

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

MANILA DECLARATION OF PEACE AND NATIONAL UNITY

We, the Filipino people coming from the education and youth sectors, the religious, inter-faith, Indigenous Peoples, Muslim, and inter-cultural sectors, the women sector, the media sector, the private sector, the government sector including the legislators and policy-makers, public officials and employees, and the delegates to the 1st National Peace Convention held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) on January 25, 2023 do hereby declare:

1. That we will institutionalize and make permanent our participation and cooperation in peacemaking;
2. That we will extend our solidarity with the Volunteer Individuals for Peace (VIP) and the Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration of Light (HWPL);
3. That we will give our fullest support to the VIP's call for national unity through peace and the HWPL's Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW);
4. That our support, participation, and cooperation in achieving national unity for our country as espoused by His Excellency President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. are essential and paramount;
5. That "peace is as sacred as life, because peace provides the right condition where life could grow, blossom, and prosper";
6. That "peace is not merely the absence of war, oppression and tension, but the presence of love, justice, development, and respect of one's inalienable rights".

7. That “peace education raises our youth as future leaders to become peacemakers as it inculcates the much-needed values the youth must have to effect change for the world's positive transformation”;
8. That we who belong to the education and youth sectors, including those in the higher education, basic education, technical-vocational and skills development, and non-formal education sectors shall institutionalize our active participation and cooperation in peacemaking with the VIP through education as well as aggressively support HWPL’s Declaration of Peace and Cessation of War (DPCW);
9. That we who belong to the legislative and policy-making sectors have agreed to support the DPCW and make ourselves available for peacemaking and enact measures that will strengthen peace in the country;
10. That we who belong to the women sector shall commit to become valuable and able partners of VIP in the promotion of peace and national unity and unanimously support the DPCW;
11. That we who belong to the religious, inter-faith, Indigenous Peoples, Muslim, and intercultural sectors commit ourselves to peacemaking and enlist ourselves as VIP and HWPL peace partners;
12. That we who belong to the media (print, broadcast, tv, social) commit ourselves as VIP peace partners and HWPL advocates;
13. That a National Peace Day or “Truce Day” on January 24 is of urgency and relevance and shall be proclaimed by His Excellency President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr.;
14. That the National Peace Day shall be the mechanism by which every year peace-related activities are observed and celebrated that will define a peace roadmap or framework founded and grounded on the concept of PBBM-SD (President BongBong Marcos-Sara Duterte)

- otherwise known as “**Peace Builds Binds Minds for Sustainable Development**”;
15. That 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;
 16. That the PBBM-SD shall institutionalize peace initiatives that will characterize and describe 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;
 17. 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.
 18. That all peoples shall invest in peace, because “investing in peace is investing for the future”;
 19. That henceforth, we respectfully call on His Excellency President Ferdinand “BongBong” Marcos, Jr. to favorably extend his concurrence and approval to declare through Presidential Proclamation January 24 as National Peace Day otherwise known as “Truce Day” further declaring it as special working holiday.

Signed and adopted this 25th day of January 2023 at the Philippine International Convention Center, Pasay City.