Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Pasay City

Kighteenth Congress

Third Regular Session

RESOLUTION No. 133

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE HIGHEST APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF HUNGARY AND SPEAKER LÁSZLO KÖVÉR FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING PHILIPPINES-HUNGARY INTERPARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

WHEREAS, the Philippines and Hungary have enjoyed 48 years of diplomatic relations and, in line with its foreign and trade policy direction of "opening to the East," Hungary reopened its Embassy in Manila in 2017;

WHEREAS, Hungary is a proven friend of the Philippines and a key ally in the European Union (EU), having supported the EU's grant of a GSP+ (Generalized Scheme of Preferences Plus) status to the Philippines;

WHEREAS, through its Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Program, Hungary has been supporting Filipino

scholars pursuing undergraduate, masters and doctorate studies in the fields of agriculture and sustainable development, medicine, water management and engineering, hydrology, architecture and protection of cultural heritage, natural sciences and environmental studies, and other fields of interest of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Philippines-Hungary Parliamentary Friendship Association was first formed in 2000 and was expanded in 2017 to include additional members from both parliaments;

WHEREAS, a Delegation from the Senate of the Philippines undertook a Parliamentary Visit to Hungary from 15 to 18 October 2019 and met with Deputy Speaker Istvan Jakáb; Hon. Zsolt Csenger-Zalán, Chairman of the Hungary-Philippines Friendship Group of the Hungarian National Assembly; Hon. Andrea Varga-Damm, Member of the National Assembly; and Dr. Péter Sztáray, State Secretary for Security Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade;

WHEREAS, Speaker Lászlo Kövér designated Deputy Speaker Istvan Jakáb of the National Assembly of Hungary to undertake an official visit to the Philippines from 10 to 19 November 2021 to further strengthen relations;

WHEREAS, the reciprocal parliamentary visits show the commitment of both the Senate of the Philippines and the National Assembly of Hungary to maintain and continue the highest level of parliamentary dialogue and stronger cooperation in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU);

WHEREAS, this visit would enable the Hungarian delegation to meet with Filipino officials in order to develop more collaboration in the fields of agriculture and water management, as well as to honor the successful organization of the World Eucharistic Congress held in Cebu in 2016;

WHEREAS, the National Assembly of Hungary and Speaker Lászlo Kövér whose able leadership helped promote and further strengthen parliamentary exchanges deserve the highest appreciation of the Senate of the Philippines: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, by the Senate of the Philippines, To express its highest appreciation to the National Assembly of Hungary and Speaker Lászlo Kövér for further strengthening Philippines-Hungary inter-parliamentary relations;

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the National Assembly of Hungary through Deputy Speaker Istvan Jakáb.

Adopted,

VICENTE C. SOTTO III

President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 16, 2021.

MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate