

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11054, July 27, 2018]

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIC LAW FOR THE
BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734,
ENTITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN ORGANIC ACT FOR THE
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO," AS AMENDED
BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO
STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO"**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

PREAMBLE

Imploring the aid of Almighty God, in recognition of the aspirations of the Bangsamoro people and other inhabitants in the autonomous region in Muslim Mindanao to establish an enduring peace on the basis of justice, balanced society and asserting their right to conserve and develop their patrimony, reflective of their system of life as prescribed by their faith, in harmony with their customary laws, cultures and traditions, within the framework of the Constitution and the national sovereignty as well as territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines, and the accepted principles of human rights, liberty, justice, democracy, and the norms and standards of international law. and affirming their distinct historical identity and birthright, to their ancestral homeland and their right to chart their political, future through a democratic process that will secure their identity and posterity, and allow genuine and meaningful self-governance, the Filipino people, by the act of the Congress of the Philippines, do hereby ordain and promulgate this Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

ARTICLE I

NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This law shall be known as the "*Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.*"

SEC. 2. *Nome.* — The political entity under this Organic Law shall be known as the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, hereinafter referred to as the "*Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.*"

SEC. 3. *Purpose.* - The purpose of this Organic Law is to establish a political entity provide for its basic structure of government in recognition of the justness and legitimacy of the cause of the Bangsamoro people and the aspirations of Muslim Filipinos and all indigenous cultural communities in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao to secure their identity and posterity, allowing for

meaningful self-governance within the framework of the Constitution and the national sovereignty as well as territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines.

ARTICLE II

BANGSAMORO IDENTITY

SEC. 1. *Bangsamoro People*. - Those who, at the advent of the Spanish colonization, were considered natives or original inhabitants of Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago and its adjacent islands, whether of mixed or full blood shall have the right to identify themselves, their spouses and descendants, as Bangsamoro.

SEC. 2. *Bangsamoro Symbol*. - The Bangsamoro Parliament, hereinafter referred to as the "*Parliament*", shall adopt the official flag, emblem, and hymn of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. The flag of the Republic of the Philippines shall always be displayed alongside the Bangsamoro flag. Whenever the Bangsamoro hymn is sung it shall always be preceded by the singing of the Philippines National Anthem.

ARTICLE III

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

SEC. 1. *Territorial Jurisdiction*. - Territorial jurisdiction is the land mass as well as the waters over which the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region has jurisdiction, which shall be an integral, indivisible, and inseparable part of the national territory of the Republic of the Philippines as defined by the Constitution and existing laws.

SEC. 2. *Composition*. - The territorial jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, subject to the plebiscite as provided in Section 3, Article XV of this Organic Law, shall be composed of:

(a) The present geographical area known as the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao created under Republic Act No. 6734, as amended by Republic Act No. 9054, which shall subsist as such until this Organic Law is ratified through a plebiscite:

(b) The municipalities of Baloi, Mtinai, Nummngan, Pantar, Tagoloan, and Tangkal in the Province of Lanao del Norte that voted for inclusion in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao during the 2001 plebiscite:

(c) The following thirty-nine (39) *barangays* in the municipalities of Aleosan, Carmen, Kabacan, Midsayap, Pigkawayan, and Pikit in the Province of North Cotabato that voted for inclusion in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao during the 2001 plebiscite:

(1) Dunguan, Lower Mioesding, and Tapodoc in the Municipality of Aleosan. (3);

(2) Manarapan and Nasapian in the Municipality of Carmen (2);

(3) Nanga-an, Simbuhay, and Sanggadong in the Municipality of Kabacan (3);

(4) Damatulan, Kadigasan, Kapinpilan, Kadarangan, Central Labas, Malingao, Mudseng, Nabalawag, Olandang, Sambulawan, and Tugal in the Municipality of Midsayap (12);

(5) Lower Baguer, Balacayon, Buricain, Datu Binasing, Kadingilan, Matilac, Patot, and Lower Pangangkalan in the Municipality of Pigkawayan (8); and

(6) Bagoinged, Balatican, S. Balong, S. Balongis, Batulawan, Buliok, Gokotan, Kabasalan, Lagunde, Macabual, and Macasandeg in the Municipality of Pikit (11);

(d) The City of Cotabato;

(e) The City of Isabela in the Province of Basilan; and

(f) All other contiguous areas where a resolution of the local government unit or a petition of at least ten percent (10%) of the registered voters in the area seeks for their inclusion at least two (2) months prior to the conduct of the ratification of this Organic Law.

The establishment of the territorial jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall take effect upon ratification of this Organic Law by majority of the votes cast in the abovementioned territorial jurisdiction in a plebiscite conducted for the purpose: *Provided, That* in all cases, the political units directly affected shall vote favorably in the plebiscite, as provided in Section 3, Article XV of this Organic Law.

