



## Transcript of MPOS Minister's Speech

Title of the Activity: **BANGSAMORO PEACE FORUM: Sustaining Journey to Peace**  
Date: March 26-27, 2021  
Location: Cotabato City  
Audience Demographics: Civil Society Organizations, Youth, Women, Indigenous Peoples, Settler Communities, Security, and Academe  
Speaker: **Hon. Hussein P. Muñoz**

AUDHOBILLAHI MINASSHAYTAN NIRRAJEEM. BISMILLAHIRRAHMANIRAHEEM  
Assalamu Alaykum Warahamatullahi Wabarakatuh!

Chief Minister Ahod B. Ebrahim, Cabinet Secretary Hon. Mohammad Asnin Pendatun, Member of the Parliament Atty. Laisa Masuhud Alamia, Chief of Staff of the office of MP Bainon Kairon, Helen Rojas, Bangsamoro Youth Commission, Commissioner Nasserudin Dunding, CDORM President, Archie Buaya, Bangsamoro Planning Development and Authority Bangsamoro Director General Engr. Mohajirin T. Ali, Professor Tirmiziy Abdullah, Faculty, History Department - MSU-Main Marawi, Independent Decommissioning Body Operations Manager Anna Pacete-Murandan, Joint Normalization Committee OPAPPRU Co-Chair Ariel C. Hernandez; participants, other colleagues in BARMM, my MPOS staff:

Good Morning!

As a Moro who joined the Bangsamoro Rebellion during the Marcos regime, March is a month of reckoning the gruesome deaths of Moros which stirred my youth to rise against injustice and right to self-determination. As an MILF, who had been in the peace negotiation with the Government of the Philippines, March is a month of reminiscing the promising end of the reason I joined the rebellion. I was vengeful on this month; I was forgiving as well. This was the month of conflict, and the month of reconciliation.

We recently commemorated the 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Jabidah Massacre in Corregidor Island, through the virtue of Proclamation 0001, series of 2021, by nonetheless, Chief Minister, Ahod B. Ebrahim, declaring March as the Bangsamoro History Month, to honor the lives we lost in BUD Dajo Massacre on March 1906, in Jabidah Massacre on March 1968, and, in the ALL-OUT-WAR of President Joseph Estrada against the MILF on March 2000. These tragic losses drove us into retribution, and so much properties and lives were sacrificed. But we did not waver, until we gain our endeavors to right to self-determination and independence. These deaths significantly propelled us to series of negotiations. After 17 years, Alhamdulillah, dialogues between the MILF and the Government of the Philippines, were concluded which also happened in the month of March. The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) was signed on March 17, 2014. March, is indeed an emotional roller coaster month for the Bangsamoro: while we are struggling to jaunt on the narrow trail of forgetting the injustices perpetrated in the past, we see ahead the wider path and meaningful way to move forward for reconciliation and peace-building and development. This Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, allows us to a meaningful self-governance towards Development of the peoples in BARMM. However, the way towards it is still too long and winding. We have yet to strengthen the peace situation in our region as it is a vital condition precedent for the development of our region. In other words, there could be no genuine and meaningful development if we cannot sustain the status quo of peace in our region. We have to work in close coordination, participation, and reciprocity, as peace is everyone's responsibility.

As the Minister of the Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS), a Ministry of the Bangsamoro Government mandated to help in addressing peace and security issues and concerns of the region as well as in the promotion of peace, reconciliation and unification of its people, together with my staff, we are impassioned to do our sworn obligations to conduct projects, activities, and programs pertinent to sustaining peace, however, we cannot establish such without the help and cooperation of all the stakeholders such as the communities, government agencies, the religious leaders, traditional leaders, other sectors of the society, and the non-government organizations. And I count, that your presence to this activity, signifies your interest to work with us in this journey to a lasting peace.

I am very grateful you have lent us your time for gracing this peace forum initiative. Henceforth, is moving forward towards healing and reconciliation to sustain peace among peoples in BARMM, and there will be no more conflict. NOT IN MARCH, NOT ANY TIME IN SHA ALLAH!

Wa billahi Tawfik Wal hidaya.

Good Morning.

Assalamu Alaykum.