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SENATE
P.S. Res 402

RECEIVED BY: *Ji*

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION
RECOMMENDING THE STUDY OF THE "MARSHALL PLAN" IN THE
EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND SPEEDY RECONSTRUCTION,
REHABILITATION AND REVIVAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY
AND ECONOMY OF YOLANDA-STRUCK AREAS

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Yolanda's havoc in Central Philippines left a humungous amount of damage, estimated to be Php30.8 Billion¹ as of 1 December 2013, and might still increase upon compilation of all data gathered, or being gathered, by various government agencies;

WHEREAS, the agriculture industry and the economy of Central Philippines have been driven down to ground zero and would need much funding, cooperation and efficient and effective administration for it to be reconstructed, rehabilitated and revived, to enable our countrymen affected by Yolanda to be restored to their normal lives prior to Yolanda's attack;

WHEREAS, the hope for a much needed speedy, effective and efficient reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of Yolanda-struck areas is at our doorstep, considering the outpour of support in terms of relief goods and financial aid both from domestic and international² sources;

WHEREAS, it is unfortunate that skepticism brews in some of our countrymen regarding the allocation and disbursement of the financial aid, and legislatively allocated funds, insinuating that said funds might be lost to red tape, corruption, or allocation to affected areas may be marred by favoritism due to partisan politics and the like;

WHEREAS, it cannot be denied that accountability and transparency should not be downplayed in the formulation and implementation of any plan for reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of the Yolanda-struck areas, considering that the funds to be

¹ <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/breaking-news/2013/12/01/typhoon-yolanda-death-toll-5632-damage-p308b-316527>. The disaster council said the total damage to infrastructure and agriculture amounts to around P30.8 billion. Damage to infrastructure reached P15.7 billion while damage to agriculture at P15.1 billion.

² <http://www.gov.ph/faith/full-report/>. Total foreign aid pledged - Php21,119,454,497.15 (Total foreign aid received - Php531,099,624.85)

utilized came from generous and noble donors and/or sources domestically and internationally, as well as public funds that the legislature appropriated;

WHEREAS, crucial to an effective and efficient plan for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of the Yolanda-struck areas are cooperation, consultation and dialogue with all stakeholders and experts on said matter, so as to fully utilize all funds available;

WHEREAS, one of the suggestions (by Rolando G. Valenzuela in his commentary with the Philippine Daily Inquirer entitled, “Marshall plan approach needed”³) that cropped up for an effective plan for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of Yolanda-struck areas is the adoption of the “**Marshall Plan**,” crafted and implemented by the United States of America to aid war-devastated Europe after World War II;

WHEREAS, the Marshall Plan, officially known as the “European Recovery Program,” focused not only on bringing back what was lost but even improving the pre-war conditions, through efforts of modernization, utilization of high-efficiency models, reducing trade barriers, and instilling a sense of hope and self-reliance;⁴

WHEREAS, the salient points regarding the implementation of the Marshall Plan, which could find application in the case of Yolanda-struck areas, are as follows:

- One “central administration” – the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA) – supervised the entire plan.
- The Marshall Plan funds were transferred to the countries devastated by World War II.
- The Marshall Plan funds were jointly administered by the local governments affected and the ECA.
- Each European capital had an ECA envoy, generally a prominent American businessman, who would advise on the process.
- The cooperative allocation of funds was encouraged, and panels of government, business, and labor leaders were convened to examine the economy and see where aid was needed.
- Some Marshall Plan funds were lent to private entities as long as said entities utilize said funds for the rehabilitation.⁵

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Marshall Plan resulted to the following:

- By 1952, as the funding ended, the economy of every participant state had surpassed pre-war levels; for all Marshall Plan recipients, output in 1951 was at least 35% higher than in 1938. Over the next two decades, Western Europe enjoyed unprecedented growth and prosperity.

³ <http://opinion.inquirer.net/66343/marshall-plan-approach-needed>

⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshall_Plan

⁵ *Ibid.*

- The years 1948 to 1952 saw the fastest period of growth in European history. Industrial production increased by 35%. Agricultural production substantially surpassed pre-war levels. The poverty and starvation of the immediate postwar years disappeared, and Western Europe embarked upon an unprecedented two decades of growth that saw standards of living increase dramatically.
- The Marshall Plan also played an important role in European integration. Both the Americans and many of the European leaders felt that European integration was necessary to secure the peace and prosperity of Europe, and thus used Marshall Plan guidelines to foster integration.⁶

WHEREAS, the Marshall Plan should be looked into more closely for the purpose of possibly adopting it, or portions of which that could be applicable in the case of Yolanda-struck areas, for an effective and efficient reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of Yolanda-struck areas;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to study up close the Marshall Plan, and the possibility of adopting it, or some portions of it, for an effective and efficient plan for the much needed speedy reconstruction, rehabilitation and revival of the agricultural industry and economy of Yolanda-struck areas.

Adopted,


GRACE POE

⁶ *Ibid.*