

8 NOV 17 P3:38

SENATE
P. S. Res. No. 758

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by **Senator Biazon**

RESOLUTION
URGING THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT TO CAUSE THE RESUMPTION OF THE
PEACE TALKS WITH THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT (MILF) WITH
INDONESIA AS THE PARTY FACILITATOR THEREOF

Whereas, the non-signing of the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) caused the collapse of the peace talks between the two parties;

Whereas, we have been witnesses to, and continue to witness depredatory attacks launched by certain elements of the MILF against the civilian population mostly in the southern part of our country;

Whereas, despite this, the fact remains that the peace talks should not be abandoned while continuing government efforts of bringing into the folds of the law elements of the group who are responsible for depredatory attacks against the State and its people;

Whereas, there is however a need to explore the possibility of pursuing the peace talks without foreign intervention but, if not tenable, then the government should consider another country to be the broker of the peace talks instead of Malaysia;

Whereas, we cannot disregard that Malaysia has a conflict of interest with the Philippines as far as the unresolved Sabah question and the conflicting claims in the Spratlys are concerned;

Whereas, our fellow Southeast Asian country, Indonesia, has been instrumental in the government's peace efforts towards the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) that culminated in the signing of the Jakarta Accord in 1996;

Whereas, considering this assistance that Indonesia has extended and the fact that it has no conflict of interest with the Philippines, it is respectfully recommended that Indonesia be considered as broker once the peace process with the MILF is resumed;

Whereas, the peace process with the MILF cannot and should not be abandoned as the alternative to peace will only be too costly to our country and our people; *Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, As It Is Hereby Resolved,*

By The Senate, To Urge The Executive Department To Cause The Resumption Of The Peace Talks With The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) With Indonesia As The Third Party Facilitator Thereof.

Adopted,


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator