



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY PARLIAMENT
Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City



SECOND REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 392

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS THE KILLING OF MR. MOHAMMAD HESSAM A. MIDTIMBANG AND THE AMBUSH OF COTABATO CITY GENERAL SERVICE OFFICER MR. PEDRO D. TATO, JR. RESULTING IN HIS WOUNDING AND KILLING OF HIS DRIVER DANDY ANONAT, AND CALLING ON ALL CONCERNED AGENCIES OF THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO TO CONDUCT A SPEEDY INVESTIGATION IN ORDER TO SERVE JUSTICE TO THEIR FAMILIES

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “*the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;*”

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution also provides that “*no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws;*”

WHEREAS, Section 3, Article V of Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the “*Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao*”, provides that “*The Bangsamoro Government shall exercise the power expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare. Within its territorial jurisdiction, the Bangsamoro Government shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among its residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of its inhabitants;*”

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8551, otherwise known as the “*Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998*”, states that “*the Philippine National Police shall be a community and service-oriented agency responsible for the maintenance of peace and order and public safety;*”

WHEREAS, it is declared as the policy of the Bangsamoro Government that the Bangsamoro Government values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights, and it shall give the highest priority to the enactment of measures to protect and enhance the right of all people to human dignity at all stages of human life;

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2023, a shooting incident occurred at Rosary Heights X. According to Mr. Almendras Rinabor, the Public Safety Officer of the City Government of Cotabato, the unknown gunmen shot the vehicle boarded by Cotabato City General Services Officer Mr. Pedro D. Tato, Jr. The incident led to the death of the driver of the said vehicle, Mr. Dandy Anonat, and the wounding of Mr. Tato, Jr.;

WHEREAS, six (6) days after, on August 21, 2023, another shooting incident took place in Cotabato City, this time at Governor Gutierrez Avenue, Rosary Heights VII, an unknown motorcycle gunmen shot and killed Mr. Mohammad Hessam A. Midtimbang, host of a Bangsamoro Darul-Ifta’ radio program, and member of the Bangsamoro Darul-Ifta’, also known as the “*House of Opinions*”, an Islamic advisory council under the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao which promotes cultural and religious solidarity among Muslim, Christians, and indigenous non-Moro communities in southern cities and provinces;

WHEREAS, government employees play a crucial role in the delivery of essential government services to the Bangsamoro people, and their safety and security are of paramount importance to the stability and progress of the region;

WHEREAS, it is disheartening that similar events of killing have been rampant in the city of Cotabato. The Bangsamoro people cannot freely exercise their rights when there is fear. Thus, this Resolution is to express the strongest condemnation of such killings and to serve justice for the untimely death of the victims;

WHEREAS, Cotabato City Local Government Unit and City Police force need to strengthen the safety and security measures in the city;

WHEREAS, on account of these alarming and senseless series of killings of innocent individuals including Mr. Midtimbang, it is imperative to call upon the concerned government authorities to investigate the incident happened in order to address and resolve the proliferation of these horrendous crimes and to prevent future acts of violence in the region. Moreover, the perpetrators of these crimes should be penalized;

WHEREAS, the progress of the case should be monitored by the Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission (BHRC):

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, To condemn in the strongest possible terms the killing of Mr. Mohammad Hessam A. Midtimbang and the ambush of Cotabato City General Service Officer Mr. Pedro D. Tato, Jr. resulting in his wounding and killing of his driver Dandy Anonat, and to call on all concerned agencies of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao to conduct a speedy investigation in order to serve justice to their families.

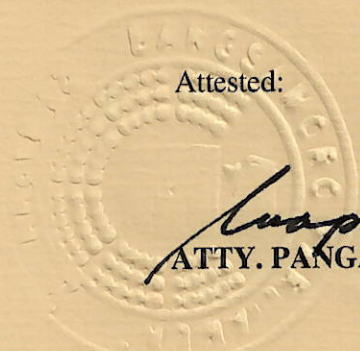

RESOLVED, FURTHER, To furnish a copy of this Resolution to the Office of the City Mayor Hon. Bruce Dela Cruz Matabalao, the BHRC, the Cotabato City Police Director PCOL Querubin L. Manalang, Jr., the Office of the Chief Minister, the National Bureau of Investigation-Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (NBI-BARMM), the Philippine National Police-Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (PRO-BAR), and the Ministry of Public Order and Safety, for information and appropriate action.

ADOPTED, *Rabi Al-Awwal* 03, 1445/September 18, 2023.

Certified Correct:


PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary-General

Attested:



ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker

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