

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

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION

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Name: Saima K. Pangunod

Date: FEB 05 2024

Time: 8:51 AM



Second Regular Session

BTA PARLIAMENT
BTA Parliament Bill No. 280

Introduced by:

MP Engr. Baintan Adil-Ampatuan, CSEE, MNSA, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, CESE, MP. Rasul E. Ismael, EMDRCM, and MP Atty. Rasol Mitmug, Jr., CESE

Co-Authored by:

MP Atty. Laisa M. Alamia, MP Amilbahar S. Mawallil, MP Atty. Suharto M. Ambolodto, MP Tawakal B. Midtimbang, MP Jaafar Apollo Mikhail L. Matalam, MP Michael E. Midtimbang, MP Atty. Sittie Fahanie S. Uy-Oyod, MP Khalid Ma-Ampor Hadji Abdullah and MP Bassir. D. Utto

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES¹

Explanatory Note

Section 2, Article IV of Republic Act No. 11054, or the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), states that in the exercise of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region's right to self-governance, it is free to pursue its political, economic, social and cultural development.

Section 2 (yy), Article V of the BOL, provides that subject to Section 20, Article X of the 1987 Constitution, the Bangsamoro Government shall exercise its authority over **tourism development** without prejudice to the general supervision of the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

¹ This bill is patterned from the entry of Nurjamin Abdulkarim in the 2023 Bill and Resolution Drafting Contest conducted by the Offices of MP Engr. Baintan Adil-Ampatuan, MNSA, MP Don Mustapha A. Loong, CESE, MP. Rasul E. Ismael, EMDRCM, and MP Atty. Rasol Mitmug, Jr., CESE, entitled "An Act Establishing a Comprehensive Framework for the Promotion and Development of Tourism in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Providing Funds Thereof, and for Other Purposes."

Moreover, Section 35, Article XIII of the BOL states that the Bangsamoro Government shall promote tourism within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. It may recommend the designation of tourism enterprise zones to the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as " *The Tourism Act of 2009.*"

The Secretary of the Department of Tourism, Christina Garcia Franco, formally unveiled the completed National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) for 2023 to 2028 at the Tourism Stakeholders' National Summit organized by the Department of Tourism (DOT) on March 15, 2023. The NTDP serves as a blueprint for the strategies on how the Department of Tourism intends to continue and to grow the impact of tourism upon the Philippine economy in the next few years. This will be the guidebook of the industry, where the department shall put in place mechanisms for sustainability for the years to come².

In addition, she also reported that 2022 was a fruitful year for the Philippine tourism industry, underscoring that last year's international arrivals reached 2.65 million, exceeding the initial target of 1.7 million foreign visitors. This figure, she noted, translated to Php 214 billion, or roughly US\$ 4 billion in estimated revenues. These statistics show a boost for the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the post-pandemic era, exceeding the targeted revenue of Php155.03 billion by 38.06 percent.³

During the first-ever Bangsamoro Business Congress last January 2023, the Ministry of Trade, Investments, and Tourism (MITT) – Bureau of Tourism Director Marites Maguindra stressed that the BARMM has countless tourism destinations, comparable to the popular tourist destinations in the country. She further stated that there are around 784,495 tourist arrivals since 2019 in the region.⁴

The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) is a relatively new political entity created on 2019 by virtue of Republic Act No. 11054, commonly known as the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL). The Bangsamoro Transition Authority, as the interim government of the region during the transition period, has the obligation and duty to develop and promote the tourism of the region. Therefore, it is imperative for the Bangsamoro government to develop interventions that will serve as the catalyst for the long-term and sustainable growth of the region.

The creation of a comprehensive framework for the development of tourism in the Bangsamoro region, as proposed in this measure, seeks to develop tourism in the region as one of its major socio-economic priorities. It is a framework that promotes a balance between the growth of the region economically, and the protection of the environment.

