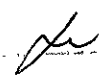


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 NOV 12 P4:00

SENATE
PSR No. 201

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

A RESOLUTION

URGING HER EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO TO ADOPT THE ALBAY DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AS A FRAMEWORK FOR THE MAINSTREAMING OF GLOBAL WARMING CONCERNS INTO THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING AND BUDGETING SYSTEMS AND TO SUPPORT LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

WHEREAS, the Philippines as a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol has adopted various policies for compliance with its commitment to the Convention;

WHEREAS, the Province of Albay, after suffering devastation from recent intense climatic events, with support from the line agencies of the national government, non-governmental organizations, academia, and the scientific community, has convened the first National Conference on Climate Change Adaptation on October 22-24, 2007 in Legazpi City;

WHEREAS, the participants have resolved through the Albay Declaration on Climate Change Adaptation to urge the government for strong direction in the adoption of a framework for implementation of climate change policies and programs of the national government;

WHEREAS, the participants call for recognition and support for the efforts of individuals, institutions and local government units to address urgent life threatening risks of climate change to all vulnerable communities;

WHEREAS, the participants seek the mainstreaming of climate change issues in the national and local planning, accounting and budgeting systems;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines, To Urge Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to Adopt The Albay Declaration On Climate Change Adaptation As A Framework For The Mainstreaming Of Global Warming Concerns Into The National And Local Planning, Accounting And Budgeting Systems And To Support Local Government, Private And Civil Society Initiatives For Climate Change Adaptation.

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

THE ALBAY DECLARATION
Aksyon ng Pinoy para sa Kalikasan

As stewards and stakeholders of the Philippine ecosystem and as children of Mother Earth, we declare the following premises as basis for common ground and collective action:

Climate change is one of the most pervasive and pernicious threats facing Mother Earth;

The 2007 Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concludes that the “warming of the earth’s climate system is unequivocal” and that such warming is attributed to the rise in human-induced greenhouse gas emissions in the last 150 years, primarily from highly industrialized and industrializing countries;

The changing climate has adverse impacts on natural, economic, and social systems which affect our national aspiration to eradicate poverty and attain sustainable development for the present and future generations;

The Philippines being an archipelagic country is highly vulnerable to climate risks and weather disturbances such as tropical cyclones and prolonged droughts resulting to social and ecological devastation, and economic loss;

Policy makers and scientists here and abroad emphasize the need to institutionalize climate change adaptation measures to address climate risks expeditiously;

The government has adopted the Philippine Agenda (PA) 21 and the Millennium Development Goal for environmental sustainability; has created the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), the Inter-Agency Committee on Climate Change (IACCC), the Advisory Council on Climate Change (ACCC), and the Presidential Task Force on Climate Change (PTFCC), and the President has made a Green Philippines as one of the “8 in 8” priorities;

Action on climate change is a civic duty of all citizens. It offers our society vast opportunity for social inclusion and political harmony. Thus, we must recognize the intrinsic primacy of local communities in the implementation of adaptation programs to sustain efficacy and enhance their efficiencies;

Therefore, we, the participants, hereby commit ourselves to the following plan of action:

To work for the passage of a policy prioritizing climate change adaptation in the national agenda, thereby directing all behavior of its instruments and agents through programs, projects, budgets, grants of license and franchise, to be consistent and compatible with such policy;

To promote climate-proofing development through genuine multi-sectoral participation, particularly in: 1) the on-going formulation of a national strategic framework on climate change adaptation, 2) the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of national and local development plans, programs, fiscal policies, and budgets, and 3) implementation of international treaties and trade agreements;

To advocate the creation of oversight bodies on climate change adaptation in the Senate and the House of Representatives as regular standing committees;

To promote the mainstreaming through the DILG, the leagues of local government units, and in possible partnership with regional councils for sustainable development (RCSD), in the adoption of local policy and programs for climate change adaptation by the local government units;

To call for the integration in the basic education curriculum by the Department of Education (DepEd), in tertiary courses by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and in vocational and technical courses by the TESDA;

To promote research and extension work on climate change adaptation through government agencies, research institutions and the academe;

To support the development and wider use of the country's abundant renewable energy sources to promote resiliency and growth in our communities;

To strongly urge the provision of increased allocations for climate change adaptation in the budgets of relevant government agencies, GOCCs and GFIs;

To urge the creation of a climate change adaptation fund which may be sourced from existing taxes, proceeds from the privatization of government properties, official development assistance, grants and donations, and future government share in the sale of Certificates of Emission Reduction (CER and other sources);

To encourage government to engage its bilateral and multilateral partners in additional demand ODA towards programs on climate change adaptation particularly in land and water use, land use change and forestry, in reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD), coastal zones and fisheries, industry, facilities, farming practices, and promotion and development of renewable and indigenous clean energy;

To encourage greater participation of the media in disseminating information on climate change adaptation, within the overall framework of sustainable development, to local communities, at the grassroots level such that all modes of information, education and communication to increase awareness and appreciation of climate change are utilized;

To promote social dialogue between workers and employers to realize potential for green and decent jobs through positive support for workers and employers in the transition towards environmentally sustainable patterns of production and consumption;

To urge the national government to vigorously collaborate with all countries in the Conference of Parties and other international negotiations to push for more aggressive and more immediate emission reduction targets for developed countries, more expeditious implementation of adaptation funds and possibly the creation of a new global fund initiative under the UN system to pump prime the process in a manner that will ensure direct benefits to the local communities;

We call on the President, the Senate of the Philippines and the House of Representatives to adopt this Declaration through a concurrent resolution as a basis for priority and prospective legislation to protect and enhance the environment.

Unanimously adopted in Albay, Philippines this 23rd day of October, 2007

(SGD) THE PARTICIPANTS