

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Third Regular Session

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24 DEC -3 P3:23

SENATE

RECEIVED



P.S. Resolution No. 1248

Prepared by the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

**CONCURRING IN THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES AND JAPAN CONCERNING THE
FACILITATION OF RECIPROCAL ACCESS AND COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE
SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF JAPAN**

1 **WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 21 of the Philippine Constitution states that,
2 “No treaty or international agreement shall be valid and effective unless concurred in
3 by at least two-thirds of all the Members of the Senate”;

4 **WHEREAS**, the *Agreement Between the Republic of the Philippines and Japan*
5 *Concerning the Facilitation of Reciprocal Access and Cooperation Between the Armed*
6 *Forces of the Philippines and the Self-Defense Forces of Japan* (“Agreement”) was
7 signed on 8 July 2024 in Manila;

8 **WHEREAS**, the Agreement outlines the provisions on entry and departure,
9 movement, access to facilities and professional practice of the Visiting Force and
10 Civilian Component for the purpose of cooperative activities, as well as the rules
11 governing the jurisdiction over the actions of the Visiting Force and Civilian
12 Components;

13 **WHEREAS**, the Agreement aims to deepen the security and defense
14 cooperation between the Philippines and Japan, as well as enhance the interoperability
15 between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Self-Defense Forces of Japan by

enabling a more in-depth practical military cooperation and exercises between both countries;

WHEREAS, the Agreement will expand the defense cooperation of the Philippines and Japan in the maritime domain amid shared security challenges;

WHEREAS, ratifying the Agreement further affirms the strategic partnership between the two countries and their mutual goal to enhance contribution to regional and international peace, security, and stability;

WHEREAS, the President of the Philippines ratified the Agreement on 5 November 2024 and has submitted it to the Senate for concurrence, in accordance with the Constitution of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, in the hearing conducted by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on 25 November 2024, the following government agencies endorsed the concurrence in the ratification of the Agreement:

1. Department of Foreign Affairs;
2. Department of National Defense;
3. Armed Forces of the Philippines;
4. Department of Justice;
5. Department of Finance;
6. Presidential Commission on Visiting Forces;
7. Armed Forces of the Philippines;
8. Bureau of Customs; and
9. Professional Regulation Commission;

Now, therefore, be it

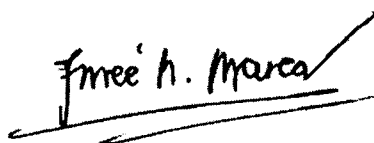
RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Philippines concur in the ratification of the *Agreement Between the Republic of the Philippines and Japan Concerning the Facilitation of Reciprocal Access and Cooperation Between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Self-Defense Forces of Japan.*

1 **RESOLVED, further,** That well-delineated provisions on custody of members
2 of the Visiting Force or Civilian Component will be set forth in the implementing
3 agreement.

4 **RESOLVED, furthermore,** That the Department of National Defense
5 committed to further clarify the present provisions on jurisdiction in the implementing
6 agreement.

7 **RESOLVED, finally,** That the President of the Philippines may, with the
8 concurrence of the Senate, withdraw from the Agreement.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Imee R. Marcos", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is slanted upwards to the right.

IMEE R. MARCOS