



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY PARLIAMENT
Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City



SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BANGSAMORO AUTONOMY ACT NO. 57

Begun and held in Cotabato City, on Thursday, the 15th day of September 2022.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BANGSAMORO MUJAHIDEEN AND CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE BANGSAMORO MUJAHIDEEN UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE, DEFINING ITS BASIC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority in Parliament assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known and cited as the “*Bangsamoro Mujahideen Under Special Circumstance Act of 2024.*”

SEC. 2. Name and Creation of the Office. – The office to be created under this Act shall be known as the Office of the Bangsamoro *Mujahideen* Under Special Circumstance (OBMUSC).

It shall be placed under the operational supervision and control of the Office of the Chief Minister (OCM) as one of its component divisions.

SEC. 3. Purpose. – The purpose of this Act is to provide financial assistance to the *Mujahideen* of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) who are senior citizens and/or permanently disabled and to establish an OBMUSC.

SEC. 4. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the Bangsamoro Government to protect the interests of its people and ensure that every Bangsamoro be provided with the basic necessities and equal opportunities in life. It is also the declared policy of the Bangsamoro Government to put in place economic mechanisms tailored to the needs of its people.

SEC. 5. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the following terms shall be understood to mean:

- a) “*Meaningful Participation*” – refers to actual combat, logistics, and medical participation.
- b) “*Mujahideen Under Special Circumstance*” – refers to male and female members of MILF and MNLF who are senior citizens and/or persons with permanent partial or total disability.

- c) “*Permanent Partial Disability*” – refers to disabilities that arise due to the complete and permanent loss of the use of any of the following resulting to the disability to work for a limited period of time:
- i. any finger;
 - ii. one arm;
 - iii. one foot;
 - iv. any toe;
 - v. one hand;
 - vi. one leg;
 - vii. one or both ears;
 - viii. hearing of one or both ears;
 - ix. sight of one eye; and
 - x. such other cases as may be determined and approved by the OBMUSC.
- d) “*Permanent Total Disability*” – refers to disabilities that are due to injury or disease causing complete, irreversible, and permanent incapacity that will permanently disable a member to work or to engage in any gainful occupation resulting to loss of income. The following disabilities are deemed total and permanent:
- i. Complete loss of sight for both eyes;
 - ii. Loss of two limbs at or above the ankle or wrists;
 - iii. Permanent complete paralysis of two limbs;
 - iv. Brain injury resulting in incurable imbecility or insanity; and
 - v. Such other cases as may be determined and approved by OBMUSC.
- e) “*Underprivileged*” – refers to Bangsamoro *Mujahideen* who have an annual income of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (PHP 250,000.00).

SEC. 6. *Scope and Qualifications.* – The benefits provided under this Act shall be available to the following:

- a) Senior Citizens from the time of the effectivity of this Act, have meaningfully participated in the struggle for the right to self-determination of the Bangsamoro people between 1969 and 2014 for at least twenty (20) years and are underprivileged; and
- b) Permanently disabled *Mujahideen* who have meaningfully participated in the struggle for the right to self-determination of the Bangsamoro people between 1969 and 2014 for at least twenty (20) years and are underprivileged.

Mujahideen who fall under paragraphs (a) and (b) shall be identified in either of the two insofar as the amount of the cash allowance is concerned.

The benefits herein granted shall be lifetime and are non-transferrable.

SEC. 7. *Benefits and Privileges.* – The *Mujahideen*, under special circumstance, shall be entitled to receive a cash allowance of Seven Thousand Pesos (PHP 7,000.00) per month which shall be released in the following manner:

- a) For the first year of implementation, they shall be entitled to a lump sum amount of Eighty-Four Thousand Pesos (PHP 84,000.00) that represents the cash allowance for the whole year; and
- b) For the succeeding years, the cash allowance shall be released quarterly in a fiscal year.

SEC. 8. *Composition and Organizational Structure.* – The OBMUSC shall be headed by a Director II, and shall be composed of the following:

- a) Processing and Validation Section;
- b) Benefit Availment Section; and
- c) Monitoring Evaluation Section.

SEC. 9. *Appointment.* – The Director II shall be appointed by the Interim Chief Minister for a term of three (3) years without prejudice for reappointment. The reappointment of the Director II shall be on a yearly basis.

SEC. 10. *Powers and Functions.* – The OBMUSC shall perform the following:

- a) Extend assistance, as determined in this Act, to qualified beneficiaries;
- b) Maintain an updated list or register of qualified beneficiaries;
- c) Conduct a mandatory review on the current cost of living adjustment to determine the sufficiency of the herein granted allowance every after three (3) years; and
- d) Perform such other relevant functions as may be provided under the implementing rules of this Act or as may be assigned by the Chief Minister.

SEC. 11. *Appropriation.* – The funds necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the annual appropriations of the Bangsamoro Government.

The amount of Five Hundred Million Pesos (PHP 500,000,000.00) shall be appropriated to support the initial implementation of this Act upon its effectivity. Thereafter, such sums as may be needed for the continued operation of the created office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the Bangsamoro under the OCM.

SEC. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The OCM in coordination with the Committee on Social Services and Development shall create a Technical Working Group (TWG) to formulate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

The created TWG shall coordinate with the Central Committees of the MILF and the MNLF for the list of qualified and validated beneficiaries.

SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act be subsequently declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not so affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.* – All regional laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.


SEC. 15. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of regional circulation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.


ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker

This Act was passed by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority Parliament on *Sha'ban* 16, 1445/February 26, 2024.


PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary-General

Approved:


AHOD B. EBRAHIM
Chief Minister
Date: MARCH 13, 2024

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