



THIRD REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 175

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF LATE ATTY. JOSE LUIS MARTIN C. GASCON AS HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE AND HIS ROLE IN THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1996 FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT WITH THE MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (MNLF) AND THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION'S (OIC) PEACE COMMITTEE IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES, AND IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT (MILF) DURING THE 2014 SIGNING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON THE BANGSAMORO (CAB)

WHEREAS, Jose Luis Martin C. Gascon also known as “Chito Gascon” is a Filipino lawyer, civil organizer, and human-rights activist;

WHEREAS, in 2015, Chito Gascon was appointed by then President Benigno S. Aquino III as the Chair of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines serving a term from 2015-2022. He served as member of the Human Rights Victims’ Claims Board, where he held a rank equivalent to Justice of the Court of Appeals. He was the youngest member to both the 1987 Constitutional Commission and the 8th Philippine Congress where he helped pass landmark legislation with the creation of the Sanggunian Kabataan and Republic Act 7610, a special law providing children protection from abuse;

WHEREAS, Gascon was a panel member of peace negotiations with the National Democratic Front (NDF) between 2001 and 2004. From 2010-2014, he chaired the Government’s Human Rights Monitoring Committee which monitored the peace process within the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law framework;

WHEREAS, aside from his involvement in civil society, Gascon was active in the reconciliation efforts with insurgent groups. He was a member of Technical Working Group on Power Sharing with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), an alternate panel member in the peace talks with the MILF. Gascon was also a member of AdHoc High-Level Working group for the Tripartite Review of the 1996 Final Peace Agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC’s) Peace Committee for Southern Philippines;

WHEREAS, on the March 27, 2014, signing of the CAB, Gascon was one of the signatories who sealed the comprehensive agreement as panel consultant of the Government of the Philippines (GPH);

WHEREAS, Gascon graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman in 1988. He also later earned his Bachelor of Laws degree in UP in 1999 and finished a Master of Laws degree at Cambridge in 1997;

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2021 the human rights champion succumbed to COVID-19 at the age of 57;

WHEREAS, his valuable contribution, works and efforts will forever be cherished, appreciated and remain to be perpetual in the hearts and minds of his fellow human rights advocates:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it


RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, to recognize the invaluable contribution of late Atty. Jose Luis Martin C. Gascon as human rights advocate and his role in the review of the implementation of the 1996 final peace agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) Peace Committee in Southern Philippines, and in the peace negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) during the 2014 signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB).

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to present this Resolution to his bereaved family and to his family in the Commission on Human Rights.

ADOPTED, Rabi ul Awwal 6, 1443/October 13, 2021.



Attested:


ATTY. ALI PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker

Certified Correct:


PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary-General

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