² https://beta.tourism.gov.ph/news_and_updates/dot-chief-unveils-national-tourism-development-plan-ntdp-2023-2028-at-stakeholders-summit

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ <https://bangsamoro.gov.ph/news/latest-news/promising-opportunities-await-tourism-investors-in-barmm>

The promotion of tourism can be of service to the Bangsamoro people, not just in preserving the culture heritage of our people and developing the region, but also, creating livelihood opportunities that can improve the lives of the local communities in the region. In addition, this framework can make the local communities one of the primary beneficiaries of the profits to be generated from the development of tourism in the region. By encouraging the local communities to participate in developing tourism in the region, these measures can foster peace, unity, and understanding among the Bangsamoro people.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


MP Engr. Baintan Adil-Ampatuan, MNSA
Author

MP Engr. Don Mustapha A. Loong, CESE
Author

MP Rasul E. Ismael, EMDRCM
Author

MP Atty. Rasol Mitmug, Jr., CESE
Author

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Second Regular Session

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Name: Saima K. Pangunotan
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BTA PARLIAMENT
BTA Parliament Bill No. 280

Introduced by:

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Parliament of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao assembled:

Section 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Bangsamoro Tourism Act of 2024*”.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - The Bangsamoro Government hereby declares it as a matter of policy to develop and promote a sustainable, inclusive, and globally competitive tourism industry in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). This policy shall be guided by the following principles:

- a. **Sustainable Development:** – To prioritize the balanced and sustainable growth of the tourism sector, ensuring the protection of the region's natural and cultural heritage for future generations.⁵

⁵ Tomej, P., & Liburd, P. (2020). *Sustainable mobility is crucial to the development of sustainable tourism*. *Tourism Management*, 117(1), 45-55.

- b. **Quality and Excellence** - to uphold high standards in tourism related services and facilities, thereby enhancing the tourism experience and creating employment opportunities for the residents of the BARMM.⁶
- c. **Community Participation** - to actively engage local communities in tourism planning and development, aiming to make them primary beneficiaries of tourism-related economic activities.⁷
- d. **Cultural Preservation** - to respect and promote the unique cultural heritage of the Bangsamoro people, integrating cultural education and experiences into tourism initiatives.
- e. **Security and Safety** - to provide a secure and hospitable environment for tourists and residents alike, through coordinated efforts in law enforcement and emergency response.
- f. **Technological Advancement** - to adopt modern, eco-friendly technologies for enhancing administrative efficiency, improving tourist experiences, and facilitating data-driven decision-making in the tourism sector.
- g. **Global Competitiveness** - to strategically position the BARMM as a competitive tourism destination on both national and international platforms through strategic marketing and partnerships.⁸
- h. **Transparency and Accountability** - to execute tourism policies and programs in a transparent manner, ensuring accountability at all levels of governance.
- i. **Inter-Sectoral Coordination** - to foster partnerships among government agencies, local government units, the private sector, and civil society organizations for holistic and effective tourism development.⁹

Thus, the Bangsamoro Government commits to the integration of the tourism industry into the broader socio-economic, cultural, and environmental fabric of the Bangsamoro Government, with the aim to leverage its transformative potential for the welfare of the region.

⁶ Koenig, G. (2001). *Interpersonal skills in sustainable tourism*. *Tourism Management*, 22(6), 889-898.

⁷ Gursoy, D. (2013). *Antecedents and outcomes of sustainable tourism development*. *Journal of Travel Research*, 52(6), 713-725.

⁸ University of Toronto. (2021). ENV205H5: Sustainable Tourism (Winter 2021) - Research guides at University of Toronto.

⁹ Gursoy, D. (2013). *Antecedents and outcomes of sustainable tourism development*. *Journal of Travel Research*, 52(6), 713-725.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. - The following terms, as used in this Act, shall mean:

- a. *Tourism* - the movement of people to destinations outside their usual places of residence for personal, business, or professional purposes, as well as the activities undertaken during their stay in those destinations.
- b. *Tourist* - a person who travels to a place outside his/her usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business, or other purposes.
- c. *Tourism Enterprise* - any entity, whether natural or juridical, engaged in the provision of tourism-related services or facilities, such as accommodation, transportation, food and beverage, recreation, entertainment, travel agency, tour operation, and others.
- d. *Tourism Facility* - any physical structure or equipment used for tourism purposes, such as hotels, resorts, restaurants, convention centers, museums, parks, and others.
- e. *Tourism Service* - any activity or function performed for tourism purposes, such as guiding, catering, security, marketing, promotion, and others.
- f. *Tourism Attraction* - any natural or man-made feature or event that draws tourists to a certain destination or area.
- g. *Tourism Product* - any combination of tourism attractions, facilities, and services that creates a unique experience for tourists.
- h. *Tourism Development* - the process of planning, implementing, and managing tourism-related activities and projects that aim to enhance the quality and quantity of tourism supply and demand in each area or destination.
- i. *Sustainable Tourism Development* - tourism development that meets the needs of present tourists and host regions while simultaneously protecting and conserving available resources, while also enhancing opportunities for the future. It is envisaged as leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social, and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems.
- j. *Community-Based Tourism* - tourism development that involves and benefits local communities by providing them with opportunities to participate in tourism planning and management, as well as to generate income and employment from tourism activities.

