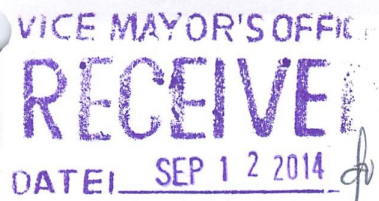




REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC



EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
THIRTEENTH SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD NG ORMOC HELD  
AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SESSION HALL,  
ORMOC CITY HALL BUILDING  
ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

PRESENT:

Hon. Leo Carmelo L. Locsin, Jr.	Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer
Hon. Rolando M. Villasencio,	SP Member, Majority Floor Leader
Hon. Mario M. Rodriguez,	SP Member, Presiding Officer "Pro-Tempore"
Hon. Benjamin S. Pongos, Jr.,	SP Member
Hon. Antonio M. Codilla,	SP Member
Hon. Vincent L. Rama,	SP Member
Hon. Pedro Godiardo P. Ebcas,	SP Member
Hon. Eusebio Gerardo S. Penserga,	SP Member
Hon. John Eulalio Nepomuceno O. Aparis II,	SP Member
Hon. Mariano Y. Corro,	Ex-Officio SP Member
Chapter President, Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc	

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Ruben R. Capahi,	(O.B. – Cebu City), SP Member,
	Asst. Minority Floor Leader

ON LEAVE:

Hon. Tomas R. Serafica,	SP Member, Asst. Majority Floor Leader
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RESOLUTION NO. 2014-158

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HONORABLE CITY MAYOR  
EDWARD C. CODILLA FOR THE CREATION OF A TASK  
FORCE IN PREPARATION FOR ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA  
(AFTA) FULL IMPLEMENTATION AT THE END OF YEAR  
2015.

WHEREAS, a communication was received by the Thirteenth Sangguniang Panlungsod dated August 25, 2014 from the Ormoc City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (OCCI) thru its President, Atty. Nolito M. Quilang, regarding the passage of an unnumbered Board Resolution dated August 23, 2014 entitled: "URGING THE CITY GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE CITY MAYOR OF ORMOC CITY TO CREATING A TASK FORCE FOR AFTA IMPLEMENTATION", and requesting this Sanggunian for the passage of the necessary legislative action in response to the said concern raised by the business community, a copy of the said Board Resolution is attached hereto as Annex "A" and made an integral part hereof;

WHEREAS, the AFTA is the acronym for Asean Free Trade Area which is a trade bloc agreement among the ten-member nation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) of which the Republic of the Philippines is a member, and which aims for the creation of a single market for goods and services among the members thru the liberalization of trade in general, which full implementation and integration is scheduled on December 2015, and which is certainly expected to impact substantially livelihoods and businesses in this City;



WHEREAS, after a recently concluded seminar organized by OCCI in this City entitled "Doing Business in Free Trade Area", wherein a number of resource speakers knowledgeable about the AFTA participated and various stakeholders from the public and private sectors attended, the OCCI came out with the findings that the AFTA full implementation is indeed a valid source for major concern for this City, and that the City Government must therefore come in and play a crucial role in steering planning and implementing activities that will help this City better prepare for AFTA implementation such as capacity building and the institution of programs and mechanisms intended to enhance the competitiveness of the businesses, and this City as a place for doing business;

WHEREAS, although the OCCI Board Resolution expressed special concern on the impact of AFTA on agriculture in this City given that it is primarily agriculture driven with more than half of its total land area devoted to said industry, and a large proportion of its population highly dependent on it, and that agriculture is one of the major sectors generally agreed to be affected extensively by the AFTA, nonetheless, the OCCI concluded that the AFTA will impact in general businesses and livelihoods in the City for the trade agreement's coverage is broad and extensive;

WHEREAS, the OCCI, in the light of its afore-discussed concerns regarding AFTA and of its observations of the absence of any particular official or office in the City Government especially tasked with the initiatives of promoting and inculcating a culture of innovation, helping business, and promoting this City as an ideal place of doing business under a regime of AFTA, urged the City Government thru the Honorable City Mayor for the creation of a Task Force AFTA to be composed of relevant officials of the City Government, to include the chairpersons of the relevant Sanggunian regular committees, the City Agriculturist, the City Planning and Development Coordinator, the City Business Permits and Licensing Officer, the PESO Officer, and private sector representatives from the OCCI and affected industries such as sugar, rice, poultry, among others;

WHEREAS, this august Body, after thorough study and evaluation, agrees with the aforementioned findings and observations of the OCCI that the AFTA full implementation on December 2015 will have a substantial effect on businesses and livelihood of the Ormocanons;

WHEREAS, this august Body further agrees with the OCCI recommendations that the City Government must spearhead and take the lead in finding ways and means and formulating strategies to better prepare this City for the AFTA full implementation in December 2015 thru the creation of a Task Force AFTA taking into consideration the aforementioned recommended composition, and further recommends the following functions for said body, among others: 1) the thorough study of the AFTA and other trade agreements that will affect the City and the engagement of experts and consultants to assist the body in thoroughly studying them; 2) the drawing up of plans and strategies geared towards capitalizing on AFTA for the benefit of the Ormocanons, helping the City better prepare for the AFTA implementation (with emphasis on the sectors expected to be most affected), and in enhancing the competitiveness of the City in terms of attracting investors and businesses to the City; 3) the utilization of national and local government resources and manpower to implement the formulated plans and strategies, including the coordination of the various city departments or offices, and the tapping of non-governmental organizations and private sector, for a more coordinated, comprehensive, and altogether effective approach to the AFTA challenge; and, 4) the recommendation of legislative measures necessary for the achievement of its goals and fulfillment of its mandate;

Res. No. 2014-158

WHEREFORE, on motion of Honorable SP Member Benjamin S. Pongos, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries, severally seconded by Honorable SP Members Mario M. Rodriguez, Antonio M. Codilla, Vincent L. Rama, Pedro Godiardo P. Ebcas and Mariano Y. Corro; be it


RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to pass A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HONORABLE CITY MAYOR EDWARD C. CODILLA FOR THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE IN PREPARATION FOR ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA (AFTA) FULL IMPLEMENTATION AT THE END OF YEAR 2015;

ADOPTED. September 11, 2014.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to furnish copies of this resolution each to His Honor, the City Mayor of Ormoc Edward C. Codilla, the City Administrator, the City Legal Office, the President Ormoc City Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc., Atty. Nolito M. Quilang, the DILG-City Director, Ms. Lucia C. Ong and others offices concerned;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

  
MARIA ANTONIETA G. CO HAT  
OIC - SP Secretary  
(Supervising Administrative Officer)

ATTESTED:

  
LEO CARMELO L. LOCSIN, JR.  
Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer