Decentralization, Autonomy and Federalism: Sustainable Development and Peace in the Fringes

Decentralization, Autonomy and Federalism

Administrative Decentralization of Shared Rule Powers (autonomous Self Rule Decentralization to LGUs Regions) (Federalism) Natl Govt Natl Govt Natl Govt Federal States **RDCs ARMM**

LGUs

LGUs

LGUs

Why Federalize?

- Efficiency: as a means of improving service delivery, ensuring that decisions are made at the most appropriate level, protecting against the overconcentration of power and creating more opportunities for democratic participation.
- **Identity**: As a means of ensuring peace, stability and mutual accommodation in countries that have territorially concentrated differences of identity, ethnicity, religion or language.

Federalism and Local Governments

- Federalism as a political reform measure restructures government including local governance within a federal state.
- Evolving a cohesive and working federal states composed of federal state governments and constituent local government units.
- Delienation of powers between federal states and LGUs is as critical as central-state relations.

Autonomy and Federalism to Address Identity and Sovereignty-Based Conflicts

Autonomy Arrangements or a federal constitution may be more appropriate than a unitary constitution in managing multi-ethnicity and a plural society.

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines.

Issues

Constitutionality of Peace Agreements and Implementing Laws (ARMM Organic Law, Proposed BBL)

Moro Autonomy vs. Autonomy of the Rest

Incremental Approach

Constitutional Issues

What is unconstitutional, FRAMEWORK or PROVISIONS?

A Bangsamoro sub-state has no place in a unitary framework/constitution. No less than a federal system can accommodate the new political entity.

Refining the BBL provisions and/or at most surgical amendments to the Constitution are sufficient.

President's Inaugural Address

On the domestic front, my administration is committed to implement all signed peace agreements in step with constitutional and legal reforms.



I am elated by the expression of unity among our Moro brothers and leaders, and the response of everyone else to my call for peace.

I look forward to the participation of all other stakeholders, particularly our indigenous peoples, to ensure inclusivity in the peace process.

Rodrigo Roa Duterte

16th President of the Philippines

Moro Autonomy vs. Autonomy of the Rest

Historical Injustice (sovereignty-based aspirations) vs. Equitable allocation of national wealth

Moro Autonomy as Sui Generis and the case for Asymmetric Federalism

De-link BBL to federalism

Surgical Amendments or shift to Federalism?

Implementing Peace Agreements

TA/FPA FAB/CAB

ARMM Organic Law BBL

Ideology

(Negotiations)

2 Parties

Positions-Based

Policy

Implementation

(Legislation)

(Governance)

Public Arena (Multi-Party)

Interest Based

(workability, capacity, resources, constitutionality)

Autonomous or Special Regions are possible within a Federal State.

Incremental Approach

One-time big time, winner take all, zero sum vs Incremental approach

Series of legislations/ charter change amendments and a good transitional mechanism and process

Amending ARMM Organic Law making ARMM as interim Bangsamoro and transitional mechanism

Implementation of Peace Agreements in step with constitutional reforms.

THANK YOU