greatly shown by the report. He stated that if the report would reach the

heads of Task Force Bangon Marawi, they would realize that the Special Committee on Marawi meant business and knew the issues. He stressed that those issues stated in the recommendations would actually help the National Task Force Bangon Marawi unbundle the gaps and tangled issues relative to land ownership and other development and socio-economic aspects that would need to be delivered as they must face it.

He explained that 80% of the impact that they could do to Marawi is dependent on the National Government as the report would help them make a strategic move to hasten the impact and to unbundle the challenges and issues in helping Marawi.

Secondly, he expressed hope that the report would become a reference material for all the ministries for the 2021 budget, issues on land ownership and identification of boundaries which, perhaps, the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy could allocate funding in their 2021 budget.

Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong concluded his manifestation by saying that the report was very comprehensive and a good role model for complete staff work in the committee level, and by expressing hope that the plenary will be able to give or distribute the report to all ministries and sectors within the Bangsamoro and the members of the National Task Force Bangon Marawi.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair commented that they would act on the request of the Hon. MP Don Mustapha A. Loong.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

When recognized, Minority Floor Leader, MP Atty. Laisa Alamia, expressed her congratulations to the Special Committee for coming up with a comprehensive report. She pointed out that it was really good that they included in the report the rebuilding of Marawi, saying that there is a need to utilize various lenses and approaches. She stated that she had observed that the committee used the term transitional justice and reconciliation which talk about dealing with the past and which is very important in rehabilitating Marawi. She suggested that the same should be considered by the agencies involved in implementing the recommendations of the Special Committee on Marawi and

included in the approach for post monthly rehabilitation, the framework on the disaster risk reduction and management, stressing that all of those things should come together.

She pointed out that coming from outside Marawi and looking outside and inside as part of the entire Bangsamoro Region, Marawi requires a responsive, culturally sensitive robust which they call in planning a special framework for planning and implementation of projects in the area. She said that she knew that the main issue in Marawi as she listened to Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph and the other issues raised in the presentation of Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman, is that the IDPs want to go back home but there are issues on land, housing and property. She added that issue on land is the one that should be resolved. She also expressed hope that it would be taken into consideration by the Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Energy (MENRE) or by the Government of the Day that there is a way to resolve it by doing a rapid appraisal and validating the title of the ownership using official titles, adding that they would also need to make use of quasi legal documents such as tax declarations, registrations in the LGUs.

She reiterated that the main issue at present is that whether the IDPs can go back home immediately. She suggested that considering they have already gone that far, as they have a report from the Special Committee on Marawi, the next action on the plenary is to move for the approval of the report and then move for the submission of the report to the Government of the Day for implementation of the recommended actions that are indicated therein including the creation of an office or a board for BTA-LED Rehabilitation and Recovery, addressing the data gaps which she mentioned earlier for she had some suggestions to that and the provision of direct assistance to the IDPs including food security.

MOTION OF THE MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

Whereupon, the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia, moved that the Special Committee Report submitted by the Special Committee on Marawi be approved and forwarded to the Government of the Day.

COMMENT OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair thanked the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia, for her manifestation and commented that her motion was noted and that maybe they could act on it after they would finish all the manifestations of the Members of the Parliament.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP EDDIE M. ALIH

When recognized, MP Eddie M. Alih manifested he joined with his fellow Members of the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament in commending the Special Committee on Marawi. He said that he listened to the presentation, the opening statement of Deputy Chief Minister Ali Solaiman and the presentation of Hon. MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman as well as the manifestation of MP Maisara D. Latiph. He stated that the report is so comprehensive that touches the people's hearts and his heart as well. He expressed that it pains him that his Maranao brothers and sisters suffered during the Marawi Siege. In addition, he said that the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament could go far after the adoption of the report. He highlighted that the call of IDPs to return to Marawi should be given emphasis and with that concern, the report can be used by the Government of the Day in requesting whatever support from other agencies of the National Government. He also said that the IDPs are very eager to go home and that is what they are asking. He opined that the call of the IDPs could help facilitate the action of the national line agencies in rebuilding Marawi. He concluded his manifestation by expressing his happiness that Special Committee on Marawi came up with a report that could be a model for any committee working on certain concerns.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP DIAMILA D. RAMOS

When recognized, Hon. MP Diamila D. Ramos informed the body that she is a new member of the Special Committee on Marawi and that she took part in the deliberation and signed the Committee Report. She extended her commendation to all the members of the Special Committee on Marawi for bridging a lot of challenges despite different views on some issues. She stated that they all share the passion for Marawi because by choosing to be a member of the Committee on Marawi, it is already a manifestation of their concern towards Marawi and its people. She also stated that they

remained united in their main goal of coming up with the best measures that would carry out their mandate of recommending policies, programs, projects and activities that would help Marawi and its people to recover from their losses and help them get back to their lives. She commended the drafters of the Special Committee Report for providing their time and effort in coming up with the comprehensive report. She opined that the report is crucial as it will serve as a vital and reference document of BARMM for any future projects or actions for Marawi Rehabilitation.

She stressed that it is very important that they ensure that the report is indeed reflective and responsive to the needs of the Marawi Internally Displaced Persons. She manifested that she agreed with the statement of Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph that the IDPs in Marawi would like to go back to their homes and that is the reason why she is supporting the committee report and signed therein after a thorough deliberation. She emphasized that it is the major responsibility of the Bangsamoro Government to facilitate the return of the IDPs in Marawi to their homes and to provide them assistance to the said IDPs. She informed the body that presently, many IDPs have been allowed to return to their homes, saying, however, that only 20% to 30% were able to return because some IDPs do not have resources to rebuild their houses and that is what is stopping them.

She explained that she supported the Committee Report because on the last minute, the members of the committee agreed that there should be no opposition to include her resolution regarding provision of financial assistance to help fellow IDPs in returning to their homes and rebuild their houses. She asked the body to refer to her proposed resolution No. 130. She appealed to her colleague Members of the Parliament to support the said proposed resolution, if it would be tackled in the plenary. She stressed that the resolution would solve the problems of the IDPs in returning to their homes. She ended her manifestation by saying that they are only helping the IDPs to reconstruct their houses and helping them come back to their homes.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP BAI MALEIHA B. CANDAO

When recognized, Hon. MP Bai Maleiha B. Candao thanked the Special Committee on Marawi for coming up with a good committee report, especially Special

Committee Chairman, Hon. MP Ali B. Solaiman and Vice Chairperson MP Anna Tarhata B. Basman. She manifested that her heart goes to the people of Marawi and re-echoed the voices of Hon MP Laisa M. Alamia, Hon. MP Maisara D. Latiph and everyone who shared their sentiments and appreciation of the report.

She suggested to add psychological interventions which has something to do with psychological well-being of the People of Marawi because aside from the infrastructure projects that the Government of the Day might be able to implement relative to the report submitted or resubmitted to them, the psychological interventions are needed for the IDPs as it also relates to the proposed resolution submitted by Hon. MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr. regarding the need to look into the psychological well-being of the Bangsamoro people.

INFORMATION AND MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Subsequently, the Majority Floor Leader informed the body that there was a standing motion.

Thereafter, on the motion of the Majority Floor Leader, duly seconded and their being no objection, the Period of Interpellation and Debate was closed.

REMINDER OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair reminded the body that there was a standing motion by the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia, to approve and transmit the Special Committee Report to the Government of the Day as a reference for the BARMM's initiative in the rehabilitation of Marawi.

