Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Pasay City

Nineteenth Congress

First Regular Session

RESOLUTION No. 26

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ITS PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY VUONG DINH HUE, FOR STRENGTHENING PHILIPPINES-VIETNAM INTER-PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

WHEREAS, on 17 November 2015, the Philippines and Vietnam signed a Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership which recognizes the evolving political, economic and security architecture in the region, as well as the consolidation of the ASEAN Community amidst an increasingly globalized and interdependent world economy;

WHEREAS, the Strategic Partnership aims to comprehensively elevate political, economic and cultural

cooperation; develop and strengthen engagement in key functional areas; and build upon and enhance existing bilateral mechanisms, operationalize concluded agreements, and explore new avenues to deepen the engagement between the governments of the Philippines and Vietnam;

WHEREAS, as strategic partners, the Philippines and Vietnam committed to enhance security cooperation and agreed to regularly convene the Philippines-Vietnam Joint Commission on Maritime and Ocean Concerns (JPWG-MOC). This serves as a platform for dialogue, practical cooperation and capacity-building activities on maritime issues;

WHEREAS, His Excellency Vuong Dinh Hue, President of the National Assembly of Vietnam and the 4th highest ranking official in Vietnam's political structure, headed the delegation's visit to the Philippines from 23-25 November 2022 to forge closer parliamentary ties between the Philippines and Vietnam;

WHEREAS, the last parliamentary exchanges between the Philippines and Vietnam happened on April 2004 when the President of the National Assembly of Vietnam, His Excellency Nguyen Van An, invited Senate President Franklin M. Drilon to visit Hanoi where the latter also met with Vietnam President, His Excellency Phan Van Khai. On 12 September 2006, Senate President Manuel B. Villar met with His Excellency Nguyen Phu Trong, President of the Vietnam National Assembly, during the 27th General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) in Cebu City, Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Philippines remains the top export market of rice from Vietnam, reaching more than 305 thousand tons, valued at US140 million dollars which accounted for 65% of total volume and 63% of total value of rice exports;

WHEREAS, the Philippines expresses its sincerest appreciation to Vietnam for the unhampered trade of Vietnamese rice to the Philippines despite the pandemic, as the Philippine government continues to closely coordinate with Vietnam to further facilitate unrestricted rice trade;

WHEREAS, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020, the National Assembly of Vietnam donated 30.000 face masks to the Congress of the Philippines and RT-PCR extraction kits to the Philippine government worth US50,000 dollars, at the time when these materials were scarce and difficult to procure;

WHEREAS, His Excellency Vuong Dinh Hue, through his able leadership in promoting and further strengthening parliamentary exchanges, deserves highest commendation as the Senate of the Philippines looks forward to more productive exchanges in the future: Now therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To commend, as it hereby commends, the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam under the leadership of its President, his excellency Vuong Dinh Hue, for strengthening Philippines-Vietnam inter-parliamentary relations.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the National Assembly of Vietnam.

Adopted,

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 23, 2022.

RENATO N. BANTUG Jr Secretary of the Senate