

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY 2
Cotabato City

First Regular Session

BTA PARLIAMENT
BTA Resolution No. 109

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
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RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE CALL OF PRESIDENT FERDINAND "BONGBONG" MARCOS, JR. TO CREATE AND ORGANIZE A DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH) IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM)

WHEREAS, Section 26, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states, in part, that the State shall guarantee equal access to opportunities for public service;

WHEREAS, Section 7, Article IV of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11054 or the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) provides that the Bangsamoro Government shall ensure every Filipino citizen in its territorial jurisdiction the provision of the basic necessities and equal opportunities in life;

WHEREAS, Section 37, Article XIII of RA No. 11054 provides that [t]he National Government shall fund and implement the construction and maintenance of the national roads, bridges, water supply and services, and flood control and irrigation systems and the maintenance of existing airports, seaports, and wharves in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region;

WHEREAS, Section 8, Article IX of R.A. No. 11054 or the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) provides that the Bangsamoro Government shall maintain appropriate disaster-preparedness units for immediate and effective relief services to victims of

natural and man-made calamities. It shall also ensure the rehabilitation of calamity-affected areas and victims of calamities;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 710 series of 1981, the Ministries of Public Works and Public Highways were merged for a more effective and sustained implementation of infrastructure projects. Under the restructured set-up, the agency was known as the Ministry of Public Works and Highways (MPWH)¹;

WHEREAS, by virtue of Executive Order No. 124 series of 1987, the agency was renamed to Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). As the primary engineering and construction arm of the government, the DPWH is responsible for the planning, design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure such as roads and bridges, flood control systems, water resource development projects, and other public works in accordance with national objectives²;

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2022, Severe Tropical Storm (STS) *Paeng*, with international name *Nalgae*, battered some parts of Maguindanao del Norte, Maguindanao del Sur, Cotabato City, and other parts of Southwestern Mindanao. Heavy rains brought by the Severe Tropical Storm *Paeng* caused landslides and severe flooding in those mentioned areas;

WHEREAS, over ten (10) bridges have been damaged in both Maguindanaos due to STS *Paeng*. Specifically, these are the Ledepan Bridge, Kurintem Bridge, DBS Bridge, Sarakan Street, Matengan Steel Bridge, Darapan Steel Bridge, Lower Magulat Kiga, Upper Magutay Rempes, Labu-labu Bridge and Nituan Bridge³;

WHEREAS, the relief efforts to Cotabato City and Maguindanao have been facing difficulties as medium to heavy vehicles cannot pass through due to the damage of the Labu-labu bridge;

WHEREAS, during the situation briefing to President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr. on the effects of STS *Paeng* in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), Interior Minister Naguib Sinarimbo enumerated the region’s most affected road network which is a critical lifeline to relief operations⁴;

WHEREAS, President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr. has recommended the establishment of a District Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) to expedite repairs of bridges and national roads after the onslaught of natural calamities;

¹ www.dpwh.gov.ph/dpwh/about/history

² *Ibid.*

³ <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/849985/marcos-wants-dpwh-district-office-in-barmm/story>

⁴ https://ops.gov.ph/news_releases/pbbm-wants-barmm-to-put-up-own-public-works-office-for-immediate-infra-repair-during-disasters

WHEREAS, noting many bridges were damaged during the storm, His Excellency President Marcos stressed that a District Office would make it easier for the region to get help expeditiously in times of crises;

WHEREAS, having a District Engineering Office of the DPWH in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region will help ease in the relief efforts of the government especially on the mobilization of goods and services to most affected areas during calamities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the BTA Parliament, to pass and approve this Resolution supporting the call of His Excellency President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. to create and organize a District Engineering Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), for consideration and approval of the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament.

Adopted,


ENGR. BAIN TAN ADIL-AMPATUAN, MNSA