AMENDMENT OF MOTION BY HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

Subsequently, Hon. Paisalin P. Tago, when recognized, proposed amendment to the motion of Hon. MP Laissa M. Alamia that aside from the Government of the Day headed by Chief Minister, the report should also be furnished to the Office of the President, the Task Force Bangon Marawi and the Congress of the Philippines. He explained that the President should know the action taken by the Special Committee on Marawi.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP NABIL A. TAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan manifested that he was about to say the same thing with Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago. Then, he proposed that, if Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia would allow to let copies of the Special Committee Report be furnished to the Office of the President, Task Force Bangon Marawi and the Congress of the Philippines and add also the Local Government Units of Lanao del Sur, Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur and the City Government of Marawi, so that everyone would have an official copy of the report.

DIRECTION OF THE CHAIR

Thereupon, the Chair directed the Secretariat to take note of the motion and requested the Minority Floor Leader, Hon. MP Laisa M. Alamia, to restate her earlier motion for the appreciation of the Parliament.

MANIFESTATION OF THE MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

When recognized, the Minority Floor Leader stated that she accepted the amendments. She restated her motion that the Special Committee on Marawi be forwarded to the Government of the Day, the Congress of the Philippines, the Task Force Bangon Marawi, the Office of the President, the Local Government Units of Lanao del Sur, the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur and the City Government of Marawi.

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED MOTION OF MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

The motion of the Minority Floor Leader as amended by Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago and Hon. MP Nabil A. Tan to forward the Special Committee on Marawi the Government of the Day, the Congress of the Philippines, the Task Force Bangon Marawi, the Office of the President, the Local Government Units of Lanao, the Provincial Government of Lanao del Sur and the City Government of Marawi, having been duly seconded, and there being no objection, was approved.

BUSINESS OF THE DAY

Thereupon, the body proceeded to consider the items in the Business for the Day.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 286

At this point, the body proceeded to consider the Proposed Resolution No. 286 which was earlier treated by the body as a simple resolution and transferred to the Business for the Day, entitled:

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND MOST SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE PEACE PROCESS UNDERSECRETARY DIMASANGCAY ALANGADI PUNDATO

Authors: MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong, Speaker Ali Pangalian M. Balindong, Deputy Chief Minister Ali B. Solaiman, MP Susana S. Anayatin, MP Hamid Aminoddin D. Barra, MP Anna Tarhata S. Basman, MP Jose I. Lorena, MP Abdulraof A. Macacua, MP Nabilah Margarita P. Pangandaman, MP Punduma S. Sani, MP Nabil A. Tan, MP Musa K. Diamla, MP Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr., MP Paisalin P. Tago and MP Narsiso C. Yu Ekey

DISPENSAL OF THE PERIOD OF DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION AND THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

On motions of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and their being no objection, the period of debate and interpellation and the period of amendments on the Proposed Resolution No. 286 were dispensed with.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 286

Thereafter, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the Proposed Resolution No. 286 was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 289

Subsequently, the body proceeded to consider the Proposed Resolution No. 289 which was also treated earlier as a simple resolution and transferred to the Business for the Day, entitled:

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE AUGUST 24, 2020 TWIN BOMBINGS IN DOWNTOWN JOLO, SULU, IN THE STRONGEST TERMS, AND URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS

Authors: Deputy Speaker Hatimil E. Hassan, MP Laisa M. Alamia, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil, MP Eddie M. Alih, MP Abraham T. Burahan, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, MP Atty. Jose I. Lorena, MP Al-Syed A. Sali, MP Atty. Nabil A. Tan, Adzfar H. Usman, MP Atty. Suharto M. Ambolodto, MP Baintan A. Ampatuan, MP Rasul E. Ismael and Rasol Y. Mitmug, Jr.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF HON. MP AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL

At this point, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil delivered his sponsorship speech on the Proposed Resolution No. 289, the full text of which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker, there are perhaps two words that can best describe how we are feeling today.

One word is "grief." Grief, because it is heartbreaking to the families of those innocent people who perished.

These families' worlds may be falling apart because they've lost their loved ones in acts of senseless violence. Grief because we are human, and losses like these are grievous and devastating, even when the slain are not our blood kins.