- k. *Cultural Tourism* - tourism development that focuses on the appreciation and preservation of the cultural heritage of a destination or area, such as its history, arts, traditions, values, and beliefs.
- l. *Ecotourism* - tourism development that involves travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people.
- m. *Tourism Zone* - a contiguous area with defined boundaries that has been identified and designated by the Bureau of Tourism Council as having high potential for tourism development.
- n. *Tourism Circuit* - a group of tourism zones that are linked by common themes or features and can be visited within a reasonable time frame.
- o. *Tourism Cluster* - a confined area related to tourism development including tourist spots and tourist service facilities such as restaurants, accommodations, and traveler centers.

Section 4. *Bangsamoro Tourism Development Strategy.* - The Bangsamoro Government shall formulate and implement a Bangsamoro Tourism Development Strategy (BTDS) that shall serve as the blueprint for establishing and advancing tourism development in BARMM. The BTDS shall be consistent with the Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP), the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), and other relevant laws and policies. The BTDS shall include the following strategies:

- a. *Enhancing the Quality of Tourist Experience* - providing high-quality tourism services and facilities that meet or exceed the expectations of tourists in terms of comfort, convenience, safety, security, accessibility, affordability, and satisfaction.¹⁰
- b. *Strengthening the Tourism Marketing and Promotion* - implementing effective marketing and promotion strategies that increase the awareness, interest, desire, and action of potential tourists to visit BARMM through various media platforms and channels.¹¹
- c. *Building the Tourism Human Resource Capacity of the Bangsamoro* - enhancing the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values of tourism stakeholders through training, education, certification, accreditation, recognition, and incentives.
- d. *Encouraging Tourism Innovation and Entrepreneurship* - encouraging the creation and improvement of new and existing tourism enterprises,

¹⁰ University of Toronto. (2021). *ENV205H5: Sustainable Tourism (Winter 2021) - Research guides at University of Toronto.*

¹¹ Gursoy, D. (2013). *Antecedents and outcomes of sustainable tourism development.* *Journal of Travel Research*, 52(6), 713-725.

products, services, and processes that are innovative, competitive, and profitable.

- e. ***Promoting Tourism Awareness and Education*** – promoting the awareness and education of the public and stakeholders on the benefits and challenges of tourism development in the BARMM, as well as their roles and responsibilities in supporting and participating in tourism activities.
- f. ***Fostering Community-Based Tourism*** – fostering and supporting the participation and empowerment of local communities in tourism development, especially the indigenous peoples, women, youth, and marginalized groups, through capacity-building, resource sharing, benefit distribution, and cultural exchange.¹²
- g. ***Developing Halal Tourism Standards and Certification*** – developing and implementing a set of standards and certification criteria that ensure the compliance of tourism services and facilities with the Islamic principles and values, such as halal food, prayer facilities, modesty, cleanliness, and ethics.¹³
- h. ***Leveraging Regional and International Cooperation*** – leveraging the regional and international cooperation and integration of BARMM with other Muslim-majority or Muslim-friendly countries and organizations in terms of tourism policy, planning, promotion, investment, research, education, and exchange.¹⁴
- i. ***Developing Tourism Infrastructure and Accessibility*** – developing adequate and reliable infrastructure and accessibility for tourism development in BARMM, such as roads, airports, ports, railways, telecommunications, electricity, water, sanitation, and others.¹⁵
- j. ***Adopting Technological Innovations*** – utilizing present and feasible modern technologies that can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of tourism operations, communication, and information in the tourism sector.
- k. ***Protecting and Conserving the Tourism Resources*** – implementing measures that prevent or mitigate the negative impacts of tourism on the natural and cultural resources of BARMM through environmental management, cultural preservation, community participation, and responsible tourism practices.

