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

Second Regular Session

BTA PARLIAMENT BTA Resolution No. ² ¹ ⁶ Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parfiament
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RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND SINCEREST CONDOLENCES TO THE BEREAVED FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE ILL-FATED MV LADY MARY JOY 3, WHICH CAUGHT FIRE NEAR BALUK-BALUK ISLAND IN THE PROVINCE OF BASILAN

WHEREAS, MV Lady Mary Joy 3 is a 33-year old passenger ship that was built in 1990 and is sailing under the flag of the Philippines¹;

WHEREAS, MV Lady Mary Joy 3, owned by Aleson Shipping Lines Inc., departed Zamboanga Port at around 9 o'clock in the evening of March 29, 2023, Wednesday, with 205 passengers indicated in its manifest²;

WHEREAS, while MV Lady Mary Joy 3 was sailing to the province of Sulu, a fire broke out near the town of Hadji Muhtamad, Basilan and the ferry drifted to Baluk-Baluk Island where it ran aground³;

WHEREAS, based on the passenger manifest of MV Lady Mary Joy 3, there were 252 individuals onboard the vessel when it caught fire at 9.3 nautical miles off

ps://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:4874284/mmsi:548032400/imo:9006760/vessel:LAD Y_MARY_JOY_3

² https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1750078/vessel-catches-fire-at-sea-in-basilan

https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/03/30/news/ferry-fire-off-basilan-leaves-12-dead-at-least-7-missing/1885004

the littoral monitoring station (LTS) *Pilas* near *Baluk-Baluk* Island in Hadji Muhtamad, Basilan, around 10:40 pm of March 29, 2023⁴;

WHEREAS, among the 252 individuals onboard were 205 passengers, 35 crew, four (4) sea marshals from the PCG, and eight (8) security personnel from the Philippine Army (PA)⁵;

WHEREAS, according to Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), the number of people who perished due to a fire in the passenger-cargo vessel MV Lady Mary Joy 3 reached 29 — 11 drowned and 18 burned to death;

WHEREAS, search and rescue operations and coastal patrolling continued in the vicinity waters of Basilan, to find seven others who were still missing⁶;

WHEREAS, of the 29 fatalities, 11 victims that drowned were already identified, while the rest were burned to death. Among those who died were six (6) children and minors⁷;

WHEREAS, according to the PCG, there were 216 rescued individuals who were brought to Zamboanga City for profiling;

WHEREAS, according to the narrative of the survivors, the fire came from an air-conditioned room at the cabin which quickly spread to the adjacent kitchen room⁸;

WHEREAS, many survivors jumped off the ship; some of them survived the freezing water, while others drowned. Several passengers could not immediately get out of the vessel because of the panic and the commotion. These passengers were then trapped, where their burnt bodies were found later⁹;

WHEREAS, the said tragedy had left a lot of families mourning for the loss of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority offers its profound sympathies and sincerest condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of the ill-fated MV Lady Mary Joy 3.

⁴ https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1750078/vessel-catches-fire-at-sea-in-basilan

⁵ Ibid

⁶ https://mb.com.ph/2023/3/30/death-toll-due-to-basilan-ferry-fire-now-at-29-7-still-missing

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the BTA Parliament to pass and approve this Resolution expressing profound sympathies and sincerest condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of the ill-fated MV Lady Joy 3 which caught fire near *Baluk-Baluk* Island in the province of Basilan.

Adopted,

ENGR. BAINTAN ADIL-AMPATUAN, MNSA

Author