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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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Introduced by Senators **PIA S. CAYETANO, ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO, JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" ZUBIRI, JOEL VILLANUEVA** and **JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA**

RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "FILIPINAS," FOR THEIR PHENOMENAL AND HISTORIC PERFORMANCE AT THE 2023 FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

WHEREAS, the Philippine Women's National Football Team (PWNFT), also known as the *Filipinas*, won the respect and admiration of Filipinos and football fans around the world in their debut appearance at the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup;

WHEREAS, the campaign of the *Filipinas* in the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup was highlighted by their historic first goal and first win against world ranked no. 26 New Zealand, the tournament's co-host country, with a full-time score of 1-0 at the Wellington Regional Stadium on 25 July 2023;¹

WHEREAS, the *Filipinas'* first goal and win were sealed through a header by Sarina Bolden in the 24th minute mark of the first half that was set up from a cross by Sara Eggesvik;

WHEREAS, this historic goal sparked a thrilling atmosphere of pure joy and pride among Filipinos around the world, especially in the stadium where our *kababayans* made their presence felt, despite being vastly outnumbered by the home team's supporters;

¹ Terrado, J. (26 July 2023). Philippines stuns New Zealand for historic World Cup win. *Philippine Inquirer*. <https://sports.inquirer.net/520822/philippines-stuns-new-zealand-for-historic-world-cup-win-sending-inspiration-to-fans-back-home/amp>

WHEREAS, the *Filipinas'* win was also anchored on the solid defense mounted by the team, particularly the outstanding performance of keeper, Olivia McDaniel, who was later declared as the Visa Player of the Match;

WHEREAS, Filipinos all over the world rallied behind the *Filipinas* as they played against New Zealand, which already competed six (6) times in the World Cup² and even had the home turf advantage;

WHEREAS, against this backdrop, the *Filipinas*, who were regarded as the underdogs in their World Cup grouping, beat the more experienced New Zealand team through their determination, resilience, and strong will to show that they can compete among the best;

WHEREAS, the *Filipinas* qualified for the FIFA Women's World Cup last 30 January 2022, after winning their match against Chinese-Taipei in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup, making it the first time for any Philippine football team, either men's or women's, to secure a spot in the FIFA World Cup;³

WHEREAS, the *Filipinas* have come a long way, from their lowest ranking of 92nd⁴ place, they have risen to the 64th⁵ place in 2021, 53rd⁶ place in 2022, and to now reaching the 46th⁷ place in the FIFA Women's Rankings, and also Asia's No. 8⁸, on account of their extraordinary performances in various international tournaments;

WHEREAS, despite the odds stacked against them, the *Filipinas* triumphed against New Zealand and have shown what our athletes can do if given the opportunity and support to excel in international sporting competitions;

² Mukherjee, S. (6 July 2023). New Zealand Women's World Cup 2023 Squad: Who's in & who's out? *GOAL*. <https://www.goal.com/en-us/lists/new-zealand-fifa-women-world-cup-2023-squad/blt02716253d1e0b6ac>

³ Browne, K. (28 June 2023). Philippines women seal historic qualification for 2023 FIFA World Cup. *Olympics*. <https://olympics.com/en/news/philippines-women-historic-qualification-football-world-cup>

⁴ Philippines Women's Ranking. (n.d.). *FIFA*. <https://www.fifa.com/fifa-world-ranking/PHI>

⁵ Atencio, P. (6 August 2022). Filipinas leap to no. 53 in FIFA world ranking. *Manila Standard*. <https://www.manilastandard.net/sports/314249725/filipinas-leap-to-no-53-in-fifa-world-ranking.html>

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Filipinas rise to world No.46 in latest FIFA rankings. (9 June 2023). *Manila Bulletin*. <https://mb.com.ph/2023/6/9/filipinas-rise-to-no-46-in-fifa-rankings>

⁸ Saldajeno, I. (10 June 2023). Filipinas jump to 46th in FIFA Rankings. *Philippine News Agency*. <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1203294>

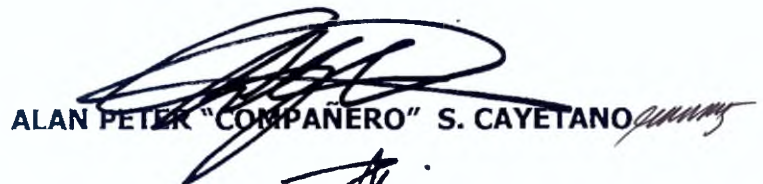
WHEREAS, the *Filipinas* concluded their FIFA Women's World Cup run when they lost against World No. 12, Norway, amidst the cheers of their supporters in the stadium who gave them a standing ovation for their performance as well as those who watched from their homes and elsewhere;

WHEREAS, the *Filipinas* continue to write Philippine sports HERstory by breaking barriers and excelling in football at the global stage, inspiring and captivating the hearts of people from different parts of the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulates and commends the Philippine Women's National Football Team, also known as the "*Filipinas*," for their phenomenal and historic performance at the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO


ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO


JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" ZUBIRI


JOEL VILLANUEVA


JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

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