

Republic of the Philippines
Volunteer Individuals for Peace
1st NATIONAL PEACE CONVENTION
Philippine International Convention Center
Manila

Resolution No. 01
Series of 2023

**RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY CALLING FOR HIS EXCELLENCY
PRESIDENT FERDINAND “BONGBONG” R. MARCOS, JR. TO
DECLARE THROUGH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION
JANUARY 24 AS NATIONAL PEACE DAY, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS “TRUCE DAY”, FURTHER DECLARING IT AS SPECIAL
WORKING HOLIDAY**

WHEREAS, the Volunteer Individuals for Peace (VIP), a local peace organization, and its international peace partner Heavenly World Peace Restoration of Light (HWPL), through the 1st National Peace Convention held this 25 day of January 2023, have unanimously agreed to call on His Excellency President Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos, Jr., to declare a National Peace Day otherwise known as “Truce Day” through Presidential Proclamation;

WHEREAS, in 2021 there was a call for the issuance of a Presidential Declaration of a National Peace Day that was supported and endorsed by the Commission on Higher Education through CHED Resolution No. 359-2021 or “CHED Endorsement and Recommendation to His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to Declare Through Presidential Proclamation January 24 a Working Holiday being “National Peace Day” yet has remained unacted upon until this day;

WHEREAS, the 1st National Peace Convention is represented by “Sub-groups” that come from the legislative and policy-making sectors, education and youth sectors, media and news sectors, religious, Indigenous Peoples, Muslims, and interfaith sectors, and women sector;

WHEREAS, these sub-groups are with one accord in expressing their support to HWPL's Declaration of Peace and Cessation of Wars (DPCW) and acknowledge that by promoting peace, all those that degrade human life such as violence, hostilities, and wars will be eradicated, a peaceful coexistence among Filipinos and peoples of the world will be achieved;

WHEREAS, the Convention is a venue where peace experts, peace advocates, and peace partners from all corners of the country have gathered to establish a roadmap or framework of peace in consonance with the Marcos Administration's overall agenda on national unity;

WHEREAS, the peace framework developed and adopted by the Convention recognizes the role of peace in achieving national unity and sustainable development;

WHEREAS, the peace roadmap or framework is founded and grounded on the concept of PBBM-SD (President BongBong Marcos-Sara Duterte) otherwise known as "**Peace Builds Binds Minds for Sustainable Development**";

WHEREAS, the PBBM-SD shall be the Convention's contribution to further consolidate and undergird the Marcos Administration's "One Nation, One Future" national unity agenda and be the concrete foundation from which peace shall reign in this country;

WHEREAS, the PBBM-SD shall institutionalize peace initiatives that will define the peace roadmap or framework such as the organization of local peace conventions and seminars, creation of local peace clubs, and establishment of peace monuments and peace markers all over the country that will remind the Filipino people of the importance of peace in nation-building;

WHEREAS, the PBBM-SD shall further be sustained through the National Peace Day or "Truce Day", a concrete mechanism wherein on a yearly basis the peace roadmap or framework will be strengthened by a series of activities observed by Filipinos nationwide;

WHEREAS, the Convention also recognizes the special role of the legislative, education, youth, media, women, religious, Indigenous Peoples, and Muslims sectors in the promotion and realization of peace, national unity, and sustainable development;

WHEREAS, the declaration of January 24 as National Peace Day or “Truce Day” will pave the way to the increased consciousness and awakening of the country’s policy-makers, the educators, the youth, the media practitioners, the religious leaders, the Indigenous Peoples, Muslim people and the Filipino women as peacemakers;

WHEREAS, the declaration of a National Peace Day or “Truce Day” will concretely define the Declaration of Principles and State Policies in Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution that states:

“Section 2. The Philippines renounces war as an instrument of national policy, adopts the generally accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land and adheres to the policy of peace, equality, justice, freedom, cooperation, and amity with all nations.

Section 5. The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy,”

WHEREAS, the Convention strongly believes that peace is a fundamental factor of human life and peaceful environment is critical to every society since it affects all aspects of economic and social development;

WHEREAS, that in the promotion of Peace, environmental care is indispensable. Thus, we uphold the “Harmony with Nature” rather than the “Mastery over Nature” paradigm to minimize and avert the impact of climate change.

WHEREAS, it is also not oblivious to the reality that the world has become increasingly more complex, with new challenges to peace developing on a daily basis, such as terrorism, armed conflict, and political crises;

WHEREAS, the presence of violence and all forms of unpeace that result from greed, differences in ideology, religious views, and political convictions can put the Filipino nation hostage and further affect its growth and development;

WHEREAS, all forms of violence, hostilities, and wars degrade human life, hence a peaceful coexistence among Filipinos will address the entire archipelago by promoting peace through education, legislation, inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogues;

WHEREAS, the Convention recognizes the sincere effort of the government to extend its hand of peace to various armed groups that include the National Democratic Front (NDF), Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) among others;

WHEREAS, the Convention recognizes the lack of a special day where peace that can be celebrated by the Filipino people is officially declared a holiday by the government except for the National Peace Consciousness Month that is commemorated in the month of September;

WHEREAS, the Convention further recognizes the urgency and timeliness of a Presidential Proclamation to declare a National Peace Day or “Truce Day” that will give way for the celebration of peace in the entire archipelago;

WHEREAS, a National Peace Day or “Truce Day”, being a working holiday, would provide for simultaneous celebration and observance of peace through peace-related activities, events, and ceremonies by all instrumentalities and agencies of government, including the private sector and the general public;

WHEREAS, the different “Sub-groups” attending the Convention who are experts in legislative work, education and youth concerns, media relations, religious, Indigenous Peoples, Muslims and interfaith dialogues, and women empowerment are in one voice, mind, and spirit clamoring for the declaration of a National Peace Day or “Truce Day” through Presidential Proclamation;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE 1st NATIONAL PEACE CONVENTION, TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY CALLING FOR HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT FERDINAND “BONGBONG” R. MARCOS TO DECLARE THROUGH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION JANUARY 24 AS NATIONAL PEACE DAY, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “TRUCE DAY”, FURTHER DECLARING IT AS A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY,

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this Resolution be furnished to His Excellency President Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos, Jr.

Adopted.