



SECOND REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 88

**RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS
POSSIBLE THE AUGUST 24, 2020 TWIN BOMBINGS IN
DOWNTOWN JOLO, SULU, AND URGING THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE DAY TO PROVIDE
IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS AND
THEIR FAMILIES**

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2020, two powerful explosions ripped through heavily populated areas near the town plaza in a village called Walled City in downtown Jolo, Sulu, killing at least 14 people, and injuring at least 78 others, including government troops;

WHEREAS, initial police and military reports said that at least five soldiers and four civilians were killed instantly in the first blast, which occurred as soldiers were assisting local municipal officials who were carrying out COVID-19-related humanitarian efforts;

WHEREAS, as police were cordoning off the site, a second blast hit in front of the first blast site, killing one more person instantly and injuring several others;

WHEREAS, in a statement, Philippine Police Chief Gen. Archie Francisco Gamboa said he ordered Police Regional Office of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (PRO BAR) to secure the area, expedite the investigations into the deadly incidents, adding that all perpetrators should be held accountable for these crimes;

WHEREAS, in the wake of the blasts, government forces and officials acted decisively, including the mayor of Jolo, who issued a lockdown order after the explosions, and the Philippine Coast Guard in Southern Mindanao Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan and Zamboanga which was placed on high alert after the two blasts;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Parliament condoles with the bereaved families and loved ones of those slain in the bombings, as well as expresses its deep gratitude for the services of the soldiers who were killed in the line of duty and those who suffered injuries from the explosions;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Parliament urges all law enforcement agencies to conduct the most thorough investigation into these atrocities in order to solve these brutal and senseless crimes with the utmost urgency, and to bring the perpetrators of this heinous act to the bar of justice so they may be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, sending the message that the Bangsamoro will not stand for this culture of impunity not now, and not ever;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Parliament believes that the government must act swiftly when the citizens are sorely burdened by overlapping suffering brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the loss of life and the injuries caused by these violent crimes.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, to condemn in the strongest terms possible the August 24, 2020 twin bombings in downtown Jolo, Sulu, and urging the Government of the Day to provide immediate assistance to the families of the slain, and those who were wounded in these attacks.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to forward the foregoing Resolution to the Honorable Chief Minister Ahod Balawag Ebrahim and Honorable Mayor Kerkhar Tan of Jolo, Sulu for information and appropriate consideration.

Adopted, August 27, 2020.

Certified Correct:


PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General

Attested:


ATTY. ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker

/PR289