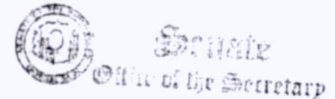


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 670

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) PLAN, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING COMPLIANCE IN THE EXECUTION OF GENDER-RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS AND MAINTAINING MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN NATION-BUILDING

1 WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution provides that “(t)he
2 State recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure the
3 fundamental equality before the law of women and men”;

4 WHEREAS, Section 2(2) of Republic Act No. 7192, otherwise known as the
5 Women in Development and Nation Building Act, provides for equality in women’s
6 rights and opportunities by stating that “(a)ll government departments shall ensure
7 that women benefit equally and participate directly in the development programs and
8 projects of said department, specifically those funded under official foreign
9 development assistance, to ensure the full participation and involvement of women in
10 the development process”;

11 WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “the peoples
12 of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human
13 rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men
14 and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of
15 life in larger freedom”;

16 WHEREAS, Article 14, Section 2(a) of the Convention on the Elimination of All
17 Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) mandates that “States Parties
18 shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural

1 areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate
2 in and benefit from rural development and, in particular, shall ensure to such women
3 the right to participate in the elaboration and implementation of development
4 planning at all levels”;

5 WHEREAS, Section 36(a) of Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the
6 Magna Carta of Women Act, provides for the planning, budgeting, monitoring and
7 evaluation for Gender and Development (GAD), stating in part that “...(t)he
8 development of GAD programs shall proceed from the conduct of a gender audit of the
9 agency or the local government unit and a gender analysis of its policies, programs,
10 services and the situation of its clientele; the generation and review of sex-
11 disaggregated data; and consultation with gender/women’s rights advocates and
12 agency/women clientele. The cost of implementing GAD programs shall be the
13 agency’s or the local government unit’s GAD budget which shall be at least five percent
14 (5%) of the agency’s or the local government unit’s total budget appropriations”;

15 WHEREAS, the Philippine Framework Plan for Women promotes a gender-
16 responsive governance by putting in place an action plan on mainstreaming GAD in
17 the bureaucracy, outlining the importance to “enforce compliance to GAD
18 mainstreaming policies, enhance existing structural mechanisms to accelerate
19 mainstreaming of GAD, localize GAD mainstreaming efforts, enhance capability of
20 local and regional GAD practitioners/trainors to deliver GAD programs, and
21 strengthen linkages and partnerships among various partners,” as outlined by the
22 Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) on the Philippine Initiatives on Gender-
23 Responsive Governance;

24 WHEREAS, the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 provides for GAD
25 inclusion through the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security which was
26 mainstreamed at the national level through its inclusion into GAD annual plans and
27 budgets, and inclusion of women, peace, and security in the programs, projects, and
28 activities of NGAs and local government units (LGUs), as well as enhancement of the
29 capacity of security sector agencies to respond to gender and development issues,
30 especially during natural and human-induced disasters;

31 WHEREAS, on 20 February 2018, in an article entitled “Creation of GAD
32 monitoring team sought”, Sun Star Bacolod reported that the Bacolod City Council
33 approved a resolution requesting Mayor Evelio Leonardia to create the Barangay GAD

1 monitoring and evaluation team, as it has been observed that some GAD plans and
2 programs are not being implemented, and the circular requires the villages to submit
3 a GAD plan and budget to the City Planning and Development Office for review and
4 endorsement to ensure the alignment of the GAD projects, programs and activities
5 with the priorities of the city;

6 WHEREAS, on 12 July 2017, in an article entitled "COA: Palace only spent
7 0.019% of P14-M budget for gender programs in 2016", GMA News Online cited a COA
8 report which stated that out of nineteen (19) GAD programmed activities in the Office
9 of the President, only six (6) were implemented with a total cost of P532,406.00 or
10 0.019% of the total appropriations of the agency, showing the gap in the
11 implementation of the OP's GAD mainstreaming and public information activities;

12 WHEREAS, on 10 November 2017, in a press release entitled "PCW and COA
13 strengthen call for gender mainstreaming during the 2017 GAD Budget Fora", the
14 PCW reported that with the Commission on Audit, the GAD Budget Fora was
15 conducted, wherein one of the pertinent issues raised by the agencies are clarifications
16 regarding the types of programs and activities which can be charged to the GAD
17 Budget, and the inclusion of work leaves, especially for mothers of children with
18 special concerns, and medical check-up for women in the GAD Budget allocation;

19 WHEREAS, the same reported that Ms. Nharleen Santos-Millar, Chief of PCW's
20 Technical Services and Regional Coordination Division, noted that while currently
21 there is no specific policy allowing the use of the GAD budget for the said concerns, it
22 could be elevated for discussion in a PCW Commissioners' Meeting, along with the
23 conduct of further consultation with agencies like the Civil Service Commission;

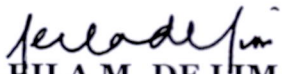
24 WHEREAS, it is imperative for all government agencies and local government
25 units to fulfill their obligation to efficiently utilize at least 5% of the appropriated
26 budget towards implementing programs, plans and actions that contribute to gender
27 mainstreaming;

28 WHEREAS, gender mainstreaming is a strategy which aims for the inclusion
29 and prioritization of women's concerns and perspectives within agencies through the
30 creation of gender-responsive programs tailored to positively impact both women and
31 men, as affirmed by the PCW, and government agencies have the obligation to

1 successfully integrate and implement this strategy in their respective appropriated
2 budget and areas of development;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to direct the
4 appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the
5 implementation of the GAD plan, with the end in view of strengthening compliance in
6 the execution of gender-responsive programs and maintaining maximum
7 participation of women in nation-building.

Adopted,


LILIA M. DE LIMA