

Republic of the Philippines  
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
**BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**  
Cotabato City

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**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**RESOLUTION NO. 18**

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING M/GEN CIRILITO E. SOBEJANA  
FOR HIS UNWAVERING SUPPORT IN THE PEACE  
PROCESS AND COMMITMENT IN BRINGING PEACE IN  
THE BANGSAMORO HOMELAND.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 3 of Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State. Its goal is to secure the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory”;

**WHEREAS**, Section 5 of Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy”;

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana has served in various positions and capacities in the Armed Forces of the Philippines since 1987 and is recipient to several prestigious awards in recognition for his dedication to serve the Filipino people and his sincere devotion in achieving lasting peace in Mindanao;

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana has served as Commanding Officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Scout Ranger Company, First Scout Ranger Regiment of the Philippine Army in Basilan wherein he distinguished himself in combat and was, therefore, decorated with the Medal of Valor

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana was decorated “*for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty during an encounter with about 150 Abu Sayyaf kidnap gang members at Sitio Caro, Barangay Lower Kapayawan, Isabela Basilan on 13 January 1995, while serving as Commanding Officer of the 1st Scout Ranger Company, First Scout Ranger Regiment, Philippine Army.*

*When Task Group Panther received reports on the enemy concentration, it immediately dispatched one platoon under CAPTAIN SOBEJANA to check the area. While observing the reported location of enemy presence, he sighted about 20 armed enemies loitering near a cluster of houses. After assessing the situation, he directed his men to attack the enemy position which resulted to an ensuing fierce fire fight. Alerted by the incident, several Abu Sayyaf groups from nearby areas arrived to reinforce their comrades, cutting the troops from the supporting section. As the firefight raged, firepower and numerical superiority of the enemy became apparent as members of the First Scout Ranger Company incurred casualties.*

*After two hours of continuous fire fight, CAPTAIN SOBEJANA was hit in the lower arm as he went for the radio of a fallen soldier. Bravely holding his ground, he sustained a second bullet wound that almost severed his right arm. Still, he controlled all fire directions to best defend their position and repulse the encircling enemy. Though in pain and with a shattered rifle after it was hit by an enemy fire, he never lost composure and continued leading his men. He even maneuvered around, exposing himself to enemy*

*fire to direct the encounter. After almost four hours of intense fighting, reinforcements from the Task Group Panther and the 4th Scout Ranger Company arrived to secure the area and evacuate the wounded. Report Placed the enemy casualties at 30 killed and unconfirmed number of wounded.*

*By this gallantry, CAPTAIN SOBEJANA distinguished himself in combat, in keeping with the finest traditions of the Filipino soldiery.”, quoting the citation in the Medal of Valor he received in 1996, which is the highest combat award given by the military and which has been granted to only 41 soldiers since 1935;*

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana has served as the Commander of Joint – Task Force - Sulu wherein he advanced for the establishment of peace and tranquility along with the enhancement of the process of integration, reconciliation, and conflict resolution in the Sulu archipelago;

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana was installed as Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry “Kampilan” Division, Philippine Army on 26 May 2018 during the Change of Command ceremony held at Camp Siongo, Awang, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao;

**WHEREAS**, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana has been instrumental in the massive efforts of both the government and the Bangsamoro people in bringing about peace and order in Mindanao;

**WHEREAS**, on 28 June 2019, M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana is the new Commander of the Armed Forces’ Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) rising to the rank of Lieutenant General;

**WHEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby Resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, to commend M/Gen Cirilito E. Sobejana for his unwavering support in the peace process and commitment in bringing peace in the Bangsamoro homeland;

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that copy of this Resolution will be forwarded to the Offices of the Senate President of the Philippines, Speaker of the House Representatives, and to the Interim Chief Minister.

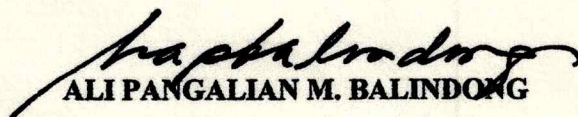
Adapted 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2019 at Cotabato City, Philippines.

Adopted, June 26, 2019.

Certified Correct:

  
**RABY B. ANGKAL**  
Secretary General

Attested:

  
**ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG**

Speaker