

Office of the President
of the Philippines
Malacañang

23 January 2009

HON. NASSER C. PANGANDAMAN

Secretary
Department of Agrarian Reform
DAR Building, Elliptical Road
Diliman, Quezon City

Secretary Pangandaman:

We are transmitting herewith an original copy of **Joint Resolution No. 1** (series of 2009), entitled:

"A Joint Resolution Extending the Coverage of the Agrarian Reform Program for a Period of Six (6) Months for Private Agricultural Lands whose Owners Have Offered their Lands Under the Voluntary Offer to Sell (VOS) and Under the Voluntary Land Transfer (VLT) and for the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to Continue its Support Services to Beneficiaries of Lands that Have Already Been Acquired and Distributed as of December 15, 2008,"

which became effective on even date pursuant to the provisions provided for under Section 27 (1), Article VI of the Constitution.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,



EDUARDO R. ERMITA
Executive Secretary

Encl.: a/s

S. Jt. Res. No. 19
H. Jt. Res. No. 29

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Fourteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

Began and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-
eighth day of July, two thousand eight

[JOINT RESOLUTION No. 1]

A JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE COVERAGE OF THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS FOR PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LANDS WHOSE OWNERS HAVE OFFERED THEIR LANDS UNDER THE VOLUNTARY OFFER TO SELL (VOS) AND UNDER THE VOLUNTARY LAND TRANSFER (VLT) AND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR) TO CONTINUE ITS SUPPORT SERVICES TO BENEFICIARIES OF LANDS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACQUIRED AND DISTRIBUTED AS OF DECEMBER 15, 2008

WHEREAS, there is a need to craft responsive amendments to the existing agrarian reform law to ensure the welfare of beneficiaries and landowners, and guarantee the systematic and comprehensive provision of needed support services for the same;

WHEREAS, based on comprehensive studies of the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), the U.P. Los Baños Foundation, Inc., and the University of Asia and the Pacific Center for Food and Agribusiness, any extension of the agrarian reform law needs to be coupled with major perfecting reforms in its substance and its implementation;

WHEREAS, the Members of the House of Representatives have expressed their collective sentiments for more time to study and generate consensus of appropriate amendments to the existing agrarian reform law: Now, therefore, be it


Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives and the Senate, That until Congress arrives at a consensus on the reforms to be introduced in the substance and implementation of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, the period of coverage of the Agrarian Reform Program shall be extended for six (6) months beginning January 1, 2009 to June 30, 2009, for private agricultural lands whose landowners have offered their lands under the Voluntary Offer to Sell (VOS) and under the Voluntary Land Transfer (VLT) and for the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) to continue its support services to beneficiaries of lands that have already been acquired and distributed as of December 15, 2008.


Approved,


PROSPERO C. NOGRALES
Speaker of the House of Representatives


JUAN ENRILE
President of the Senate

This Joint Resolution which is a consolidation of Senate Joint Resolution No. 19 and House Joint Resolution No. 29 was finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on December 17, 2008.


MARILYN B. BARJA-YAP
Secretary General
House of Representatives


EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved:

January 23, 2009

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President of the Philippines

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