FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session

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## SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P.S. RES. NO. 935

Introduced by Senator Sotto

## RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE HONORABLE SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA, THE FIRST ASIAN TO BE ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION (GOPAC)

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2013, the distinguished legislator from Aurora province, Senator Edgardo Javier Angara, was elected Chairman of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) during the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference held on January 30 to February 2, 2013 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Pasay City;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara, GOPAC's Executive Committee Vice-Chairman and President of the Southeast Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC), owns the rare distinction of being the first Asian to be elected to this global organization of parliamentarians;

**WHEREAS**, the GOPAC's chairmanship is a fitting recognition of Senator Angara's passionate crusade towards the eradication of corruption with the belief that "corruption is a plague that affects individuals at the local level, and that this plague can have serious consequences globally";

WHEREAS, the 5th Conference of the GOPAC, with the theme "Good Leaders, Good Laws, Good Citizens" and participated in by a record of 429 lawmakers from 78 countries, including 12 heads of Parliaments, agreed on the following vital resolutions: enhancing the capacity of parliamentarians to adopt international standards to national needs; strengthening anti-corruption strategies; monitoring the respective countries' compliance with the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC); helping each other develop and roll out resources to strengthen anti-money laundering regimes; allowing the public and civil society to participate in the fight against graft and corruption by providing education and access to information, as well as

protecting the rights of anti-corruption advocates; upholding fundamental standards while recognizing the differences in political and cultural context in which legislators work; and providing a network of support for women parliamentarians to enhance their capacity to participate in the fight against corruption, among others;

**WHEREAS**, the Conference was highlighted by the signing of the Manila Declaration, which states among others, to enact laws against graft, particularly for the recovery of ill-gotten wealth, and to enable the international community to prosecute the corrupt;

**WHEREAS,** Senator Angara's professional and proficient management in organizing the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Conference was commendable as observed by the outgoing Chairman of the GOPAC, Dr. Naser Al Sane, who thanked the Filipino people for their hospitality and excellent accommodation: Now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE,** To congratulate and commend, as it hereby commends, the Honorable Senator Edgardo Javier Angara, the first Asian to be elected Chairman of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC).

Adopted,

VICENTE C SOTTO III

Senatòr