



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION )

14 MAY -8 P4 51

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: ji

P.S.R.NO. 640

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

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**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO  
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE  
UTILIZATION AND AUDIT PROCESSES OF MONETARY DONATIONS  
GIVEN BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER LOCAL  
NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO THE VICTIMS OF  
SUPERTYPHOON YOLANDA TO PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY IN THE  
EFFECTIVE USE OF THE FUND FOR THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to adopt and implement measures and policies of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest. It shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

**WHEREAS**, on November 8, 2013, Super Typhoon Yolanda brought tragic devastation to Visayas Region. DSWD reported a total of 1,472,251 families were affected, with 918,261 of them displaced, while 1,012,790 houses were damaged in the worst storm in history. The number of evacuation centers in Tacloban City is down to 892 and continue to provide shelter to 892 families.

**WHEREAS**, numerous Local and Foreign institutions had extended all sorts of assistance for Yolanda victims. Foreign Governments showed their generosity through the financial assistance given to our country.

**WHEREAS**, to promote transparency, the government has come out with a website dubbed as FAiTH or the Foreign Aid Transparency Hub, to update the public on the international aid we received for the victims of typhoon Yolanda. It provides details of each country and international organization's donation which the government has been notified of.<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, On April 23, 2014, at the launch of the Foreign Aid Transparency Hub (FAiTH) in Malacañang, according to Presidential Spokesman Edwin Lacierda cash donations amounted to P11.06 billion while non-cash assistance reached P22.9 billion. With the latest major update of FAiTH, 64 countries and seven multilateral organizations have

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.rappler.com/nation/43310-yolanda-international-community>

access to the website's content management system, particularly to update the status of their donation.<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, from the total aid pledged by foreign governments, organizations and individuals, the government has received P14.9 billion in cash donations. Among the biggest donors are United Kingdom (P11 billion), Norway (P1.8 billion), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (P1.1 billion), and United States (P892 million).

**WHEREAS**, according to DSWD Typhoon Yolanda Disaster Relief and Early Rehabilitation Accomplishments and Continuing Plans as of March 4, 2014, Foreign donations totaled \$18,364,194.04 (P734, 567, 761.60) and local donations P82,694,812.56.<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the contribution from US Agency for International Development (USAID) of \$87,735,775 was coursed through different nongovernment organizations such as Action Against Hunger, Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development, Catholic Relief Services, Handicap International, International Organization for Migration, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, Oxfam, Plan International, United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) and World Food Program, among others.

**WHEREAS**, Australian aid of A\$40 million was coursed through Unicef, World Health Organization and local NGOs. UKAID from the Department for International Development was P85.6 million and was coursed through World Food Program, Spanish NGOs, Red Cross, Save the Children-Spain and Oxfam.

**WHEREAS**, the need for an audit of the above-mentioned donations is imperative since the accounting of the same was admitted by the administration to be disorganized.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, *as it is hereby resolved*, for the Senate to direct the proper committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the utilization and audit processes of all Donations received by Philippine Government specifically intended to help Yolanda victims in order to promote transparency in the effective use of the fund for the interest of the public.

**Adopted,**



**JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**  
Senator

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.mb.com.ph/foreign-aid-for-yolanda-victims-now-at-p34b>

<sup>3</sup> <http://m.inquirer.net/newsinfo/?id=583799>