

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }
OF THE PHILIPPINES }
Second Regular Session }

8 SEP -8 P5:21

SENATE

RECEIVED BY

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.: 100

Submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations
on SEP 08 2008.

Re: P.S. Res. No. 620, prepared by the Committee.

Recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Defensor Santiago.

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to which was referred the
Charter, entitled:

**“CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN
NATIONS (ASEAN)”**

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate
with the recommendation that Proposed Senate Resolution No. 620,
prepared by the Committee, entitled:

**“RESOLUTION
CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE CHARTER
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS
(ASEAN)”**

be approved without amendment.

Respectfully submitted:

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
Chair


MAR ROXAS *may ask clarifications.*
Vice-Chair

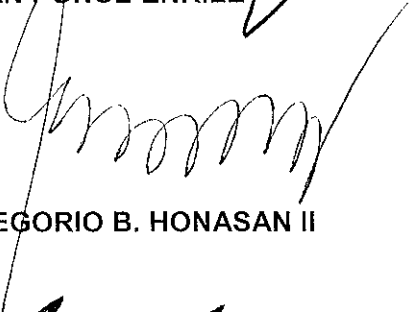
Members:

EDGARDO J. ANGARA

JOKER P. ARROYO


JUAN PONCE ENRILE



RICHARD "DICK" J. GORDON


GREGORIO B. HONASAN II


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID


RAMON "BONG" REVILLA JR.


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI


RODOLFO G. BIAZON


LOREN LEGARDA

*may ask clarifications
on Hyattsville position*

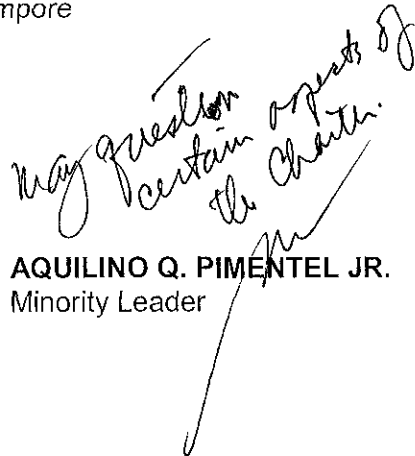
M.A. MADRIGAL

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

Ex-Officio Members:


JINGCOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
President Pro-Tempore


FRANCIS M. PANGILINAN
Majority Leader


MAY QUESTION CERTAIN ASPECTS OF
THE CHARTER.
AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.
Minority Leader

MANNY VILLAR
President
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

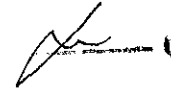
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }
OF THE PHILIPPINES }
Second Regular Session }

8 SEP -8 95

SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 620

RECEIVED BY



Prepared by the Committee on Foreign Relations

**“RESOLUTION
CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)”**

WHEREAS, the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations was signed on 20 November 2007 in Singapore;

WHEREAS, the ASEAN Charter aims to set principles and purposes to be adhered to by ASEAN Member States in order to: maintain and enhance peace, security and stability and further strengthen peace-oriented values in the region; enhance regional resilience by promoting greater political, security, economic and socio-cultural cooperation; preserve Southeast Asia as a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone and free of all other weapons of mass destruction; create a stable, highly competitive single market and production base; strengthen democracy, enhance good governance and the rule of law, and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms with due regard to the rights and responsibilities of the member states ; respond effectively, in accordance with the principle of comprehensive security, to all forms of threats, transnational crimes and transboundary challenges; promote sustainable development to ensure protection of the region’s environment, the sustainability of its natural resources, the preservation of its cultural heritage and the high quality of life of its peoples; promote an ASEAN identity through the fostering of greater awareness of the diverse culture and heritage of the region; and maintain the centrality and proactive role of ASEAN as the primary driving force in its relations and cooperation with its external partners in a regional architecture that it is open, transparent and inclusive;

WHEREAS, the ASEAN Charter confers legal personality on ASEAN as an inter-governmental organization and provides ASEAN such immunities and privileges as may be necessary for the fulfillment of its purpose in the territories of the Member States;

WHEREAS, ASEAN Charter, Chapter 13, Article 47, provides that the Charter shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General of ASEAN;

WHEREAS, in the hearing conducted by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on 28 August 2008 concerned agencies, such as the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of National Defense (DND), Department of Justice (DOJ),

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Agriculture (DA), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCO), representatives from the academe and non-government organizations were present in the hearing;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Human Rights strongly welcomes the creation of a Human Rights body in the Charter. The fact that the Philippine representatives were able to convince the more reluctant and less human rights-oriented governments to agree to this principle and in writing is an achievement;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution, Article 7, Section 21, "*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*";

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Senate of the Philippines concur as it hereby concurs in the ratification of the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
Chair