SEC. 3. *Inland Waters.* - All inland waters such as lakes, rivers, river systems, and streams within its territorial jurisdiction shall form part of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region inland waters. The preservation and management of the inland waters shall be under the Bangsamoro Government as provided for Section 22, Article XIII of this Organic Law.

SEC. 4. *Bangsamoro Municipal and Regional Waters.* -The municipal and regional waters of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall extend up to fifteen (15) kilometers and nineteen (19) kilometers, respectively, from the low-water mark of the coasts that are part of the Bangsamoro territorial jurisdiction.

Where a constituent local government unit of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region and an adjoining local government unit are so situated on opposite shores such that there is thirty (30) kilometers of waters or less between them, a line equally distant from the opposite shores shall be drawn to demarcate the Bangsamoro waters and the municipal waters of the adjoining local government unit.

In case the constituent local government unit of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region and an adjoining local government unit are so situated on opposite shores that there is more than thirty (30) kilometers but less than thirty-four (34) kilometers of waters between them, a line shall be drawn at the edge of the fifteen-kilometer municipal waters of the adjoining local government unit to demarcate it from the Bangsamoro waters.

SEC. 5. *Constituent Units.* - The constituent units of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region are the provinces, cities, municipalities, barangays, and geographical areas within its territorial jurisdiction.

ARTICLE IV

GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES

SEC. 1. *Territorial Integrity and Allegiance.* - The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region is an integral, indivisible, and inseparable part of the territory of the Republic of the

Philippines. The Bangsamoro people shall uphold the Constitution as the fundamental law of the land and unequivocally owe allegiance and fidelity to the Republic of the Philippines.

SEC. 2. *Self-Governance*. - In the exercise of its right to self-governance, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region is free to pursue its political, economic, social, and cultural development as provided for in this Organic Law.

SEC. 3. *Democratic Political System*. - The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall have a democratic political system that allows its people to freely participate in the political processes within its territorial jurisdiction. The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall have a parliamentary form of government.

SEC. 4. *Electoral System*. — The Bangsamoro Government shall adopt an electoral system which, shall be consistent with national election laws, allow democratic participation, encourage the formation of genuinely principled political parties, and ensure accountability.

SEC. 5- *Civilian- Government*. - Governance in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall be the responsibility of the duly elected civilian government. Civilian authority is, at all times, supreme over the military.

SEC. 6. *Promotion of Unity*. - The Bangsamoro Government, shall promote unity, peace, justice, and goodwill among all peoples, as well as encourage a just and peaceful settlement of disputes.

SEC. 7. *Social Justice*. - The Bangsamoro Government shall ensure every Filipino citizen in its territorial jurisdiction the provision of the basic necessities and equal opportunities in life. Social justice shall be promoted in all aspects of life and phases of development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region.

SEC. 8. *International Treaties and Agreements*. - The Bangsamoro Government, shall respect and adhere to all international treaties and agreements binding upon the National Government.

SEC. 9. *Rights of Non-Moro Indigenous Peoples*. - The Bangsamoro Government shall recognize and promote the rights of non-Moro indigenous peoples within the framework of the Constitution and national laws.

SEC. 10. *Freedom of Choice*. - The freedom of choice of all peoples within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall be respected. Indigenous peoples shall have the freedom to retain their distinct indigenous and ethnic identity in addition to their Bangsamoro political identity. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of identity, religion, and ethnicity.

ARTICLE V

POWERS OF GOVERNMENT

SEC. 1. *Powers of the National Government*. -All powers, functions, and responsibilities not granted by the Constitution or by national law to the Bangsamoro Government shall be vested in the National Government.

SEC. 2. *Powers of the Bangsamoro Government.* -Subject to Section 20, Article X of the Constitution and this Organic Law, the Bangsamoro Government shall exercise its authority over the following matters without prejudice to the general supervision of the President of the Republic of the Philippines:

- (a) Administration of justice;
- (b) Administrative organization;
- (c) Agriculture, livestock, and food security;
- (d) Ancestral domain and natural resources;
- (e) Barter trade and countertrade;
- (f) Budgeting;
- (g) Business name registration;
- (h) Cadastral land survey;
- (i) Civil service;
- (j) Classification of public lands;
- (k) Cooperatives and social entrepreneurship;
- (l) Creation, division, merger, abolition or alteration of boundaries of municipalities and barangays;
- (m) Creation of government-owned or controlled corporations and pioneer firms;
- (n) Creation of sources of revenues;
- (o) Cultural exchange, and economic and technical cooperation;
- (p) Culture and language;
- (q) Customary Laws;
- (r) Development programs and laws for women, labor, the youth, the elderly, the differently-abled, and indigenous peoples;
- (s) Disaster risk reduction and management;
- (t) Ecological solid waste management and pollution control;
- (u) Economic zones, industrial centers, and free ports;
- (v) Education and skills training;
- (w) Eminent domain;
- (x) Environment, parks, forest management, wildlife, and nature reserves conservation;
- (y) Fishery, marine, and aquatic resources;
- (z) Grants and donations;