

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **11423**



Introduced by Honorable Ma. Alana Samantha Taliño Santos

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINES' COMMITMENT TO
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 AND
STRENGTHENING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WOMEN, PEACE, AND
SECURITY AGENDA IN THE PHILIPPINES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines has established a significant record in advancing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. In 2010, the Philippines adopted its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP-WPS), making it the first country in Asia to formulate and adopt a national action plan pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) No. 1325 (2000).¹ The country is now implementing its fourth-generation NAP-WPS, covering the period 2023–2033, which provides for strengthened collaboration between government and civil society, implementation at national and local levels, attention to emerging peace and security concerns, and a monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning framework.²

The Philippine experience demonstrates that women are not merely among those affected by armed conflict. They have served as negotiators, mediators, community peacebuilders, monitors, humanitarian actors, human rights defenders, and leaders in conflict prevention and post-conflict recovery. The country's peace processes provide concrete examples of Women's substantive participation. In the negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, women served on the Government negotiating panel and were among the signatories to the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro. Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, who served as chief negotiator of the Government of the Philippines, became the first woman to lead a government negotiating panel in the signing of a major peace accord.³

¹ United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), *Women, Peace and Security in the Philippines* (2025), noting that the Philippines adopted its inaugural NAP-WPS in 2010 and became the first country in Asia to achieve this. See also Republic of the Philippines, *Statement at the United Nations High-Level Forum on the Culture of Peace*, noting that the Philippine NAP-WPS was formulated and adopted in 2010.

² Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), "PH celebrates 30 years of Filipino women in uniformed service, launches National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for the next 10 years," identifying the 2023–2033 NAP-WPS as the fourth-generation Philippine NAP-WPS.

³ UN Women, *Women, Peace and Security in the Philippines* (2025), describing Women's participation in the Government-Moro Islamic Liberation Front peace process and the role of Miriam Coronel-Ferrer.

The existing WPS framework, however, remains distributed among executive issuances, national plans, administrative mechanisms, and existing laws. Executive Order No. 865, series of 2010, created the National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSCWPS) to spearhead implementation of the NAP-WPS and expressly provided for partnership with civil society organizations, particularly women and peace groups, in implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.⁴ Subsequent policies have integrated WPS programs into government planning and Gender and Development (GAD) mechanisms, while the current NAP-WPS provides a longer-term policy framework through 2033.⁵

This measure therefore seeks to establish a durable statutory framework for the WPS agenda while preserving and strengthening existing institutions and programs. It seeks to ensure continuity across changes in presidential administrations, strengthen inter-agency coordination, provide for sustained and transparent financing, institutionalize civil society participation, and establish mechanisms for legislative oversight and public accountability.

The proposed Act is anchored upon the Constitution, existing Philippine statutes, and the country's international commitments.

First, the Constitution recognizes the role of women in nation-building and guarantees equality before the law. Article II, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State recognizes the role of women in nation-building and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men. Article XIII, Section 14 further directs the State to protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions and facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation.⁶ The Constitution likewise recognizes the right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making.⁷

Second, Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta of Women,” already provides a statutory foundation for Women’s participation in peace and security. Section 11 requires measures to accelerate Women’s participation and equitable representation in decision-making and policy-making processes. Section 29 specifically directs that the peace process take into account Women’s participation in discussions and decision-making, including membership in peace panels; Women’s participation in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of rehabilitation and rebuilding in conflict-affected areas; the protection of civilians with particular attention to women and girls; and the recognition and support of Women’s roles in conflict prevention, management, resolution, and peacemaking.⁸ The proposed measure builds upon, rather than displaces, these existing statutory mandates.

⁴ Executive Order No. 865, s. 2010, “Creation of a National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSCWPS) to Implement UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 and Providing Funds Thereof,” secs. 1 and 4.

⁵ Philippine Commission on Women, PCW-OPAP Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2014-01, providing for the integration of WPS programs, activities and projects into annual GAD plans and budgets and corresponding accomplishment reports.

⁶ CONST. (1987), art. II, sec. 14; art. XIII, sec. 14.

⁷ CONST. (1987), art. XIII, secs. 15–16, particularly the State's recognition of the role of independent people's organizations and the right to effective and reasonable participation in social, political, and economic decision-making.

⁸ Republic Act No. 9710 (2009), otherwise known as the “Magna Carta of Women,” secs. 11 and 29.

Third, the measure gives domestic institutional effect to the Women, Peace and Security framework established by the United Nations Security Council. UNSCR No. 1325 (2000) recognizes the differential impact of armed conflict on women and girls and calls for Women's full participation in conflict prevention, peace processes, peacebuilding, and post-conflict reconstruction. It has been followed by nine additional WPS resolutions: UNSCR Nos. 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019), and 2493 (2019).⁹ Collectively, these resolutions address Women's participation and leadership, protection from conflict-related sexual violence, prevention, accountability, and gender-responsive approaches to peace and security.

The Philippines is also a State Party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), having ratified the Convention in 1981. CEDAW requires States Parties to take appropriate legislative and other measures to eliminate discrimination against women and to ensure Women's effective participation in public and political life.¹⁰ The proposed Act accordingly provides a domestic institutional framework consistent with the country's existing obligations under international human rights law.

Fourth, the measure incorporates the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda. UNSCR No. 2250 (2015) recognizes young people as important actors in preventing and resolving conflict and sustaining peace, and identifies participation, protection, prevention, partnerships, and disengagement and reintegration as principal areas for action. UNSCR Nos. 2419 (2018) and 2535 (2020) subsequently strengthened the call for meaningful youth participation and representation in conflict prevention, peace processes, peacebuilding, and decision-making.¹¹ The Philippines has demonstrated its commitment to the YPS agenda. On August 30, 2022, the Philippines launched its National Action Plan on Youth, Peace and Security, covering the period 2023–2033, becoming the first country in Asia and the fourth country globally to develop and adopt a national action plan on YPS. The proposed framework therefore recognizes young women, in particular, as participants and leaders in peacebuilding and conflict prevention rather than solely as beneficiaries of protection programs.

Fifth, the measure respects the constitutional and statutory framework governing the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the "Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao," recognizes meaningful self-governance within the framework of the Constitution and national sovereignty and territorial integrity. It expressly provides for Women's participation in the Bangsamoro Government, including representation in decision-making and policy-determining bodies, and requires the Bangsamoro Government to uphold and protect the fundamental rights of women.¹² The proposed Act shall therefore be implemented in a

⁹ United Nations, Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security: S/RES/1325 (2000), S/RES/1820 (2008), S/RES/1888 (2009), S/RES/1889 (2009), S/RES/1960 (2010), S/RES/2106 (2013), S/RES/2122 (2013), S/RES/2242 (2015), S/RES/2467 (2019), and S/RES/2493 (2019).

¹⁰ Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), arts. 2, 3 and 7. The Philippines signed CEDAW on July 15, 1980 and ratified it on August 5, 1981.

¹¹ U.N. Security Council, S.C. Res. 2250, Sections 1–4, U.N. Doc. S/RES/2250 (Dec. 9, 2015); U.N. Security Council, S.C. Res. 2419, Sections 1–2, U.N. Doc. S/RES/2419 (June 6, 2018); U.N. Security Council, S.C. Res. 2535, U.N. Doc. S/RES/2535 (July 14, 2020). *See also* United Nations, Youth, Peace and Security, United Nations Youth Office describing young people as essential partners and leaders in preventing conflict, building peace, and sustaining peaceful and inclusive societies.

¹² Republic Act No. 11054, Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Sec. 11–12, art. IV, and Sec. 5, art. VI, 2018 (providing for women's participation in the Bangsamoro Government).

manner consistent with the powers, functions, and autonomy of the Bangsamoro Government and shall support, rather than supplant, the Bangsamoro's own regional action planning on WPS.

The statutory framework is likewise consistent with the country's broader climate and disaster-risk governance architecture. Republic Act No. 9729, otherwise known as the “Climate Change Act of 2009,” recognizes the particular vulnerability of poor communities, women, and children to climate-related impacts and provides for participation by national and local governments, civil society, local communities, and other stakeholders.¹³ Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the “Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010,” requires gender-responsive disaster-risk measures, recognizes the participation of civil society and communities, and expressly calls for the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into peace processes and conflict-resolution approaches.¹⁴ These existing mandates provide a legal basis for integrating WPS considerations into climate, disaster-risk reduction, humanitarian, and community-resilience policies.

The measure further recognizes the importance of safeguarding persons and organizations engaged in lawful peacebuilding and human rights work. Such protection shall be implemented consistently with the Constitution, due process, freedom of expression and association, and applicable laws. The Supreme Court has recognized that red-tagging, vilification, labeling, and guilt by association may, depending on the circumstances and evidence, constitute threats to a person's life, liberty, or security for purposes of the writ of amparo.¹⁵ The proposed framework would accordingly establish appropriate institutional safeguards, documentation and referral mechanisms, and accountability procedures for threats or reprisals against lawful peacebuilding activities, without restricting legitimate law-enforcement or national-security functions undertaken in accordance with law.

The measure also seeks to institutionalize the National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security as a statutory, inter-agency mechanism, while retaining meaningful participation by civil society and other relevant stakeholders. This builds upon Executive Order No. 865, which already directs the NSCWPS to work in partnership with civil society organizations in implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the NAP-WPS.¹⁶ A statutory framework would provide greater continuity and clarify the respective responsibilities of national government agencies, local government units, the BARMM, civil society organizations, Women's organizations, youth organizations, and other relevant stakeholders.

Finally, the measure provides for sustainable and coordinated financing of Women, Peace and Security initiatives through existing government budgeting and financing mechanisms. Given the intersectional nature of the WPS agenda, its implementation may be supported through existing government programs, appropriations, and financing mechanisms, including, but not

¹³ Republic Act No. 9729, Climate Change Act of 2009, Sec. 2, 3, 4, 13, Republic of the Philippines (2009); *See also* Philippine Commission on Women, Republic Act No. 9729: Climate Change Act of 2009.

¹⁴ Republic Act No. 10121, Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, Sec. 9–11, 14.

¹⁵ *Deduro v. Vinoya*, 943 Phil. 498 (2023), [Per J. Zalameda, *En Banc*]. This case held that red-tagging, vilification, labeling, and guilt by association constitute threats to a person's right to life, liberty, or security under the Rule on the Writ of Amparo and may, depending on the circumstances and evidence, justify issuance of the writ.

¹⁶ Executive Order No. 865, s. 2010, Creation of a National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSCWPS) to Implement UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 and Providing Funds Thereof (March 1, 2010).

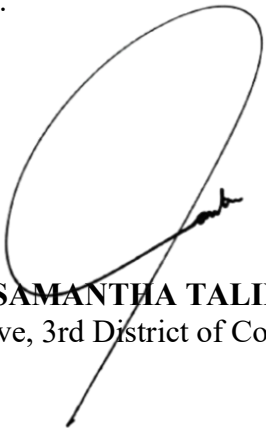
limited to, GAD programs, activities, and projects; disaster risk reduction and management programs, activities, and appropriations; Peace and Order and Public Safety plans and related appropriations; climate change adaptation and mitigation programs and financing mechanisms; humanitarian action; peacebuilding and conflict prevention; recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction; and other relevant programs and appropriations.

The measure seeks to ensure that WPS priorities are appropriately integrated into the existing plans, programs, activities, and budgets of implementing agencies and local government units, consistent with their respective mandates and subject to existing budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

The proposed Women, Peace and Security Act thus seeks to consolidate and strengthen existing constitutional, statutory, administrative, and international commitments into a coherent national framework. It provides for institutional continuity, meaningful participation, protection, localization, youth engagement, civil society partnership, climate and disaster-risk integration, financing, monitoring, and legislative oversight.

The objective is to ensure that Women's participation in peace and security is treated as a continuing component of national governance and peacebuilding policy; that young women and men are recognized as partners in preventing and resolving conflict; that peacebuilding organizations and communities may participate safely and meaningfully in public processes; and that WPS commitments are implemented through sustained institutions, measurable programs, and accountable public financing.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. **Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the “Women, Peace, and Security Act.”

Section 2. **Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

The State recognizes that lasting peace, stability, and human security cannot be achieved without the full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership of women in the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, transitional justice, relief, recovery, and reconstruction processes.

Pursuant to Article II, Section 14 and Article XIII, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution, the State shall uphold the fundamental equality of women and men before the law and recognize and value the role of women in nation-building. Consistent with the State’s obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) No. 1325 and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, and UNSCR Nos. 2250, 2419, and 2535 on Youth, Peace and Security, the State hereby declares it a policy to:

- a. promote and ensure the full, equal, safe, and meaningful participation, representation, and leadership of women in decision-making and in all stages of peace and security processes at the national and local levels;
- b. prevent and eliminate all forms of violence, discrimination, exclusion, and other barriers that impede the participation and leadership of women and youth in peace and security processes;
- c. strengthen and institutionalize a gender-responsive and youth-responsive approach to conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, relief, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction;

- d. recognize and support the diverse roles, experiences, capacities, and contributions of women and youth as agents of peace, conflict prevention, social cohesion, and sustainable development;
- e. ensure that peace and security policies, programs, plans, and interventions are informed by the distinct needs, perspectives, and experiences of women and youth, particularly those affected by armed conflict, violence, displacement, and other crisis situations;
- f. strengthen coordination and cooperation among national government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations, Women's organizations, youth organizations, Indigenous Peoples, the private sector, academe, and other relevant stakeholders in advancing the Women, Peace, and Security and Youth, Peace and Security agendas;
- g. promote the development of the capacity, leadership, participation, and representation of women and youth in peace and security institutions and mechanisms, particularly at the local and community levels;
- h. ensure adequate, sustainable, transparent, and gender- and youth-responsive allocation of resources for the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security agendas; and
- i. establish and strengthen mechanisms for accountability, monitoring, evaluation, data collection, and reporting to ensure the effective implementation of policies and programs on Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security.

Section 3. *Objectives.* This Act seeks to:

- a. Institutionalize the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda as a statutory matter of law rather than executive policy alone, thereby guaranteeing its institutional continuity, sustained funding, and strategic coherence across political administrations;
- b. Guarantee the meaningful, not merely token or ceremonial, participation and decision-making power of women, youth, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons, and other marginalized groups in all stages of peace and security policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation;
- c. Synchronize the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) agendas (derived from United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325, 2250, 2419, and 2535), recognizing young women as crucial bridge-builders between Women's rights and youth movements;
- d. Protect and expand civic space for women peacebuilders, mediators, and human rights defenders, prohibiting red-tagging, harassment, or intimidation, and creating safe environments for grassroots peace advocacy;
- e. Ensure local ownership of National and Regional Action Plans on WPS, embedding peacebuilding mechanisms within local government units and conflict-affected communities;

- f. Recognize women primarily as peacebuilders, negotiators, mediators, and leaders, rather than solely as passive victims of conflict; and
- g. Adopt a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach that integrates WPS across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus, disaster risk reduction, climate security, and disarmament frameworks.

Section 4. ***Definition of Terms.*** For the purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a. *Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda* refers to the body of international and national commitments originating from UNSCR 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions, promoting Women's participation, protection, conflict prevention, and relief and recovery in conflict contexts.
- b. *Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) Agenda* refers to the global framework anchored in UNSCR 2250, 2419, and 2535, recognizing youth as active partners in peacebuilding and decision-making.
- c. *National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP-WPS)* refers to the comprehensive statutory strategy adopted by the Philippine government setting specific commitments, indicators, and funding arrangements for WPS implementation.
- d. *Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (RAP-WPS)* refers to a localized action plan adopted by an autonomous region, including the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), consistent with but tailored to the region's unique conflict context and organic law.
- e. *Meaningful Participation* refers to engagement that (1) occurs at an early stage to influence outcomes, (2) is supported by adequate resources and information, (3) establishes documented mechanisms for input response, and (4) moves beyond mere attendance or token representation to actual decision-making influence.
- f. *Intersectionality* refers to the analytical framework recognizing that women, youth, indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups experience overlapping forms of exclusion based on gender, age, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status.
- g. *Shrinking Civic Space* refers to any legal, administrative, or informal restriction—including red-tagging, surveillance, or harassment—that limits civil society's capacity to advocate, organize, or participate in peace governance.
- h. *Local Ownership* refers to the principle that WPS priorities, budgets, and indicators shall be determined primarily by national and regional institutions and domestic civil society, with external development partners playing a supporting role.
- i. *Women Peacebuilders and Human Rights Defenders* refer to individuals or CSOs engaged in conflict resolution, community mediation, human rights monitoring, and peace advocacy.

- j. *Gender Analysis* refers to the systematic examination of the differential impacts of conflict, arms proliferation, security policies, and climate threats on women, men, girls, and boys.

Section 5. ***National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.***

The National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (NAP-WPS), first adopted by the Philippines in 2010 and updated for 2023–2033, is hereby institutionalized with full statutory authority. The NAP-WPS shall be renewed every six (6) years through a transparent, participatory process led by the National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSC-WPS) in consultation with civil society organizations.

Each NAP-WPS cycle shall contain explicit objectives, measurable targets, disaggregated indicators, implementation timelines, clear agency responsibilities, and financing framework identifying applicable existing funding sources and mechanisms. YPS commitments shall be fully integrated into the core body of the NAP-WPS rather than treated as a supplementary annex.

Section 6. ***National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security.***

The National Steering Committee on Women, Peace and Security (NSC-WPS) is hereby established as a statutory inter-agency coordinating body attached to the Office of the President.

- a. *Composition.* The NSC-WPS shall be chaired by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU). Ex-officio members shall include the heads of: (1) Department of National Defense (DND); (2) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); (3) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); (4) Department of Justice (DOJ); (5) Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA); (6) National Youth Commission (NYC); (7) Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP); (8) Philippine National Police (PNP); (9) Bangsamoro Women Commission (BWC); (10) Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) and (11) Bangsamoro Youth Commission (BYC).
- b. *Civil Society and Youth Representation.* The NSC-WPS shall include not less than five (5) representatives from Women’s peacebuilding CSOs and not less than three (3) representatives from youth-led peacebuilding organizations, selected through an open, participatory process. At least fifty percent (50%) of these civil society seats shall be held by young women.
- c. *Core Functions.* The NSC-WPS shall:
 - i. Formulate, oversee, and evaluate the NAP-WPS;
 - ii. Coordinate with regional and local governance bodies;
 - iii. Establish the WPS-YPS Joint Coordination Mechanism;
 - iv. Administer the Protection and Grievance Mechanism under Section 12;

- v. Review and approve gender-responsive M&E indicators;
- vi. Manage the Civil Society Advisory Council; and
- vii. Submit annual reports to Congress.

Section 7. ***Regional and Local Action Plans.***

Local Government Units (provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays), particularly in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable areas, shall formulate a Local Action Plans on WPS (LAP-WPS).

The relationship between NAP-WPS, RAP-WPS, and LAP-WPS shall be governed by the principle of Coordination, Not Subordination. LAPs shall be integrated directly into existing Local Development Plans, Peace and Order Plans, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans rather than creating redundant parallel structures.

