

P. S. Res. Nos. 760,
761, 763, 764 and 765

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Eighteenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 108

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF
THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF THE
FIFTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES AND FORMER CONGRESSMAN
AND SENATOR, BENIGNO SIMEON COJUANGCO
AQUINO III

WHEREAS, former President Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III or PNoy as he was popularly known, son of the Philippine democracy icons, the late Senator Benigno Aquino Jr. and former President Corazon Aquino died peacefully in his sleep on the 24th of June 2021 at the age of 61;

WHEREAS, President Aquino III first served in the House of Representatives, representing the Second District of Tarlac from 1998 to 2007. He subsequently served as senator from 2007 to 2010 before being elected to the presidency in 2010;

WHEREAS, President Aquino's administration is best remembered and lauded for putting in place measures that promoted honest and effective governance, or "*Daang Matuwid*" as popularly called, which ultimately led to unprecedented economic growth that lifted millions of Filipinos out of poverty. With foundational theories that good governance is good economics, and "*Kung walang corrupt, walang mahirap,*" significant government reforms combined with sound macroeconomic policies ushered in a climate of hope and confidence in government institutions during his administration;

WHEREAS, the Aquino administration advocated good governance by improving the budgeting process, making participatory governance a key strategy, opening up government transactions to the public, incentivizing good local governance, leveling the business playing field, and intensifying the fight against graft and corruption;

WHEREAS, from December 2011 to June 2016, the Aquino administration awarded 11 government-initiated Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects worth P194.87 billion to private sector partners, almost double the six government-initiated projects awarded during the three administrations that preceded. Significant increases in investments were registered during his six years in office. From US\$1.07 billion in 2010, net foreign direct investments (FDI) reached US\$5.74 billion in 2014, a 436% increase from 2010 and the highest ever recorded level since 2005. Aside from foreign investments, Filipino investors showed remarkable confidence in the local economy, as shown by the increase in the investment promotion agency-approved investments from them;

WHEREAS, the Aquino government continued and ramped up the coverage of the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program from only 786,523 poor households as of June

2010 to a whopping 4.4 million poor households and displaced families as of June 2016. As a result of government efforts to uplift the lives of the poor, more than 7 million individuals have improved their status from poor to non-poor;

WHEREAS, the Aquino administration took decisive steps towards achieving lasting peace and development in Mindanao. In March 2014, the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) signed the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB), the fruit of the efforts of the government to pursue an inclusive, sincere, and transparent peace process. The CAB paved the way for the establishment of the Bangasamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) under the Bangsamoro Organic Law;

WHEREAS, one of the momentous achievements of the Aquino administration was when it defended the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity through diplomacy, believing that adherence to international law will result not only in regional stability but also in more lasting resolutions to maritime disputes. On 22 January 2013, the Aquino government initiated arbitral proceedings under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to establish the Philippines' sovereign rights and jurisdiction over its maritime entitlements in the West Philippine Sea. This executive action led to the Arbitral Tribunal's monumental decision that the Philippines has exclusive sovereign rights over the West Philippine Sea, and declared China's "nine-dash line" as invalid;

WHEREAS, the long list of the gains of his dedicated administration and unparalleled leadership impacts the country to this very date. His selfless service and love for every Filipino deserve more than emulation. Through his exemplary and moral leadership, he was admired not only by Filipinos but by various leaders all over the world. President Noynoy Aquino has lived a fulfilled and selfless life that serves as inspiration to all and epitomizes the best qualities of the Filipino nation – he exuded decency, honor, respect, integrity and morality. President Noynoy Aquino was indeed a beloved leader and true hero of democracy;

WHEREAS, President Aquino's legacy, which rightfully earns him a place in the annals of our nation's history, is a testament that the Filipino is, indeed, in his own words, "worth fighting for": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of the 15th President of the Philippines and former Senator and Congressman, Benigno Simeon Cojuangco Aquino III;

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be given to the bereaved family of the late President Benigno Aquino III.

Adopted,



VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 27, 2021.



MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate

