Raymond JNC Cruz 2/4/2014

POS100 – A Long Test 2

1. The Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro[[1]](#footnote-1) stipulates that a new autonomous political entity (NPE) will take the place of the current Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. This new NPE shall be called Bangsamoro, and will have a ministerial form of government, which uses an electoral system that allows for democratic participation, ensures the accountability of public officers, and encourages the formation of genuinely principled political parties. The central government’s relationship to the Bangsamoro government shall be asymmetric.

The Bangsamoro will be governed by a Basic Law, and shall be formulated and ratified by the Bangsamoro people. Its provisions will of course be agreed upon by all parties involved. This Basic Law should reflect the system of the life of the community that Bangsamoro is concerned with and at the same time it should meet with the internationally accepted standards of governance.

Both the Central and Bangsamoro governments have each of their own unique governing powers. In lieu with this, they are also given concurrent powers. These powers are to be used for providing justice to the institutions in Bangsamoro. [[2]](#footnote-2)

In lieu with revenue generation and wealth sharing, Bangsamoro has the power to create its own sources of revenue. Besides revenue, Bangsamoro basically has complete power over its financials but is subject to agreement and equality among involved parties.

The Bangsamoro territory currently consists of: ARMM, municipalities that voted for their inclusions in the ARMM region, Cotabato and Isabela, and other areas where there is a resolution of a local government. These territories have their own boundaries but should have also a shared trait in order to promote peace. This shared trait shall be decided upon by all parties.

Rights of the people shall be protected at all times in the Bangsamoro. Aside from the basic human rights that the Central government recognizes, Bangsamoro should be able to respect the rights of indigenous people.

In conclusion, the Bangsamoro Government is a unique regional government that has the same attribute of a regular regional government plus some powers of the Central Government in order for the former to function effectively in communities that are very different from us.

1. Advantages and disadvantages

Advantages

Fristly, the Bangsamoro will have a better insight on how to govern the people in their communities since they themselves are established within the community. They will be immersed in the culture of the people. When you have an experienced background, you will have a better understanding of the responsibilities you are assigned with.

Secondly, they will be in a relatively better geographic location for more accessibility. Projects will be implemented more quickly and in time for its intended purpose. In times of emergencies, responses will be fast and immediate. In this situation, the closer the destination, the better, applies.

Lastly, the hostility among communities in the Bangsamoro will be lessened if not totally gone. Since the communities have their own government, their needs and wants will be looked into more critically; thus differences will be settled better than a government that has no background over these communities.

Disadvantages:

There will be more discrepancies between the two governments since The Bangsamoro will be a separate government from the national level. A separate government has its own way of doing things separately from the national government. It will be more difficult to see the inner workings of a parliament alongside the presidential system.

Conflicts may arise with the Bangsamoro communities against the communities within the national government. Since Bangsamoro communities have similarities in cultures and traditions, they are more likely to have good relations with each other. At the same time, they are also more likely to have worse relations to surrounding communities that have very different views and opinions on cultures and traditions, especially when discussing cultural norms.

The Bangsamoro communities may further the differences between them and the communities in the national government because of its autonomic nature of government. Giving autonomy to communities that are already very different from us may just further the differences and misunderstandings between each other. The objective of its autonomy is to bring them closer to the existing government. However in doing so, they are also veering away. It’s a damned if you do, damned if you don’t situation.

1. Political Dynasties
   1. Political dynasties
      * This problem need not a detailed explanation as it is observed largely in our government today. Politicians are elected just because they have the name of someone that has served the past. This is a problem because it hinders the opportunity of other people. A solution to this is to implement a law that will not allow a first or second degree relative of a current politician to run for public office. It should also not allow a first degree relative of a former politician to run for public office.
   2. PDAF/Napoles
      * Situations like the PDAF/Napoles scandal are caused by the incognito feature of the pork barrel system. It is especially difficult to track and/or trace the inner financials when it is up to the recipient on where or how to spend the funds; therefore very prone to scams, and graft and corruption. Possible solutions include the abolishment of the incognito system and make the accounting visible to everyone in order to promote transparency.
   3. Non-qualified government officials
      * Our government is composed of a lot of incompetent politicians. This is directed to mostly actors and the previously mentioned direct relatives of famously-named politicians but have no qualifications at all. With this, the quality of our governance is greatly dissolved within the pool of the lack of critical thinkers. It would be a great idea to use education and accomplishments as a basis for filtering the candidates for election. Even though everyone must have an equal opportunity, it should be imperative that a candidate knows at least the background of governance if not how to run in the chosen position.

1. http://opapp.gov.ph/resources/framework-agreement-bangsamoro-0 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://www.congress.gov.ph/download/ra\_11/RA09054.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)