¹² University of Toronto. (2021). *ENV205H5: Sustainable Tourism (Winter 2021) - Research guides at University of Toronto*.

¹³ Ahmad, N. (2019). *Halal tourism: A review*. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 31, 294-305.

¹⁴ Al-Ansi, A. A., & Al-Swidi, A. K. (2019). *Halal tourism: A new frontier in the tourism industry*. *Journal of Islamic Marketing*, 10(2), 422-435.

¹⁵ Gursoy, D. (2013). *Antecedents and outcomes of sustainable tourism development*. *Journal of Travel Research*, 52(6), 713-725.

- l. ***Improving Tourism Safety and Security*** – improving the safety and security of tourists and tourism stakeholders from threats and risks associated with terrorism, crime, conflict, natural disasters, health emergencies, and others.¹⁶
- m. ***Establishing Tourism Monitoring and Evaluation*** – establishing a system that collects, compiles, analyzes, and disseminates tourism data and information in BARMM, as well as evaluates the progress and performance of tourism development against the indicators, targets, budget, and timeline.
- n. ***Other Effective Strategies:*** – including such other strategies that are suitable and responsive to the tourism developmental needs of the Bangsamoro.

Section 5. *Tourism Development Plan.* - The Bangsamoro Government shall formulate a comprehensive Five-Year Tourism Development Plan.¹⁷ This strategic document will outline specific, measurable, and time-bound objectives that align with the broader vision for tourism within the region. Target markets will be identified based on a thorough market analysis, and promotional strategies will be tailored to attract these markets effectively. To ensure the plan's effectiveness and adaptability, the government shall also establish a Monitoring and Evaluation framework. This framework will feature specific benchmarks and key performance indicators to gauge the plan's success and will require semiannual assessments to ensure ongoing alignment with objectives. Given the dynamic nature of the tourism industry, the Five-Year Tourism Development Plan will be subject to an annual review and update to reflect emerging trends, opportunities, and challenges.

Section 6. *Additional Powers and Functions of the MTTT.* – In recognition of the critical role played by the Ministry of Trade, Investment, and Tourism (MTTT) in implementing the strategies and policies set forth in this Act, additional powers and functions are hereby vested upon its Bureau of Tourism. These are in addition to those already provided under the Bangsamoro Administrative Code and are aimed at ensuring effective implementation and oversight:

- a. ***Strategic Planning and Policy Implementation*** - To formulate, implement, and oversee the Five-Year Tourism Development Plan consistent with this Act, and to continuously assess and revise said Plan through a robust Monitoring and Evaluation framework.
- b. ***Standards and Accreditation*** - To develop, enforce, and periodically review a comprehensive set of quality assurance standards for tourism

¹⁶ Gursoy, D. (2013). *Antecedents and outcomes of sustainable tourism development*. *Journal of Travel Research*, 52(6), 713-725.

¹⁷ University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2022). *TCA 331 - Asian Travel and Tourism Development*. LibGuides at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

establishments. These standards shall be designed to uphold excellence in service and sustainability in operations.¹⁸

- c. **Market Research and Data Analytics** - To conduct ongoing market research and data analysis aimed at identifying emerging trends, tourist preferences, and potential areas for tourism development. The MTTT shall also be empowered to utilize digital platforms for data collection and analytics to guide policy and decision-making.
- d. **Training and Certification** - To design and implement specialized training programs for enhancing the technical and cultural competencies of individuals employed in the tourism sector. The MTTT shall also be responsible for certifying these individuals upon successful completion of said programs, including but not limited to first aid and safety training.¹⁹
- e. **Regulatory Functions** - To comprehensively oversee and regulate the tourism industry, including the enforcement of this Act and any other relevant laws. This includes the power to impose sanctions and penalties for non-compliance.

Section 7. Bangsamoro Tourism Council. - There is hereby created a Bangsamoro Tourism Council (BTC) that shall serve as the policy-making body for the development and advancement of tourism in the BARMM. The BTC shall have the following functions:

- a. Formulate, approve, and oversee the implementation of the BTDS and the BTDP;
- b. Coordinate and harmonize tourism policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities among various agencies and stakeholders in the BARMM;
- c. Identify, designate, and plan for the development of tourism zones, circuits, and clusters in the BARMM;
- d. Establish standards, guidelines, rules, and regulations for tourism development in the BARMM;
- e. Monitor and evaluate the performance and impact of tourism development in the BARMM;
- f. Advise and recommend to the Parliament and the Chief Minister on matters pertaining to tourism development in the BARMM;

¹⁸ The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (2023). *Hotel, Tourism, and Events Management - Guides & Tutorials*.

