

STATEMENT

"DIOSA"

CALLS FOR CREATION OF CULTURE OF PEACE

We are a people of culture. We can create. Let us create a culture of peace.

The women of the Philippines have been searching peace and genuine human security. We no longer want violence to rule our country. We have been living a life full of insecurities. We have witnessed how women in the Philippines are being subjected to violence and discrimination through trafficking, prostitution, abuse in intimate relationships, and economic marginalization. We have realized how militarism reinforced these acts of violence against women, and negatively impacted on our environment and natural resources, and government budgets and expenditures. We have been experiencing a kind of governance that has disregarded the rights of the Amerasians, and the right of women for full comprehensive health services, in particular reproductive health care program.

Together with the East-Asia-US-Puerto Rico Women's Network Against Militarism, we have called the attention of our government to stop violence in the Philippines. However, our demands fell on deaf ears. We are again sending our demands to our government.

- **Stop the violence against women and children**
 - Close all establishments and activities that exploit women and promote military prostitution and the trafficking of women; instead, ensure opportunities for sustainable livelihoods and dignity for all women
 - Oppose the promotion of war and violence in our everyday lives such as the use of toys that glorify and celebrate war and the military, as well the use of language that normalizes violence in our everyday lives
 - Pass the Anti-Prostitution and Anti-Discrimination Bills
 - Abolish the death penalty
- **Stop the War on Terrorism and policies that threaten genuine human security**
 - Resist the coercion of the U.S. government that intends to promote policies to push the War on Terrorism
 - Do not pass new policies that reinforce the War On Terrorism
 - Pass the Anti-Torture Bill
- **Guarantee Self-Determination and Genuine Security**
 - Cancel the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) and the rejection of the Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA) and cease all types of joint military exercises with the U.S. government
- **Ensure a Safe, Clean Environment**
 - Clean up all former and military bases, in particular the toxic wastes
 - Fully implement the clean air act
- **Hold the U.S. government and the nations that host the U.S. military accountable for the human costs of militarization.**
 - Pay reparations to communities where there has been physical, social, emotional, and environmental damage because of the presence and operations of the U.S. military
 - Ratify, comply with and adhere to guidelines of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and ensure that past crimes are also included within the scope of the ICC
 - Provide reparations and social services to Amerasian children and allow them the freedom to claim citizenship
 - Provide health care and other necessary support services for women who are survivors of institutionalized and informal sex trafficking

REFERENCE:

22 September 2004, WEDPRO
Secretariat, Philippine Working Group Against Militarism

The Philippine Working Group Against Militarism is composed of Amnesty International-Pilipinas, BUKLOD, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women-Asia Pacific, IMA Foundation, KaisaKa, People's Task Force Base Clean Up, WEDPRO, and WomanHealth Philippines.