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S E N A T E
Senate Resolution No. 407

RECEIVED BY: *Ji*

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN, FAMILY RELATIONS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND THE COMMITTEE ON PEACE, UNIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION TO LOOK INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN LIGHT OF THE COUNTRY'S COMMITMENTS TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325, THUS STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND THE PEACE-BUILDING PROCESS

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and is tasked to ensure that there shall be fundamental equality before the law of women and men;

WHEREAS, on 31 October 2000, the United Nations Security Council adopted Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 which addresses the "disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict" on women but more importantly acknowledges the significant role of women in conflict prevention and peace-building efforts;

WHEREAS, being a member of the United Nations, the Philippines has the duty to implement its key provisions namely the participation of women in all levels of decision-making; gender-perspective in Secretary-General Reports and Security Council Missions; protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls; gender perspective in conflict processes; and gender perspective in peacekeeping, which ensures government commitment in improving the participation of women in the peace process and addressing sexual violence committed against women in times of armed conflicts;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9710 more popularly known as the Magna Carta of Women which was passed in 14 August 2009 further affirmed these commitments;

WHEREAS, on 1 March 2010 through Executive Order No. 865 designating the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process as Chairman and the Chairperson of the Philippine Commission on Women as Vice Chairman, the National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSCWPS) was established in order

to spearhead the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security which shall provide the baseline in evaluating government efforts in its commitment to implementing UNSCR 1325 and subsequently, UNSCRS 1380 and 1820;

WHEREAS, the 2011-2016 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, which is divided into four different purposes and outcomes namely protection and prevention, empowerment and protection, promotion and mainstreaming and capacity development and reporting and monitoring, calls for closer collaboration with civil society organizations to ensure full compliance with the government's commitments in its implementation;

WHEREAS, after recording significant achievements in gender equality as noted by the World Economic Forum in its 2013 Global Gender Gap report which ranked the Philippines fifth among 135 nations and the first in South and South East Asia, the country must fully utilize the potential offered by women in the determination for peaceful and sustainable solutions to armed conflicts besetting the country today;

WHEREAS, in light of the direct and indirect costs of armed conflict—PhP 10 billion annually for the Moro conflict from 1970 to 2001 and PhP 115 million to PhP 172 million annually for the CPP Conflict from 2000 to 2003 as estimated in the 2005 Philippine Human Development Report, the National Action Plan provides the opportunity in building from ground up “national constituency for peace” as pioneered by the Office of the Presidential Peace Adviser in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao;

WHEREAS, as emphasized in UNSCR 1325, the attainment of sustainable peace and human security--defined as the freedom from fear, the freedom from want and more importantly, the freedom from humiliation and prejudice, will only be possible thru the affirmation of the participation and representation of women at the helm of peace-building efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committee on Women, Family Relations and Gender Equality and the Committee on Peace, Unification and Reconciliation to look into the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security in light of the country's commitments to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, thus strengthening the role of women in conflict resolution and peace building process.

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator