SENATE DIVISE OF THE SECRETARY

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session	REPUBLIC))	104 SEP -7 P3:54
	SENATE PS Res No. 8	HECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE UTILIZATION, DISPOSITION OR ACQUISITION OF PHILIPPINE PROPERTIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Whereas, In 2002, available data from the Department of Foreign Affairs show that the Philippines is maintaining chanceries, embassies or consular offices in 79 countries all over the world;

Whereas, There are a total of 44 Philippine real estate properties - 21 are in the Asia Pacific, 15 are in the Americas, six are in Europe and two are in the Middle East and Africa, spread in these 79 countries;

Whereas, Out of these 44 properties, ten are either unutilized or underutilized and 34 are utilized as either a chancery or as the residence of the ambassador;

Whereas, It has also been observed that some properties that are being utilized as either the country's embassy or chancery are in a state of disrepair that does not speak well of our country's image;

Whereas, In the other countries where the Philippines does not own any property, the country is paying an annual rental of around \$9.1 Million dollars for properties that are being used as either a chancery or residence of the ambassador;

Whereas, Among the countries where the Philippines is renting a property, it is paying the highest in South Korea, London, Hongkong and Moscow with an annual rent of \$1.4 million, \$1.2 million, \$425,000 and \$410,000 respectively;

Whereas, There is a need for a rational plan that would serve as the country's blueprint in maintaining its physical presence in countries where it has diplomatic, cultural or trade relations; Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, As It Is Hereby Resolved,

By The Senate, To Direct The Appropriate Senate Committees To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Utilization, Disposition, Or Acquisition Of Philippine Properties In Other Countries.

Adopted,

RODOLFO Ğ. BIAZON

Senator