


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 203

Introduced by Senator Biazon

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT A REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRIPOLI AGREEMENT AND THE JAKARTA FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES (GRP) AND THE MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (MNLF) AND ON THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES COUNCIL ON PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT (SPCPD) CREATED UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 371 DATED 02 OCTOBER 1996.

Whereas, Since 1976, the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have entered into several agreements for the purpose of establishing peace and development in Mindanao, the most important of which are the Tripoli Agreement signed on 23 December 1976 and the Jakarta Final Peace Agreement signed on 02 September 1996;

Whereas, On 02 October 1996, then President Fidel V Ramos on issued Executive Order No 371 which, among other things, created the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD) which was tasked with the promotion of peace and development efforts in Mindanao until 14 August 2001 when it was abolished in accordance with the ratification of RA No 9054 or the New Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM);

Whereas, In the aftermath of the recent armed hostilities in the island of Sulu between the military and the so-called Misuari Breakaway Group (MBG), President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered a review of the agreements between the GRP and the MNLF, as it has been widely perceived that one of the root causes of the hostilities was the alleged violations by the GRP of the terms of the Final Peace Agreement;

Whereas, Some sectors believe that Nur Misuari and his followers are still bound by the terms of the said Final Peace Agreement, while others hold that the MNLF is represented by its Council of 15 which had ousted Misuari from its chairmanship in April 2001;

Whereas, The rebellion staged by MNLF forces loyal to Misuari in Zamboanga City in November 2001 and its bloody confrontations with the government forces in Sulu last month certainly necessitate a review of the official policy in relation to the MNLF, while emphasizing the government's efforts in complying with the terms of the Final Peace Agreement such as the passage of a new organic act and the integration to the AFP and the PNP of former MNLF members, among others;

Whereas, The still on-going peace talks between the GRP and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) could very well be influenced by the outcome of a comprehensive review of the Final Peace Agreement; *Now, Therefore, Be It*

Resolved, By the Senate, As It Is Hereby Resolved, To Direct The Appropriate Committee/s To Conduct A Review, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Implementation Of The Tripoli Agreement And The Jakarta Final Peace Agreement Entered Into Between The Government Of The Republic Of The Philippines (GRP) And The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) And On The Southern Philippines Council On Peace And Development (SPCPD) Created Under Executive Order No. 371 Dated 02 October 1996.

Adopted,


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator