

MESSAGE OF

MP MARJANIE S. MIMBANTAS MACASALONG, PhD

Chairperson/ Commissioner representing Lanao Del Sur Province with Marawi City

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem Assalamu Alaykum Wa Rahmahtullahi Taala Wa Barakatuh.

It is my honor to present to you our guests for today's Groundbreaking Ceremony. This is a very auspicious and very happy day as we break ground on this housing project under the BARMM Marawi Rehab Program right as we celebrate Bangsamoro Foundation Day. And it is even more auspicious and even more joyful because we are graced today by the presence of key figures who have pushed forward progress both in the foundation of the Bangsamoro, and in the rehabilitation of Marawi.

Of course we have just heard from **MP Hamid Aminoddin Barra**—an educator, a law practitioner, an advocate of interfaith dialogue and the peace process, a religious leader, and a proud son of Marawi City. Currently serving as Minister of Human Settlements and Development and a member of the Bangsamoro Cabinet and Bangsamoro Transition Authority, MP Barra also serves as Vice-Chair of the Program Steering Committee of the BARMM-MRP. Thank you, MP Barra.

I believe we will also be hearing a message from **Chief Minister Ahod Balawag “Al-Haj Murad” Ebrahim**, Chairman of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and currently serving as the first and interim chair of the Bangsamoro. A round of applause for our hardworking Chief Minister.

Bro. Robin “Abdul Aziz” Padilla, our generous donor of the parcel of land where we break ground today, cannot join us for this ceremony, but he also made sure to convey his message through **MP Diamila Disimban-Ramos**—a peacebuilder, public servant, and legislator with more than twenty years of experience in both government and the private sector. She is also one of the 13 female Members of Parliament today.

We also look forward to the message of **Deputy Chief Minister Aleem Ali Solaiman**, MILF's 2nd Vice Chairperson and MILF Central Committee member. MP Solaiman is also the very industrious and conscientious Chairman of the BTA – Parliament's Special Committee on Marawi.

Also present today is Marawi City **Mayor Majul Usman Gandamra**. A noted lawyer and local official, Mayor Gandamra, of course, is a critical partner in the work of the PSC and the BARMM in advancing Marawi's rehabilitation.

We will also be hearing from **MP Jose Lorena**, a planner-developer, longtime public servant, and Member of Parliament from the island provinces of BARMM. He is the Deputy Minister of the MHSD and was a former Assemblyman in the RLA.

Also with us today is **Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario**, a retired Major General of the Armed Forces of the Philippines with almost four decades of active military service—service which he now continues as a government official, serving as the First Secretary of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, and Chairperson of Task Force Bangon Marawi.

It is also my honor to welcome all the other Members of Parliament joining us today for this Groundbreaking Ceremony—as well as all our other guests in attendance.



May your presence here today—whether physical or virtual—only strengthen our resolve to keep working together to make sure that Marawi rises again.

Thank you.