

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Seventeenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 128

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND FULLY
SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE
SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT, MOON JAE-IN,
TO BRING PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND
DEVELOPMENT NOT ONLY IN THE KOREAN
PENINSULA AND EXPRESSING THE SINCERE
APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE OF THE
SENATE FOR THE HELP EXTENDED BY
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE
PHILIPPINES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE
BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
TWO COUNTRIES

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2 of the 1987 Constitution states, "the Philippines renounces war as an instrument of national policy, adopts the generally accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land and adheres to the policy of peace, equality, justice, freedom, cooperation and amity with all nations";

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 7 of the same Constitution states, "the State shall pursue an independent foreign policy. In its relations with other states, the paramount consideration shall be national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national interest, and the right to self-determination";

WHEREAS, as a step towards peace, President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) attended the 2018 Inter-Korean Summit Pyongyang to meet with Chairman Kim Jong-un of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) for the improvement of the Inter-Korean relationship, the acceleration of North Korea-U.S. dialogue on denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and the easing of military tension between the South and the North;

WHEREAS, the declaration includes practical steps aimed at boosting inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation, covering infrastructure, tourism, healthcare, reunions of Korean War-separated families, arts and performances, and even sports, the reopening of the shuttered Gaeseong Industrial Complex and resume the stalled Geumgangsan Mountain tours, as well as increased cooperation on environmental measures, especially on forestry, and on health care concerning the prevention on any inflow or spread of contagious diseases;

WHEREAS, as a positive result of President Moon Jae-in's efforts to bring peace, reconciliation, and development in the Korean Peninsula, the parties have agreed to adopt a set of concrete measures to denuclearize the Peninsula with Pyongyang vowing to shut down its missile engine testing facility and missile launch pad with experts from allied countries participating in the process with a permanent closing of its nuclear facilities in Yeongbyeon, in line with corresponding U.S. action;

WHEREAS, this friendly gesture and efforts of the Republic of Korea towards development is not limited to the Korean Peninsula but to the other parts of the globe as well, particularly to the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Philippine-Korean Relation started on 03 March 1949 when the Philippines became the fifth country to recognize the Republic of Korea, which was inaugurated on 15 August 1948;

WHEREAS, the friendship between the two nations was strengthened when the Philippines was among the first nation to respond through the deployment of the Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea (PEFTOK) during the Korean War in the 1950s to help South Korea defend itself from the invasion of the North;

WHEREAS, through the years, bilateral relations between the two countries continue to grow in the following areas: political, security, economic, socio-cultural and development fields, among others;

WHEREAS, the Republic of Korea is the fourth largest trading partner of the Philippines with a total trade of about USD 12.8 billion, and also the country's top source of tourists reaching 1.6 million in 2017;

WHEREAS, aside from strong bilateral relations between the two nations, the Republic of Korea has provided aid and assistance to the Philippine Government throughout the years, concrete examples of which include the actual construction of an P11 billion dam in Iloilo funded substantially by a USD 208 million loan secured from the Korean Eximbank six years ago, and the construction of rice mills all over the country;

WHEREAS, as the sixth highest development partner of the Philippines, the Republic of Korea through its Official Development Assistance (ODA), granted the Philippines in 2017 USD 574.34 million (USD 480.74 million loans, USD 93.6 million grants);

WHEREAS, on 04 May 2018, the two nations signed a USD 1 Billion Framework Agreement on Loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) which will finance multiple infrastructure projects until 2022;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is currently the third largest EDCF partner of Korea. The EDCF was established on 01 June 1987 with the purpose of promoting economic cooperation between Korea and developing countries;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions recognized both international and national leaders and organizations that have brought development through reconciliation and friendship: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, To recognize and fully support the efforts of South Korean President, Moon Jae-in, to bring peace, reconciliation and development in the Korean Peninsula and to express the sincere appreciation and gratitude of the Senate for the help extended by the Republic of Korea to the Philippines in furtherance of the bilateral relations between the two countries.

Adopted,



VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 25, 2018.



MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate

O