

Lima, 11 de diciembre de 2023

OFICIO N°332-2023-2024-MPH/CR

Señor:

ALEJANDRO SOTO REYES

Presidente del Congreso de la República

Lima. -

De mi consideración:

Tengo el alto honor de dirigirme a usted, para expresarle mi cordial saludo y, a la vez informarle sobre mi participación en la **"31º REUNIÓN ANUAL DEL FORO PARLAMENTARIO ASIA PACIFICO FILIPINAS 2023" APPF31**, que se desarrolló los días 23 al 26 de noviembre del 2023 en el Centro Internacional de Convenciones de Filipinas.

En dicho evento, compartimos la necesidad de abordar retos comunes y, identificar las diversas problemáticas que se viene produciendo en la región, consecutivamente para proponer posibles soluciones en materia de Política y de seguridad, Cooperación Regional en la Región Asia Pacífico y; en la reunión de mujeres parlamentarias, eventos en la que participé activamente junto a delegados de distintos países.

Asimismo; a través de mi persona, el Presidente del Senado de Filipinas hace llegar sus saludos y le remite una carta s/n. Que se encuentra anexa a este oficio junto a una ayuda memoria, quien busca el invaluable apoyo del Gobierno del Perú para la candidatura de Filipinas y asegurar un asiento no permanente en el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas (CSNU) para el 2027-2028.

Por lo anterior, quiero dejar consignado mi especial gratitud y, me valgo de la oportunidad para expresarle mis más altas consideraciones y aprecio personal.

Atentamente,



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MARGOT PALACIOS HUAMÁN
Congresista de la República del Perú.



Republic of the Philippines
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES

24 November 2023

The Honorable
ALEJANDRO SOTO REYES
President
Congress of the Republic of Peru

Thru: **Hon. MARGOT PALACIOS**
Head of Delegation, APPF31

Honorable **Reyes**:

The Congress of the Republic of the Philippines extends its warmest regards to Your Honor and Members of the Congress of the Republic of Peru.

We humbly seek the invaluable support of the Government of Peru for the Philippines' bid to secure a non-permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the term 2027-2028, the elections for which shall be held during the 80th UN General Assembly on June 2026 in New York City.

The Philippines, as a founding member of the United Nations, has ardently championed the cause of global peace and security since the UN's inception. In alignment with its enduring principles, our nation has been a steadfast partner in addressing global challenges while upholding the tenets of the UN Charter. We have advocated for the peaceful resolution of conflicts in accordance with international law, fostering cooperation and dialogue among nations.

We take immense pride in our history of forging pathways toward peace, embodying the essence of inclusive dialogue, consensus-building, and participatory approaches to foster sustainable peace and prosperity. Testament to this commitment is the establishment of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, which is in the process of transition towards autonomy, within the framework of the Philippine Constitution.

The Philippines' rich tradition spans six decades of active participation in peacekeeping missions, deploying over 14,000 Filipino peacekeepers across 21 UN peacekeeping and special missions. Our nation is resolute in its commitment to augment our contributions to the UN peacekeeping operations worldwide by, among others, increasing the presence of Filipino peacekeepers on the ground. We likewise advocate for the active involvement of women in advancing peace and security initiatives, consistent with UNSC Resolution 1325.

Enclosed herewith is an aide-memoire that outlines the Philippines' UNSC bid. It provides a comprehensive overview of our vision, commitment, and our contributions towards the pursuit of peace and security.

The Congress of the Philippines extends to your esteemed country the unwavering assurances of our highest regard and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.M.F. Zubiri', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
President
Senate of the Philippines

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F.M.G. Romualdez', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Speaker
House of Representatives

24 de noviembre 2023.

El Honorable
ALEJANDRO SOTO REYES
Presidente Congreso de la República del Perú

A través de la Honorable MARGOT PALACIOS
Jefa de Delegación APPF31

Honorable Reyes

El Congreso de la República de Filipinas extiende sus más cordiales saludos a su Señoría y a los miembros del Congreso de la República de Perú

Buscamos humildemente el invaluable apoyo del Gobierno del Perú para la candidatura de Filipinas para asegurar un asiento no permanente en el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas (CSNU) para el 2027-2028, cuyas elecciones se celebrarán durante la 30ª Asamblea General de la ONU en junio de 2026 en la ciudad de Nueva York.

Filipinas, como miembro fundador de las Naciones Unidas, ha defendido ardientemente la causa de la paz y seguridad mundial desde la creación de la ONU, en consonancia con sus principios perdurables, nuestra nación ha sido un socio firme para abordar los desafíos globales al tiempo que defiende los principios de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas.

Hablamos inmensamente orgullosos de nuestra historia, de forjar caminos hacia la paz encarnando la esencia del diálogo inclusivo, la creación de consenso y los enfoques participativos que constituyen la paz y la prosperidad sostenibles, testimonio de este compromiso es la estabilidad de la región autónoma de Bangsamoro del Mindanan musulmán, que se encuentra en proceso de transición hacia la autonomía, en el marco de la estructura de Filipinas

La tradición filipina abarca seis décadas de participación activa en misiones de mantenimiento de la paz, desplegando más de 14 000 mil efectivos de mantenimiento de la paz en 21 misiones especiales y de mantenimiento de la paz de las Naciones Unidas. Nuestra nación está convencida de su compromiso de contribuir a las operaciones de paz de las Naciones Unidas en todo el mundo, entre otras cosas, con la presencia de fuerzas de paz filipinas sobre el terreno. Abogamos por la prueba activa

de las mujeres en el avance de las iniciativas de paz y seguridad, de conformidad con la resolución 1325 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas

Se adjunta a la presente un ayuda memoria que describe la ayuda del Consejo de Seguridad de Filipinas y proporciona una visión general de nuestra visión, compromiso y nuestras contribuciones a la búsqueda de la paz y la seguridad.

El Congreso de Filipinas extiende a su estimado país las inquebrantables seguridades de nuestra más alta consideración.

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

President

Senate of the Philippines

FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

Speaker

House of Representatives



**31st ANNUAL MEETING
THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (APPF 31)
23 - 26 NOVEMBER 2023
Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City, Philippines**

"Resilient Partnerships for Peace, Prosperity and Sustainability"

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Upon the invitation of the Senate of the Philippines and House of Representatives of the Philippines, the 31st Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF) was held in Pasay City, Philippines from 23 to 26 November 2023. A total of 267 delegates from Member Countries of the APPF, and one guest of the host attended the Meeting. (listed as Annex A)

Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee, under the chairmanship of Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, President of the Philippine Senate, and the co-chairmanship of Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives, approved the Agenda and Program of activities in a meeting held on 23 November 2023.
2. Upon the advice of the Executive Committee, the Annual Meeting approved the designation of the Chairpersons of the Working Groups and Plenary Sessions on Political and Security Matters, Economic and Trade Matters, Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, and the Youth Parliamentarians. (listed as Annex B)
3. Part of the agenda approved by the Executive Committee was the Philippine delegation's proposal to amend the Rules of Procedure to include a "Meeting of Young Parliamentarians" in every annual meeting of the APPF.
4. The Executive Committee recognized the presence of guests from the United Nations and the UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health.
5. The Executive Committee Meeting was informed that 37 draft resolutions were submitted from 10 member parliaments. In accordance with the practice of the APPF Annual Meetings, the host secretariat proposed joint draft resolutions to consolidate proposals with similar content and facilitate their consideration by the working groups. The Executive Committee Meeting decided to send 36 draft resolutions to relevant working groups. A resolution deferred from the 30th APPF was likewise referred to the proper working group.

6. The Executive Committee resolved to defer the Resolution filed by the Russian Federation on Combating Glorification of Nazism, Neonazism, and Other Discrimination Practice to next year's Annual Meeting.
7. The Executive Committee approved the referral of Indonesia's draft resolution on "Enhancing Maritime Security Cooperation in Asia-Pacific," to the Working Group on Political and Security Matters to be consolidated with resolutions that have similar content.
8. The Draft Resolutions on "Achieving Denuclearization and Peace on the Korean Peninsula," proposed by Japan, and on the "Korean Peninsula" proposed by the Republic of Korea, were likewise referred to the Working Group on Political and Security Matters for consideration.

Inaugural Ceremony

9. The Inaugural Ceremony was held on 23 November 2023. Speaker of the House, Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez delivered the welcome remarks. In his remarks, he emphasized that solidarity and cooperation are vital components in building a resilient and sustainable Asia-Pacific region. He emphasized that peace remains a paramount objective and expressed support for a rules-based international order, governed by the principles of international law and informed by the principles of equity and justice. Speaker Romualdez sought the support of APPF Member Countries for the Philippines' candidature to the United Nations Security Council for the term 2027-2028.
10. The Honorable Pornpetch Wichitcholchai, Senate President of the Parliament of Thailand, delivered the message as last year's host. In his opening address, he remarked that the promotion of economic development, peace, and prosperity is a prerequisite for the achievement of sustainable development goals. He added that addressing these great challenges urgently requires the spirit of cooperation and goodwill in international relations, as well as harmony and concord of APPF.
11. The Honorable Juan Miguel F. Zubiri delivered the Keynote Address. He recognized that the gathering of Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians in Manila affirmed that the spirit of Asia-Pacific parliamentary solidarity remains active. He underscored the importance of building resilient partnerships for peace, prosperity, and sustainability, a theme which resonates in our collective experience post-pandemic and continuing aspirations to make the 21st Century, a truly Asia-Pacific Century. He encouraged Parliamentarians to remain determined to recover and overcome any of the remaining traces of the pandemic and soar above the current challenges of the region.

Proposal to Amend the Rules of Procedure

12. APPF31 agreed and is committed to consider the Philippines' proposed amendment in the Rules of Procedure, as attached (listed as Annex C), to conduct a Meeting of Young Parliamentarians in subsequent APPF meetings and to further consider the same at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the APPF.

Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

13. The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians was conducted on 23 November 2023. The Honorable Pia S. Cayetano, Chairperson of the Committee on Sustainable Development, Innovation, and Futures Thinking, chaired the Meeting and Rep. Camille Villar delivered opening remarks for the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. The Meeting covered two topics: (a) Gender and Sustainable Development Goals and (b) Women's Participation and Leadership.
14. In her opening remarks, Senator Cayetano remarked that women must be front and center, not just of the Agenda for Sustainable Development but also in the implementation of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She added that the forum itself highlights the importance of women in decision-making positions and that it is parliaments' goal to empower women in all roles of leadership.
15. APPF Members emphasized that women bring unique perspectives and experiences that enrich the entire governance process. Women leaders often prioritize healthcare and education, and ensure that policies are not only equitable but also inclusive, catering to the needs of the most vulnerable sectors of society. They also highlighted the importance of gender equality in the workplace, equal pay for all, career advancement opportunities for women and the support for work-life balance.
16. APPF Member Parliaments highlighted the need to establish strategies for the development and execution of policies aimed at enhancing the status of women, and the elimination of gender-based violence and discrimination.

Roundtable of Young Parliamentarians

17. The Roundtable of Young Parliamentarians was held on 24 November 2023. Deputy Majority Floor Leader Jude Acidre of the Philippine House of Representatives presided over the Meeting.
18. The APPF Members acknowledged the opportunities and benefits of digital technologies, especially for the youth. They expressed optimism that digital economy development around the world will contribute to the growth of labor productivity, reduction of production costs, creation of new skilled jobs, and in overcoming poverty and inequality.
19. APPF Members likewise called on parliamentarians APPF Members to intensify efforts in reducing the "digital divide" between developed and vulnerable developing countries, as well as between social groups within states. They also expressed the necessity of investing and allocating more resources to promote digital literacy and the capacities of people.

Drafting Committee

20. The Drafting Committee conducted meetings from 24 to 25 November 2023, to resolve the more contentious resolutions of the Annual Meeting. It was chaired by Senate President Pro Tempore Loren Legarda and co-chaired by Representative Lorenz Defensor.

21. The Drafting Committee, through the leadership of the Philippines and the collaborative and diligent efforts of all participating delegates, successfully navigated through several contentious issues, fostering consensus on key matters. The resolution of these issues reflects the commitment of all APPF member parliaments to constructive dialogue and compromise, highlighting the spirit of cooperation that underlies our collective pursuit of shared objectives. This collaborative achievement reinforces our belief in the effectiveness of parliamentary diplomacy and the power of consensus-building in addressing complex challenges.
22. The Drafting Committee approved all resolutions referred to it for adoption at the Annual Meeting– a rarity in the history of APPF:
 - a. Strengthening the Capacity of Parliaments to Promote Peace and Stability
 - b. Korean Peninsula
 - c. Combatting Transnational Crimes
 - d. Gender and Sustainable Development Goals
 - e. Women’s Participation and Leadership
 - f. Rethinking Critical Infrastructure
 - g. Enhancing Regional Cooperation on Climate Action, Biodiversity Conservation, and Disaster Risk Reduction
 - h. Human Capital Development and Inclusive Growth
 - i. Regional Cooperation through Education and Culture
 - j. Regional Cooperation on Universal Health Care in the Asia-Pacific

Plenary Sessions

23. The First Plenary Session considered political and security matters focusing on two topics: (a) Strengthening the Capacity of Parliaments to Promote Peace and Stability, and (b) Combatting Transnational Crimes.
24. The APPF Member Parliaments agreed on the importance of emphasizing and implementing bilateral and multilateral collaboration as well as parliamentary diplomacy to promote stronger institutions, resolve regional conflict, and overcome contemporary challenges, thereby laying the foundation for regional peace and stability for all.
25. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to strengthen the capacity of parliaments to promote regional peace and stability by, among others, supporting their Government’s efforts to meet Goal 16 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda; enhancing cooperation with the view to intensifying efforts in addressing challenges and threats including terrorism, nuclear proliferation, ICT threats, transnational crimes, climate change, emerging diseases and public health emergencies; promoting confidence-building measures; and supporting continued adherence to the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes.
26. The APPF Member Parliaments further committed to increase their efforts in promoting and maintaining peace, security, stability, safety, and freedom of the high seas, consistent with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The APPF Member parliaments also resolved to protect the marine environment and biodiversity and promote a safe and sustainable blue economy that can benefit all nations.

27. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to combat transnational crime including by, among others, passing pieces of legislation considering existing international legal conventions on terrorism and transnational organized crimes; adopting efficient and effective mechanisms for seizure and confiscation of income from criminal activity within the framework of their national legislation systems and to strengthen international cooperation to ensure the efficient and fast return of the funds and valuables to their legitimate owners.
28. The Second Plenary Session considered economic and trade matters, and focused on two topics: (a) Rethinking Critical Infrastructure, and (b) Human Capital Development and Inclusive Growth.
29. The APPF Member Countries espoused a shared commitment towards building community resilience in the face of disasters and climate change and achieving low carbon and sustainable growth in accordance with the Sendai Framework, Paris Agreement, and the SDGs.
30. The APPF Member Parliaments agreed to facilitate the development of policies, programs, and other measures designed to increase and strengthen the resilience of critical infrastructure, to adopt the 'build right at first sight' approach in preventing disaster loss, and to invest in emergency preparedness relating to critical infrastructure.
31. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to empower all APPF Member-States to advance blue and green economies, promote natural capital accounting, and integrate circular economy and nature-based solutions, including ecosystem-based adaptation into national and local climate adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction policies and plans, and further promote sharing of best practices – nationally, regionally and internationally.
32. The APPF Member Parliaments reaffirmed commitment to ambitious climate action and resilience through mutual cooperation and partnerships, and continued provision of finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building, anchored on climate justice and equity, best available science, national circumstances, consistent with relevant international instruments.
33. The APPF Member Parliaments also resolved to further strengthen international cooperation to achieve global climate ambitions and targets, including averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change, in view of the specific vulnerabilities of Asia-Pacific region.
34. The APPF Member Parliaments agreed to implement measures that address free and compulsory education, learning of basic skills, increase in the number of teachers, improvement of basic school infrastructures, digital transformation, and improvement of levels of competence in information and communication technologies (ICTs) that require universal and meaningful connectivity and to formulate actions focused on adapted training, labor intermediation, entrepreneurship programs, and other initiatives.
35. The Third Plenary Session considered regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region covering two topics: (a) Regional Cooperation through Education and Culture, and (b) Universal Health Care in the Asia-Pacific.
36. The APPF Member Parliaments resolved to empower parliamentarians to protect, preserve, and promote cultural heritage, and pursue inclusive educational systems and address disparities in education in the Asia-Pacific region, prioritizing the education of illiterate children and adolescents.

37. The APPF Member Parliaments were called upon to establish a legal framework for Universal Health Care (UHC) to guarantee the right of everyone to public health and medical care, without discrimination, and to establish parliamentary mechanisms to promote UHC, including the provision of adequate funding, research and development, expanded services, and reduced out-of-pocket costs.

Final Plenary

38. In the final plenary session, Senator Pia S. Cayetano, Chair of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, delivered a report of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians and Senate President Pro Tempore Loren B. Legarda, Chair of the Meeting of the Drafting Committee, reported on the accomplishments of the Drafting Committee.

39. Chairman Juan Miguel F. Zubiri delivered his statement on the work that was achieved in the APPF, congratulating the delegations for productively approaching all discussions with respect, diplomacy and friendship. He also stressed the need to work toward an Asia-Pacific that is connected by bridges of peace, by shared seas, by free and open trade, by vibrant cultural exchange, and by an unwavering belief in the power of cooperation.

40. A total of ten resolutions and a Joint Communiqué were adopted during this Annual Meeting.

41. _____, graciously accepted the invitation to host the 32nd APPF Annual Meeting.

42. Annual Meeting Co-Chairman Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez concluded the Forum by underscoring the indispensable value of regional partnership as a cornerstone for peace and sustainable development in the Asia Pacific region. As echoed in the discussions, "Only through collaborative efforts and shared vision can we address the complex challenges of our times and pave the way towards a future marked by prosperity and stability for all."

Signed in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines
on 25 November 2023.

<u>Commonwealth of Australia</u>	<u>Brunei Darussalam</u>
<u>Kingdom of Cambodia</u>	<u>Canada</u>
<u>Republic of Chile</u>	<u>People's Republic of China</u>
<u>Republic of Indonesia</u>	<u>Japan</u>
<u>Republic of Korea</u>	<u>Lao People's Democratic Republic</u>
<u>Malaysia</u>	<u>The United Mexican States</u>

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<p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Republic of Peru</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Republic of the Philippines</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Russian Federation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Kingdom of Thailand</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Socialist Republic of Vietnam</p>	

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Chair, APPF31

FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Co-Chair, APPF31