¹⁹ University of Toronto. (2021). *ENV205H5: Sustainable Tourism (Winter 2021) - Research guides at University of Toronto*.

- g. Advocate and mobilize support for tourism development in BARMM from various sectors and entities; and
- h. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to achieve the objectives of this Act.

Section 8. *Structure and Meetings of the BTC.* - The BTC shall be composed of the following members:

- a. The Senior Minister, who shall serve as the Chairperson;
- b. The Minister of Trade, Investment and Tourism, who shall serve as the Vice-Chairperson;
- c. The Director General of the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, as member;
- d. The Minister of Public Works, as member;
- e. The Minister of Transportation and Communications, as member;
- f. The Minister of Finance, Budget, and Management, as member;
- g. The Minister of the Interior and Local Government, as member;
- h. The Minister of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy, as member;
- o. Authorized Representatives from Local Tourism Councils of the provinces and cities in BARMM, as members;
- p. Tourism Officers of the provinces and cities in BARMM, as members; and
- q. One (1) representative of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in tourism development from each province and city in BARMM, to be appointed by the Chief Minister, as member.

The BTC may expand its membership depending on the demand. Members of the BTC from the different ministries and offices of BARMM can also designate their respective representatives through an official memorandum addressed to the BTC Chairperson.

The BTC shall adopt its own rules of procedure consistent with this Act. It shall convene at least once every quarter or as often as may be necessary upon a call by the Chairperson or by a majority vote of its members. It may create sub-committees or technical working groups to assist it in performing its powers and functions and invite representatives from other agencies or entities as resource persons or observers in its meetings.

Furthermore, the Bureau of Tourism of the MTTT shall serve as the Secretariat of the BTC.

Section 9. *Bangsamoro Tourism Advocacy Network.*²⁰ - The Bangsamoro Tourism Advocacy Network (BTAN) shall be established as a collaborative platform focused on the sustainable and responsible tourism for the BARMM. The BTAN shall support the Bangsamoro Government in raising public awareness, advocating for responsible tourism practices, sharing best practices, and facilitating community engagement.

It shall conduct educational campaigns, serve as a community liaison for tourism-related matters, and advocate for policy changes aligned with the policies and strategies outlined in this Act. It shall be provided with financial, technical, and other necessary support by the Bangsamoro Government through the Bangsamoro Tourism Council and the MTTT. It shall formulate its own Constitution and Bylaws and be accredited as a tourism organization in BARMM.

Section 10. *Local Tourism Councils.*²¹ - There shall be established a Local Tourism Council (LTC) in every province, city, and municipality in BARMM that shall serve as the local counterpart of the BTC. The LTC shall have the following functions:

- a. Formulate, approve, and oversee the implementation of the Local Tourism Development Plan (LTDP) that shall be aligned with the BTDS and the BDP;
- b. Coordinate and harmonize local tourism policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities with the BTC, the MTTT, and other agencies and stakeholders;
- c. Identify, designate, and develop local tourism zones, circuits, and clusters;
- d. Establish and enforce local standards, guidelines, rules, and regulations for tourism development;
- e. Monitor and evaluate the performance and impact of local tourism development;
- f. Advise and recommend to their respective Local *Sanggunian* and Local Chief Executive matters pertaining to local tourism development;
- g. Advocate and mobilize support for local tourism development from various sectors and entities; and
- h. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to achieve the objectives of this Act.

²⁰ DOT chief unveils National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) 2023-2028 at stakeholders' summit. Retrieved from https://beta.tourism.gov.ph/news_and_updates/dot-chief-unveils-national-tourism-development-plan-ntdp-2023-2028-at-stakeholders-summit/

²¹ Bangsamoro Parliament. (n.d.). *Committee on Trade, Investment, and Tourism*. Retrieved from: <https://parliament.bangsamoro.gov.ph/committees/committee-on-trade-investment-and-tourism>

Section 11. *Bangsamoro Tourism Zones.* - The BTC shall identify and designate tourism zones in BARMM based on the following criteria:

- a. Presence of natural or man-made tourism attractions that have significant appeal to domestic and international tourists;
- b. Presence of existing or potential tourism facilities and services that can cater to the needs and preferences of tourists;
- c. Presence of local communities that are willing and able to participate in tourism development;
- d. Presence of favorable environmental, social, cultural, economic, security, and safety conditions that can support tourism development;
- e. Presence of opportunities and challenges that can be addressed or enhanced by tourism development.