The second word is "rage." Rage, because what happened was cruel, and pure evil. We feel rage even as we seek justice for the people who were killed and wounded amid this grief the families of the victims feel right now. Rage.

Mr. Speaker, I saw a post online where the person who uploaded the post asked what we are doing in the wake of this atrocity: He asked if we are going to wait for another "Marawi," possibly referring to the 2017 siege.

It hurts to have someone question the government's action, to have it implied that we have not even begun to take action, but that post asks a legitimate question our people can and should ask.

Perhaps we can reflect on this, even as we act on the matter at hand. Perhaps we should think deeply on how to be more responsive to the needs of our people in situation like this, and then act to improve our responses to their needs so we become quicker and more efficient in doing this.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to mention some of my fellow Tausug MPs who helped initiate this resolution, namely: MPs Adzfar Usman; Jess Burahan, Nabil Tan, Jo Lorena, Laisa Alamia, Deputy Speaker Hatimil Hassan, Alysied Sali, Eddie Alih, and Don Mustapha Loong.

Mr. Speaker, colleagues in this interim Bangsamoro Parliament, we seek your support. Let us help our people in Sulu together, as it is expected of us as their

representatives, and it is the measure of our duties to provide the services and support that our people need under all circumstances, especially those circumstances that are devastating and grievous, because that is when the people of our region and our nation need us most.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve this resolution.

OPENING OF THE PERIOD OF DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION

Thereafter, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the period of interpellation and debate on Proposed Resolution No. 289 was opened.

INTERPELLATION OF HON. MP PAISALIN P. TAGO

When recognized, Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago prefaced his interpellation by manifesting that he joined with the Resolution of Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil. He said that his colleagues would agree because the Proposed Resolution No. 289 calls for unity of the Bangsamoro regarding what happened in Sulu. Then, he inquired if what kind of immediate assistance could they provide, to which Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil responded that there was an initial news report that the Ministry of Social Welfare and Development would respond to the victims or survivors of the recent bombings. He expressed hope that the Government of the Day could allocate some special funds or immediate cash assistance for the victims.

Hon. MP Paisalin P. Tago concluded his interpellation by reiterating that he joined with the resolution condemning the bombing in Sulu and calling the Government of the Day to provide immediate assistance to the families of the victims and requesting the proponent to include his name as a co-author of the Proposed Resolution No. 289 which was accepted by Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil.

REQUEST OF THE CHAIR

Subsequently, the Chair, Hon. MP Ziaur-Rahman Alonto Adiong, requested Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil to include him as co-author of the Proposed Resolution No. 289.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP ZUL QARNEYN M. ABAS

When recognized, Hon. MP Zul Qarneyn M. Abas manifested his desire to be included as co-author of the Proposed Resolution No. 289 which was also accepted by Hon. MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil.

DIRECTION OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair directed the Secretary-General to take note of the names of the Members of the Parliament in the zoom who manifested that their names be included as co-authors of the Propose Resolution No. 289.

CLOSURE OF THE PERIOD DEBATE AND INTERPELLATION

Thereupon, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the period of debate and interpellation was closed.

ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 289

Consequently, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the Proposed Resolution No. 289 was adopted.

RESUMPTION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS FOR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE BILL NO. 52

Thereafter, the body resumed the period of amendments for the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52, entitled:

AN ACT CREATING BANGSAMORO SPORTS COMMISSION,
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANDATE, POWERS, AND FUNCTIONS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Considering that the Committee Substitute Bil No. 52 has been deliberated, discussed and that during the Committee Hearings with the Committee on Finance, Budget and Management and there was already certification as to the availability fund that would be charged to the Contingency Fund in the BAA 2020 and that the Commission could request for the additional budget after the completion of the staffing pattern and all the requirements of the office, the Majority Floor Leader moved for the closure of the period of amendments.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

When recognized, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan stated that she would not want to be considered as an opposition to the Substitute Committee Bill No. 52 because she is a member of the Committee on Rules. She, however, pointed out that there are some disharmonies in the provisions of the bill. Thus, she inferred that she would not want the body to pass a bill that has inconsistent provisions.

RESPONSE OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

In his response, the Majority Floor Leader stated that the Committee on Rules has generally considered the proposed amendments of Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan on the bill. He, however, said that Hon. MP Ampatuan could still proposed amendments.

COMMENT OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

Whereupon, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan commented that she knew that the Majority Floor Leader has considered some of her points. She, however, stressed that there are some major points pertaining to the structure that should be looked into, explaining that the structure is the backbone of the organization which they would create and if it is not clear, there would be problems on how it would be implemented later on.

REQUEST OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair requested Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan to state her proposed amendments so that they could move forward.

FURTHER MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

Thereupon, Hon. MP Baintan A. Ampatuan thanked the Majority Floor Leader for considering her major proposed amendments. She, however, pointed out that in the organizational structure under Section 12, the six (6) divisions are not well coordinated because the Commission proper is created into divisions. Thus, she stressed that the implication when they would translate it later on into organization for implementation, the Commission proper and the divisions are of the same levels. In view thereof, she proposed that letters (d), (e) and (f) be made part letter (c). She explained that her concern is that Executive Director is mentioned in Section 20, but it is not mentioned in

any part of Section 12. She emphasized that if they would adopt the Executive Director, they should include it in the organizational structure.

RESPONSE OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

In his response, the Majority Floor Leader stated that the Office of the Secretariat shall be headed by the Executive Director and that in Section 19, it is expressly mentioned that the Office of the Secretariat of the Commission shall be headed by the Executive Director. He added that it is also mentioned under Section 19 that the secretariat is composed of three divisions. Thus, he expressed he would be amenable to deletion of letters (d), (e) and (f).

CLARIFICATION OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

Whereupon, Hon. MP Bantan A. Ampatuan clarified that her proposal was not to delete letter (d), (e) and (f) but to include them under letter (c).

COMMENT OF MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

Subsequently, the Majority Floor Leader commented that if they would read letter (c) of Section 12, it is mentioned that the Secretariat is composed of (1) Policy Research and Development Division which is already mentioned in letter (d); (2) Regulatory Promotion and Commendation Commission which is in letter (e); and (3) Finance and Administrative Division which is in letter (f). Thus, he emphasized that it would be okay to delete letters (d), (e) and (f).

CLARIFICATORY QUESTION OF THE CHAIR

Whereupon, the Chair asked if the concern of Hon. MP Bantan A. Ampatuan was the same with the section just read by the Majority Floor Leader, to which the latter responded affirmatively. She, however, pointed out that Sections 21, 22 and 23 talk about the individual or specific functions of those three (3) Divisions. Thus, she recommended to delete the aforesaid sections, but their titles should be included in Section 12 (c).

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

At 5:18 PM, the Chair *motu proprio* declared a one-minute suspension of the session.

RESUMPTION

At 5:24 P.M., the session resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF HON. MP BANTAN A. AMPATUAN

Thereafter, Hon. MP Bantan A. Ampatuan, when recognized, manifested that most of her proposed amendments were captured in the draft that was given to them. She stated that they have agreed to delete some portions of the provision to avoid repetitions. She clarified that the Secretariat captured the proposed amendments.

FLASHING OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretariat flashed the proposed amendments on the screen.

APPROVAL OF THE MOTION OF THE MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

The motion of the Majority Floor Leader to close the period of amendments, having been duly seconded, and duly seconded, there being no objection, was approved and the period of amendments was closed.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE BILL NO. 52 ON SECOND READING

Thereupon, on motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection, the body unanimously approved the Committee Substitute Bill No. 52 on Second Reading by *viva voce* voting.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE SESSION

On motion of the Majority Floor Leader duly seconded, and there being no objection the session was adjourned until September 17, 2020 at one o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 5:26 P.M.

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

Prof. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General