

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**

Manila City

Eighteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 71

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING HIS EXCELLENCY,  
SHINZO ABE, FOR HIS HISTORIC TENURE AS  
JAPAN'S LONGEST SERVING PRIME MINISTER  
AND COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRENGTHENING AND  
BROADENING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN  
JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe first served as Prime Minister of Japan in 2006 to 2007. In 2012, he returned as his country's leader once more with the electoral victory of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) under his helm, which has now extended to more than

seven years and two hundred fifty days until his announcement of his intention to resign on 28 August 2020, thus, making him the longest-serving Prime Minister in Japan's history;

WHEREAS, in January 2017, Prime Minister Abe, as a testament to the importance he gave to the relations between Japan and the Philippines, was the first Head of State to visit our country under President Rodrigo Duterte's administration. Likewise, he embarked on two other official visits to the Philippines back in December 2006 and July 2013 under the administrations of former Presidents Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and Benigno S. Aquino III, respectively. He is the only Japanese Prime Minister who has dealt with three Philippine Presidents;

WHEREAS, Japan and the Philippines are strategic partners. Japan is the one of only two countries with this kind of special relationship with the Philippines, the other one being the United States of America;

WHEREAS, Prime Minister Abe has paid great attention and value to Japan's strategic relationship with the Philippines. He continued and deepened this Strategic Partnership and offered to be a partner in our peace-building efforts, particularly in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), by being involved in various mechanisms like the International Monitoring Team (IMT), the International Contact Group (ICG) and the Independent Commission on Policing (ICP), and has been very supportive in the rehabilitation efforts of Marawi City which had been ravaged by extremist terrorists. Japan has also contributed to the upgrading of our defense security capabilities, particularly in maritime security, in the transfer of defense equipment and technology such as PCG patrol vessels, high-speed boats, surveillance radars, and TC-90 maritime patrol aircrafts;

WHEREAS, during his official visit to the Philippines, Prime Minister Abe officially declared the Golden Age of Philippines-Japan relations and pledged Japan's Official

Development Assistance (ODA) for the Philippines under the "Build, Build, Build Program" in the amount of JPY1 trillion for the period 2017-2022;

WHEREAS, under Prime Minister Abe, the total bilateral trade between the Philippines and Japan has been robust and strong, with Japan being the Philippines' top three trading partner, and the Philippines' consistent top source of investments. It was also during his term where the Japanese Government relaxed substantially the single-entry and multiple-entry visa requirements for Filipino nationals, making it possible for more Filipinos to work and live in Japan;

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Prime Minister Abe, Japan has showed consistent support to the Philippines, even amidst their own challenges during this time of the pandemic, by contributing to the Philippines' efforts against COVID-19 by inviting us to participate in the 42-country clinical trials of the anti-viral drug Avigan; donating US\$3.16 million Dollars in emergency assistance coursed through the UNHCR, UNICEF, Red Cross; and granting a JPY50 billion emergency response loan and other assistance coursed through private donations;

WHEREAS, Prime Minister Abe's tenure as Prime Minister of Japan is historic and significant because of his commitment to maintain a close relationship with the Philippines which has brought our relations to where it is now – reinvigorated, strong, friendly, and cooperative: Now, therefore, be it


*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To congratulate and commend Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for his historic tenure as Japan's longest serving Prime Minister, leading a democratic Japan to stability and prosperity, under economic policies bearing his name ("Abenomics") which had many successes for the good of the Japanese People, and for strengthening and broadening the relations between Japan and the Republic of the Philippines.*

*Resolved, finally,* That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the Prime Minister in Japan, through the Japanese Embassy in Manila and the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo.

Adopted,

  
VICENTE C. SOTTO III  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 10, 2020.

  
MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA  
*Secretary of the Senate*  