The BTC shall prepare and implement a Tourism Zone Development Plan (TZDP), to be included in the BTDP and updated every five (5) years²² or as may be necessary, for each tourism zone that shall specify the following:

- a. The vision, mission, goals, objectives, strategies, programs, projects, and activities for tourism development in the tourism zone;
- b. The roles and responsibilities of the government and other stakeholders in tourism development in the tourism zone;
- c. The standards, guidelines, rules, and regulations for tourism development in the tourism zone; and
- d. The indicators, targets, budget, timeline, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for tourism development in the tourism zone.

Section 12. *Bangsamoro Tourism Circuits and Clusters.*²³ - The BTC shall group the tourism zones into tourism circuits and clusters based on the following criteria:

- a. Geographical proximity and accessibility;
- b. Thematic similarity and complementarity;

²² DOT chief unveils National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) 2023-2028 at stakeholders' summit. Retrieved from: https://beta.tourism.gov.ph/news_and_updates/dot-chief-unveils-national-tourism-development-plan-ntdp-2023-2028-at-stakeholders-summit/

²³ Andriotis, K. (2007). *Tourism circuit planning for subnational tourism development in the Philippines*. *Managing Asian Destinations. Perspectives on Asian Tourism*, 1-20.

- c. Marketability and attractiveness; and
- d. Competitiveness and viability.

The BTC shall prepare and implement a Tourism Circuit or Cluster Development Plan (TCDP) to be included in the BTDP and updated every five (5) years or as may be necessary.

Section 13. *Bangsamoro Tourism Development Fund.* - There is hereby created a Bangsamoro Tourism Development Fund, hereinafter referred to as the Fund, which shall be used exclusively for the development and promotion of tourism in BARMM.²⁴ The Fund sources shall consist of the following:

- a. The annual appropriation(s) for tourism development under General Appropriations Act of the Bangsamoro;
- b. The proceeds from the collection of fees, fines, penalties, and charges imposed for tourism related transaction by the Bangsamoro Government;
- c. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs);
- d. The donations, grants, endowments, and contributions from local and foreign sources; and
- e. Such other funds as may be provided by law or allocated by the Bangsamoro Government.

The Fund shall be administered by the MTTT in accordance with the guidelines, rules, and regulations to be issued by the BTC and shall be subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations. The MTTT shall submit quarterly reports on the status and utilization of the Fund to the BTC and the Bangsamoro Parliament through the Committee on Trade, Investment and Tourism (CTIT).

Section 14. *Mandatory Review of the Implementation of this Act.* - Every 10 years after the effectivity of this Act, an independent review panel composed of experts, to be appointed by the Chief Minister, shall review the implementation of this Act and shall make recommendations, based on its findings, to the Chief Minister and to the Parliament.

Section 15. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the MTTT under the General Appropriations Act of the Bangsamoro.

²⁴ Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). (2023). *Purpose of the Bangsamoro Tourism Development Fund*. In Strategic Programme for Agriculture, Fisheries, and Agribusiness Development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (SPAFAD-BARMM)

Section 16. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The MTTT shall issue the implementing rules and regulations within 90 days from the effectivity of this Act.

Section 17. *Transitory Provisions.* - Existing tourism programs and projects shall continue to operate pending the formulation of new plans consistent with this Act.

Section 18. *Separability Clause.* - If for any cause, any part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or contrary to the provisions of Bangsamoro Organic Law, the rest of the provisions shall remain in force and effect.

Section 19. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, rules, and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, modified, superseded, or amended accordingly.

Section 20. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Adopted,


MP Engr. Baintan Adil Ampatuan, MNSA
Author

MP Engr. Don Mustapha A. Loong, CESE
Author

MP Rasul E. Ismael, EMDRCM
Author

MP Atty. Rasol Mitmug, Jr., CESE
Author