- a. *Regional Action Plans.* Autonomous regions, including BARMM, may adopt their own Regional Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security (RAP-WPS), reflecting region-specific conflict history, cultural and religious context, and governance arrangements. A RAP-WPS shall be developed in consultation with, but need not be subordinate in structure or content to, the NAP-WPS, in recognition of the autonomous region's self-governance mandate under its organic law.

Special measures shall guarantee the active leadership of Bangsamoro women, Moro women, Indigenous Peoples (non-Moro indigenous women), internally displaced women, and conflict-affected grassroots communities in all BARMM peace and security mechanisms.

- b. *Local Action Plans.* Provinces, cities, and municipalities shall adopt Local Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security, particularly in areas with a documented history of armed conflict, consistent with guidelines to be issued by the NSC-WPS.
- c. *Coordination, Not Subordination.* The relationship between the NAP-WPS, RAP-WPS, and any local action plans shall be one of coordination and mutual reinforcement, not hierarchical subordination, in recognition of the finding that uneven regional engagement and unequal access to decision-making spaces have historically weakened WPS implementation outside of the national level.

Section 8. ***Meaningful Participation and Leadership of Women.*** The State shall guarantee Women's full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership across all peace and security decision-making spaces. This mandate covers: (a) Peace negotiations and peace agreements; (b) Community mediation and dialogue; (c) Ceasefire monitoring and verification teams; (d) Transitional justice and reconciliation bodies; (e) Local Peace and Order Councils; (f) Early warning and conflict prevention mechanisms; (g) Disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response; and (h) Security sector leadership and policy formulation.

Implementing agencies shall ensure that participation mechanisms provide women with decision-making power, voting rights, access to classified security information, and financial support, transitioning from numerical representation to substantive policy influence.

Section 9. ***WPS in Peace Processes, Conflict Prevention, and Peacebuilding.***

Women peacebuilders shall be integrated across all stages of formal and informal peace processes:

- a. Before Negotiations: In conflict prevention, early warning systems, cross-line community dialogue, and pre-negotiation consultations;
- b. During Negotiations: As principal negotiators, technical working group members, legal advisors, and formal consensus-builders; and
- c. After Agreements: In normalization, ceasefire implementation, arms management, transitional justice, and community-based rehabilitation.

All peace agreements negotiated by the National Government shall undergo mandatory gender analysis prior to final signing to ensure gender-responsive provisions.

Section 10. ***Prevention of Violent Extremism.*** The State recognizes women as vital actors in preventing and countering violent extremism (PVE). Government PVE strategies shall incorporate gender-responsive frameworks that support women community leaders, educators, and mothers in identifying early indicators of radicalization, fostering social cohesion, and addressing the root causes of armed violence.

Section 11. ***Protection of Women and Girls in Conflict and Crisis.*** The State shall enforce zero-tolerance policies against conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) committed during armed conflict, civil unrest, or humanitarian emergencies. Specialized legal, medical, and psychosocial support units shall be deployed in all conflict-affected LGUs.

Section 12. ***Protection of Women Peacebuilders and Human Rights Defenders.***

- a. *Prohibition on Stigmatization and Red-Tagging.* It shall be unlawful for any public official, uniformed personnel, or government employee to label, accuse, or stigmatize any individual or organization engaged in peacebuilding, human rights advocacy, or WPS implementation as subversive or terroristic ('red-tagging') without due process and a final judicial determination.
- b. *Rapid-Response Protection Measures.* The NSC-WPS, in coordination with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), shall establish a rapid-response Protection Mechanism providing emergency assistance to women peacebuilders facing threats. Protection measures shall include: (a) Immediate security assessments; (b) Emergency protective custody; (c) Legal aid and representation; (d) Psychosocial recovery services; (e) Digital security support; and (f) Temporary safe relocation.
- c. *Grievance Mechanism and Non-Retaliation.* An independent Grievance Mechanism shall receive and investigate complaints regarding civic space restrictions or threats

against peacebuilders. Non-retaliation protections shall automatically apply to all complainants.

