

SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 838

17 NOV 2010 10:26

Prepared by the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

**CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND
THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
SOUTH-EAST ASIAN CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES AS A CATEGORY 2 CENTRE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
UNESCO**

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 21, of the Constitution states that, "No treaty or international agreement shall be valid and effective unless concurred in by at least two-thirds of all the members of the Senate";

WHEREAS, the 35th UNESCO General Conference held in October 2009 approved the establishment of the Philippines-SEA-CLLSD as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (35 C/20 Part XIII), as recommended by the Executive Board in its 182nd Session (182 EX/Decision 20-1);

WHEREAS, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (the Government) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Concerning the Establishment of a South-East Asian Center for Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development (SEA-CLLSD as the Centre) in the Republic of the Philippines as a Category 2 Centre under the Auspices of UNESCO was signed on 13 November 2009;

WHEREAS, the Agreement defines the terms and conditions governing the collaboration between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines regarding the SEA-CLLSD and also the rights and obligations of the parties;

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the Centre shall be a service provider, standard setter, and a research and resource management centre in the field of lifelong learning for sustainable development in the South-East Asian subregion;

WHEREAS, the functions of the SEA-CLLSD under the Agreement are as follows:

- Undertake capacity building and training to re-orient existing education programs towards sustainable development;
- Conduct research to improve the quality of basic education;
- Carry out advocacy and social mobilization to develop public awareness and

understanding of the important role of education as a tool to promote sustainable development;

WHEREAS, Article 4 of the Agreement provides that the Government shall ensure that the Centre enjoys within its territory the functional autonomy necessary for the execution of its activities and the legal capacity to contract, to institute legal proceedings, and to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property;

WHEREAS, under Article 9 of the Agreement, the Government undertakes to contribute to the Center the amount of Fifty Million Pesos (PhP50,000,000.00) plus Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP2,500,000.00) annually for its operation and administrative expenses, which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) as approved by Congress;

WHEREAS, Article 14 of the Agreement provides that it shall enter into force when the Contracting Parties have informed each other in writing that all the formalities required to that effect by the domestic law of the Republic of the Philippines and by UNESCO's internal regulations have been completed. The date of receipt of the last notification shall be deemed to be the date of entry into force of the Agreement;

WHEREAS, the President of the Philippines ratified the Agreement on 16 August 2012 and has accordingly submitted it to the Senate for concurrence in accordance with the Constitution;

WHEREAS, in the hearing conducted by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on 12 October 2012, the following government agencies endorsed the concurrence in the ratification of the *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Concerning the Establishment of a South-East Asian Center for Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development in the Republic of the Philippines as a Category 2 Centre under the Auspices of UNESCO*:

1. Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA);
2. Department of Justice (DOJ);
3. Department of Finance (DOF);
4. Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
5. Department of Education (DEPED);
6. Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
7. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
8. Commission on Higher Education (CHED); and
9. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Senate of the Philippines concur, as it hereby concurs, in the ratification of the *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Concerning the Establishment of a South-East Asian Center for Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development in the Republic of the Philippines as a Category 2 Centre under the Auspices of UNESCO*.


LOREN LEGARDA
Chair