

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

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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 128

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator MAR Roxas

A RESOLUTION
CONCURRING WITH THE RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS
IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN AND ITS ANNEXES

WHEREAS, the *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and its Annexes* was signed by the Philippines in 05 September 2000;

WHEREAS, the *Convention*, consisting of forty-four (44) items and four (4) Annexes, provides for the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean;

WHEREAS, the *Convention* recognizes the ecological and geographical vulnerability of small island developing States, territories and possessions in the region, their economic and social dependence on highly migratory fish stocks, and their need for financial, scientific and technological assistance, to allow them to participate effectively in the conservation, management and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks;

WHEREAS, under the *Convention*, the signatories are obligated to adopt measures to minimize waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, pollution originating from fishing vessels, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species, in particular endangered species and promote the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques;

WHEREAS, the *Convention* provides for the establishment of a Commission to implement the Convention. Members of the Commission shall ensure that: (a) fishing vessels flying its flag comply with the provisions of this *Convention* and the conservation and management measures adopted hereto and that such vessels do not engage in any activity which undermine the effectiveness of such measures; and, (b) fishing vessels flying its flag do not conduct unauthorized fishing within areas under the national jurisdiction of any Contracting Party;

WHEREAS, the *Convention* provides that the Commission shall give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States Parties to this

WHEREAS, the *Convention* provides that the Commission shall give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States Parties to this *Convention*, in particular small island developing States, territories and possessions, in relation to conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention area and development of fisheries for such stocks;

WHEREAS, Article 36, paragraph 1 provides that *this Convention shall enter into force 30 days after the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by: (a) three States situated north of the 20^o parallel of north latitude; and (b) seven States situated south of the 20^o parallel of north latitude;*

WHEREAS, the President of the Philippines finds it advisable to ratify the *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and its Annexes*, and has accordingly submitted it to the Senate for concurrence in its ratification, in accordance with section 21, Article VII of the Philippine Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Senate of the Philippines concur as it hereby concurs, in the ratification by the President of the Philippines of the *Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and its Annexes*.

ADOPTED ,



M A R Roxas
Senator