Section 13. ***WPS in the Security Sector.***

The DND, AFP, PNP, DILG, and Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) shall fully integrate the WPS agenda into their institutional doctrine, operational planning, education, and promotion criteria.

Mandatory continuing training on gender analysis, human rights, WPS/YPS frameworks, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) shall be conducted across all military and police academies and pre-deployment courses.

Section 14. ***Arms Control, Disarmament, and Prevention of Armed Violence.***

The State shall adopt a gender-responsive approach to arms control, small arms and light weapons (SALW) management, disarmament, and counter-trafficking:

- a. Inclusive Disarmament: Women peacebuilders shall participate in designing and implementing arms control strategies and community firearm reduction initiatives;
- b. DDR & Normalization: Gender perspectives and WPS guidelines shall be embedded in Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) and normalization programs; and
- c. Disaggregated Impact Data: Security agencies shall systematically collect and analyze sex- and age-disaggregated data regarding armed violence impacts.

Section 15. ***Peace Education.***

The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall integrate peace education, non-violent conflict resolution, and WPS/YPS principles into standard primary, secondary, tertiary, and non-formal learning curricula and teacher training modules.

Section 16. ***Young Women and Youth, Peace, and Security.***

The NSC-WPS and the National Youth Commission (NYC) shall jointly establish a standing WPS-YPS Joint Coordination Mechanism. This mechanism shall promote young Women's leadership, facilitate access to existing resources and funding mechanisms for youth peace projects, and eliminate barriers preventing youth from shaping peace policy.

Section 17. ***WPS, Humanitarian Action, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Climate Security.***

Implementing agencies shall operationalize the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus by embedding WPS perspectives into disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), climate

change adaptation, displacement management, and crisis recovery. Women community leaders shall lead local disaster and emergency response committees.

Section 18. ***Civil Society Participation and Advisory Council.***

There is hereby created a statutory Civil Society Advisory Council on WPS, composed of grassroots women peacebuilders, indigenous women, youth leaders, and human rights advocates from Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, and BARMM. The Advisory Council shall independently monitor WPS implementation, advise the NSC-WPS, and present community-level policy recommendations.

Section 19. ***Local Ownership and Safeguards on Development Partner Engagement.***

WPS priorities, strategic targets, and evaluation criteria shall be determined through nationally led and participatory processes involving relevant government institutions and Philippine civil society. Development partner assistance shall be aligned with nationally determined priorities and applicable Philippine laws, policies, and procedures.. All funding terms and technical assistance agreements shall be publicly disclosed to the NSC-WPS.

Section 20. ***Funding.***

The funding requirements for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against existing appropriations and available funds of the concerned national government agencies and local government units, subject to existing budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

Section 21. ***Data, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning.***

The NSC-WPS shall institute a robust M&E framework with disaggregated indicators tracking qualitative outcomes, structural changes, and decision-making influence. An independent, external evaluation of NAP-WPS shall be commissioned every six (6) years, featuring direct consultations with grassroots peacebuilders.

Section 22. ***Annual Report to Congress.***

The NSC-WPS shall submit a comprehensive report on or before March 30 of every year to both Houses of Congress detailing progress against NAP-WPS targets, regional/local implementation, budget utilization, protection incidents, and civic space indicators.

Section 23. ***Congressional Oversight.***

A Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on WPS is hereby created, composed of five (5) Senators and five (5) Representatives. Congress shall hold annual legislative oversight hearings on WPS implementation to review budget efficiency, progress, and legislative gaps.

Section 24. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.***

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NSC-WPS, in joint consultation with civil society peacebuilding organizations, shall promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for its effective enforcement.

Section 25. ***Separability Clause.***

If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

Section 26. ***Repealing and Amending Clause.***

Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

Section 27. ***Effectivity.***

This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,