

Kasunduang Bayan

We, leaders and members of various people's organizations; sectoral and multi-sectoral alliances; social development agencies; church congregations and institutions; academe; neighborhood associations, and other concerned Filipinos condemn the continuing attempts within and outside the military to violently install direct military rule.

The coup attempt not only caused massive loss of life, injury, staggering damage to the economy and collective anxiety. It also mocked democracy. It endangered our civil liberties, threatening to deprive us of our right to choose. The coup further exposed the reality of intervention and our dependence on foreign powers.

Our country's economic and political problems are grave. But a coup can never be a solution. It will only add to the burdens of a people reeling from persistent poverty and inequality, corruption and criminality, government inefficiency and incompetence, and human rights violations.

We denounce the brazenness with which the coup plotters invoked the name of the people, deceived the common soldier and exploited the people's grievances for self-serving and conspiratorial ends.

We Condemn the Coup as an Assault on the People and the Rule of Law, and as a Desecration of the Constitution.

We affirm our adherence to the Constitution and to democratic processes. Thus, we recognize duly constituted institutions and democratic governance. We deplore, however, the fact that, especially in the areas of social justice and human rights, people's participation, and sovereignty, the government has not only failed to realize the spirit of the Constitution, but has at times even undermined it. This has exacerbated social conflicts and military adventurism.

(Article XIII, Section 1) *"The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good..."* Legislation, policies and programs on agrarian reform, environmental protection, labor rights, urban land reform, good government, relevant education, foreign debt, high prices, the transport and energy shortage, among others, fall short of this constitutional provision.

(Article XIII, Section 16) *"The right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social, political and economic decision making shall not be abridged."* Legislative and executive policies and programs have not been taken seriously.

(Article II, Section 11) *"The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights."* Yet, human rights abuses continue; paramilitary forces proliferate and the lack of political will in prosecuting violators have raised doubts about the government's capability to uphold these rights.

By requesting for direct US military assistance to resolve what is fundamentally an internal crisis, the government compromised national sovereignty, raising concern over this intervention's probable consequences.

Unless Government Takes Immediate and Adequate Action on these Issues, Genuine and Lasting Peace Cannot be Achieved

Hatulan ang taksil

1. We demand that government immediately try in civilian courts and punish all military and civilian coup conspirators to the fullest extent of the law.
2. We call for a military revamp, including the removal and punishment of those found guilty of human rights violations, corruption, abuse of power, and disloyalty.
3. We urge the government to review and overhaul the formation program of the PMA and other military academies, including training programs for enlisted men, toward emphasizing constitutional democracy, pluralism, human rights and civilian supremacy.
4. We urge the government to set up an independent commission, composed of men and women of integrity and competence, to investigate the direct causes of the coup and to indict all conspirators.
5. We demand that government prosecute all politicians who lent support or had taken advantage of the coup.

Isabuhay ang diwa ng EDSA at ng Saligang Batas

1. We urge the government to replace all corrupt and incompetent officials with individuals noted not only for their honesty and efficiency but more so for their commitment to civilian supremacy, national sovereignty, and social justice. Officials, including relatives of high government authorities, found guilty of corruption and dereliction of duty should be punished. We stress that the cabinet revamp should not become a means to increase military and foreign influence over civilian rule.
2. We demand the replacement of our foreign debt negotiators with people who are capable of upholding the national interest. We ask for changes in the government debt policy in favor of the people's interest.
3. We challenge the Congress to seriously reexamine its priorities in the light of the constitutional imperative to address the problems of poverty and social injustice. We demand that Congress cleanse its ranks.
4. We call for a moratorium and review of all price increases and the immediate rollback of oil and transport prices. Government should punish those who have taken advantage of the crisis for their own profit.
5. We call for the creation of an independent body to investigate the circumstances surrounding government's request for US military assistance. We urge government that this body be composed of men and women of competence and noted for their commitment to national sovereignty, recommended by people's organizations.

Sambayanan ang magpapasya

1. We demand people's participation in resolving the immediate crisis caused by the coup.
2. We demand that government set up mechanisms of consultation with the people that will ensure a decisive role of people's organizations in national policy-making and implementation.

Ibangon ang bayan

The promotion of peace, democracy and sovereignty is not the task of government alone. The Filipino people are its authentic partners. The power of the people is its only genuine strength.

We commit ourselves to:

1. Set up people's councils that will resist any military takeover, maintain neighborhood vigilance, and pursue constitutional imperatives on peace, democracy, justice, and sovereignty.
2. Assert our right to participate in policy making by developing structures and processes that will ensure the people's agenda.
3. Share food, medicine, and shelter to the unfortunate in the spirit of sacrifice and solidarity.
4. Launch and sustain educational campaigns on the issues surrounding the coup.
5. Pursue this program through all active non-violent, legal and extra-parliamentary means.

Let us transform collective anxiety and this moment of danger into a movement that will advance peace, justice, and democracy.

Kilusan Laban Sa Kudeta (KILOS)
11 December 1989