

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
Senate

Manay City

Fourteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 169

RESOLUTION COMMENDING ENVIRONMENTAL  
LAWYER ANTONIO A. OPOSA JR. FOR  
BRINGING HONOR TO THE PHILIPPINES  
BY BEING THE FIRST ASIAN TO RECEIVE  
THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW  
AWARD FROM THE CENTER FOR  
INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

WHEREAS, Antonio A. Oposa Jr. a Filipino, has pioneered the practice of Environmental Law in the Philippines, establishing the principle of intergenerational responsibility - the right to sue governments on behalf of future generations to stop environmental damage - in the case decided by the Philippine Supreme Court in 1993, *Juan Antonio Oposa vs. Fulgencio S. Factoran Jr.* (G.R. No. 101083);

WHEREAS, Antonio Oposa, an environmental lawyer respected and well-known both locally and internationally, has been fighting for, among others, the clean-up and rehabilitation of Manila Bay and the closing of the Visayan Sea to solve the problem of over-fishing, creatively using the rule of law as his tool;

WHEREAS, Antonio Oposa is a professor of Environmental Law in the University of the Philippines College of Law and the president of the *Batas Kalikasan* (Law of Nature) Foundation, a network of volunteer Filipino citizens who are working for the conservation, protection and restoration of the Earth, especially the Visayan Sea;

WHEREAS, Antonio Oposa is the first Asian recipient of the prestigious International Environmental Law award from the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL);

WHEREAS, the CIEL is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 and is based in Washington D.C. in the United States of America;

WHEREAS, the CIEL provides a full range of environmental legal services in both international and comparative national law, including policy research and publication, advice and advocacy, education and training, and institution building, and is working to use international law and institutions to protect the environment, promote human health, and ensure a just and sustainable society;

WHEREAS, the CIEL recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the effort to achieve solutions to environmental problems through international law and institutions;

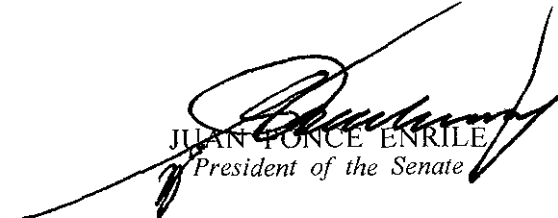
WHEREAS, the CIEL International Environmental Law Award has recognized Antonio Oposa as "one of Asia's leading voices in the global arena of environmental law;"

WHEREAS, Antonio Oposa has likewise been previously awarded the prominent "The Outstanding Young Man" (TOYM) award of the Philippines and the highest United Nations honor in the field of environment, the UNEP Global 500 Roll of Honor;

WHEREAS, in these times where the entire world is reeling from the effects of climate change, the fight for the protection of Mother Earth being carried on by Antonio Oposa is inspiring: Now, therefore, be it

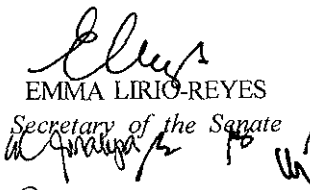
*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved,* That the Senate of the Philippines commend environmental lawyer Antonio A. Oposa Jr. for bringing honor to the Philippines by being the first Asian to receive the International Environmental Law Award from the Center for International Environmental Law.

Adopted,



JUAN PONCE ENRILE  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 22, 2009.



EMMA LIRIO-REYES  
*Secretary of the Senate*

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