



SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 73

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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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RESOLUTION
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTS OF
CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE
PHILIPPINES – NEW PEOPLE’S ARMY (CPP-NPA) OF INDIGENEOUS
PEOPLE THEREBY RAISING AWARENESS TO ALL AND SAFEGUARDING
INDIGENEOUS PEOPLE’S RIGHTS

WHEREAS, Article II, Sec. 4 of the 1987 Constitution provides that, “the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people.” Further, the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of general welfare are essential for the enjoyment of all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, among the Declaration of Principles and State Policies provided in R.A. No. 9851 otherwise known as the, “*Philippine Act on Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide, and Other Crimes Against Humanity*” which was enacted on 11 December 2009, provide that, “the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights, including the rights of indigenous cultural communities and other vulnerable groups, such as women and children”;

WHEREAS, for years, the government has seen a connection between indigenous identity and rebellion;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte stated that seventy-five percent (75%) of rebel foot soldiers were “*Lumad*” or Mindanao indigenous people and most are in the CPP-NPA’s ranks;

WHEREAS, according to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the indigenous people are the most vulnerable sector for recruitment and exploitation by the CPP-NPA. As stated by AFP Public Affairs Office Chief Col. Noel Detoyato, "*Sila yung nasa bundok, sila yung madaling lokohin dahil nga di naman sila exposed sa external information. Sila yung uneducated but they are considered as intellectuals, depende sa status nila sa IP community*";


WHEREAS, the Mindanao Indigenous Peoples Council of Elders (MIPCEL) Chairman Lipatuan Joel Unad said that the CPP-NPA targets communities where settlers are particularly uneducated and whose parents' only livelihood is farming;

WHEREAS, the National Security Adviser, Hermogenes Esperon, divulged that thru front organizations, the CPP-NPA is able to solicit and exploit funds from countries in the EU to support legitimate projects that are made to appear as aiding the poor and farmers in remote areas, among others. However, the report stated that at least sixty percent (60%) of the funding are diverted to the CPP-NPA through "*triple or multiple funding scheme.*" Esperon further added that such funds are being used to recruit and exploit vulnerable sectors such as indigenous people (IP);

WHEREAS, for the past three decades and despite the efforts made by the government, such as numerous peace talks and negotiations, there is still a steady increase in the numbers of the CPP-NPA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, for the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reports of continuous recruitment by the Communist Party of the Philippines – New People's Army (CPP-NPA) of indigenous people thereby raising awareness to all and safeguarding indigenous people's rights.

Adopted,


IMEE R. MARCOS