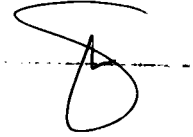


**SENATE**

**P. S. Res No. 946**



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**Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**

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**RESOLUTION**  
**RECOGNIZING THE ENDURING AMITY AND COOPERATION**  
**BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE REPUBLIC**  
**OF KOREA, AND COMMEMORATING THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF**  
**THEIR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**

1       **WHEREAS**, the year 2024 marks a significant milestone in the long  
2 history of friendship and cooperation between the Republic of the Philippines  
3 and the Republic of Korea, as we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic  
4 relations between the two States;

5       **WHEREAS**, the bilateral relations between the Philippines and South  
6 Korea started on March 3, 1949, with the Philippines becoming the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>)  
7 country to recognize the Republic of Korea since its inauguration,<sup>1</sup> and further  
8 cemented when the Philippines deployed 7,420 Filipino soldiers during the  
9 Korean War in the 1950s.<sup>2</sup>

10       **WHEREAS**, through the years, the Philippines has been an active  
11 supporter in the inter-Korean peace process and reconciliation efforts.  
12 Meanwhile, South Korea has become a significant defense and security partner  
13 for the Philippines,<sup>3</sup> playing a key role in the modernization of the Armed Forces  
14 of the Philippines (AFP), supplying essential military equipment and support.

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<sup>1</sup> "Philippine-Korean Relations," Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines. Retrieved from [http://www.philembassy-seoul.com/rp\\_rk\\_relations.asp](http://www.philembassy-seoul.com/rp_rk_relations.asp). Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2024, 6:31am.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> "Philippines and Republic of Korea: A stronger partnership in Indo-Pacific." Retrieved from <https://www.philstar.com/news-commentary/2023/09/16/2296737/philippines-and-republic-korea-stronger-partnership-indo-pacific>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2024, 6:32am.

1           **WHEREAS**, South Korea is among the largest development partners of  
2 the Philippines. As of 2020, South Korea’s contribution to the Philippines has  
3 already reached USD 2.1 billion.<sup>4</sup> South Korea is also a valued trade and  
4 investment partner of the Philippines, ranking fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) in terms of bilateral  
5 trade at USD 15.45 billion and sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) in total approved investments at USD  
6 90.62 million in 2022.<sup>5</sup> As testament to the vibrant economic partnership  
7 between the two States, the Philippines and South Korea signed a free trade  
8 agreement (FTA) on September 7, 2023;<sup>6</sup>

9           **WHEREAS**, the Philippines and South Korea have launched new  
10 platforms for dialogue on harnessing blue economy,<sup>7</sup> as well as in other areas  
11 of cooperation on key marine and maritime issues, all of which are paramount  
12 considerations for the Philippines as an archipelagic State;<sup>8</sup>

13           **WHEREAS**, the Philippines and South Korea have continuously  
14 collaborated in the area of agriculture through smart agriculture missions, with  
15 the aim of promoting smart farming and agriculture mechanization, as well as  
16 exploring possible areas of investment and best practices sharing;<sup>9</sup>

17           **WHEREAS**, over the years, the Philippines and South Korea have  
18 furthered bilateral relations through vigorous people-to-people exchanges,  
19 including opportunities such as South Korea’s Global Korea Scholarship (GKS)  
20 programs and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) training  
21 programs.<sup>10</sup> The close relationship between the two countries is well

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<sup>4</sup> "SoKor-PH over 70: Turning decades-old ties to opportunities," Philippine News Agency. Retrieved from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1187974>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2023, 6:33am.

<sup>5</sup> "PH, SoKor ink free trade deal," Philippine News Agency. Retrieved from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1209468>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2023, 6:26am.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> "SoKor-PH over 70: Turning decades-old ties to opportunities," Philippine News Agency. Retrieved from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1187974>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2023, 6:33am.

<sup>8</sup> "Philippines, S.Korea discuss ways to strengthen maritime cooperation," GMA News Online. Retrieved from <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/885020/philippines-s-korea-discuss-ways-to-strengthen-maritime-cooperation/story/>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2023, 6:26am.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> "Ambassador's Greetings," Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Republic of the Philippines. Retrieved from [https://overseas.mofa.go.kr/ph-en/wpge/m\\_3271/contents.do#:~:text=The%20Philippines%20is%20a%20long,ROK%20during%20the%20Korean%20War](https://overseas.mofa.go.kr/ph-en/wpge/m_3271/contents.do#:~:text=The%20Philippines%20is%20a%20long,ROK%20during%20the%20Korean%20War). Last accessed on Feb 27, 2023, 8:39am.

1 demonstrated by the over 62,000 Filipinos living in South Korea as of 2020.<sup>11</sup>  
2 Meanwhile, as of 2023, South Korea remains as the Philippines' top source  
3 market of foreign tourist arrivals, comprising 26.41% or over 1.44 million of the  
4 total foreign tourist arrival in the same year;<sup>12</sup>

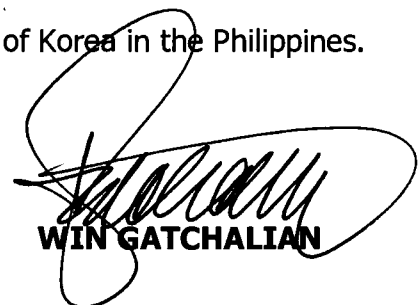
5 **WHEREAS**, during the bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the ASEAN  
6 Summits in November 2022, President Marcos, Jr. and President Yoon Suk Yeol  
7 reaffirmed a consensus on strengthening practical cooperation across various  
8 fields, including political affairs, economy, infrastructure, defense, and  
9 energy.<sup>13</sup>

10 **WHEREAS**, the Philippines hopes to further its bilateral relations and  
11 deepen its diplomatic ties with South Korea through close collaborations in  
12 various multilateral fora, as well as through continuous and strategic  
13 partnership on key and mutually beneficial areas of cooperation towards  
14 economic progress and development;

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the  
16 Senate of the Philippines, to recognize the enduring amity and cooperation  
17 between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, to  
18 commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Philippines-South Korea diplomatic  
19 relations, and to designate March 3 as a day of commemoration of steadfast  
20 and unwavering diplomatic relations between the two States;

21 **RESOLVED, FINALLY**, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished the  
22 Republic of Korea and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Philippines.

23  
24 *Adopted,*



**WIN GATCHALIAN**

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<sup>11</sup> "Filipino students in Korea discuss service, community," The Korea Times. Retrieved from [https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/02/113\\_331371.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/02/113_331371.html). Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2024, 6:37am.

<sup>12</sup> "With 5.45-M international tourist arrivals, PH exceeds 2023 target – DOT," GMA News Online. Retrieved from <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/892867/with-5-45-m-international-tourist-arrivals-ph-exceeds-2023-target-dot/story/>. Last accessed on Feb. 27, 2024, 6:39am.

<sup>13</sup> "Ambassador's Greetings," Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Republic of the Philippines. Retrieved from [https://overseas.mofa.go.kr/ph-en/wpge/m\\_3271/contents.do#:~:text=The%20Philippines%20is%20a%20long,ROK%20during%20the%20Korean%20War](https://overseas.mofa.go.kr/ph-en/wpge/m_3271/contents.do#:~:text=The%20Philippines%20is%20a%20long,ROK%20during%20the%20Korean%20War). Last accessed on Feb 27, 2023, 8:39am.