

RLA BILL NO. 81

Republic of the Philippines
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Cotabato City

FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
(Third Regular Session)

[MUSLIM MINDANAO AUTONOMY ACT NO. 164]

Begun and held in Cotabato City, on Monday, the twenty eighth day of October, two thousand three.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF REGIONAL MADRASAH GRADUATE ACADEMY IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Regional Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao in session assembled:

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Act shall be known as the Regional Madrasah Graduate Education Act of 2003,

SEC. 2. DECLARATION - It is the declared policy of the national government to develop, promote and uplift the education preparation of the Ustadzes (Arabic Teachers), the Ulama (Scholars) and other sectors of the Bangsamoro Ummah so that they will be more effective partners of the government in the governance of the Regional Government most particularly the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao pursuant to the mandates of the PD 1083, LOI 1221, AO 290, Series of 1996, SPCPD Accord signed on September 2, 1996 and the Executive Order No. 23, Series of 200 of the ARMM.

SEC. 3. LOCATION - The campus of the Regional Madrasah Graduate Academy shall be located at the Municipality of Buluan, Maguindanao and shall establish extension units at strategic areas of the provinces of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS - As used in this Act, the Ustadzes and Ulama are those who were graduates of four-year education from the Middle East and nearby Asian Universities of different programs related to Agriculture, Business Administration Applied and Social Sciences, Arabic language, literature, Shariah and Islamic Studies, computer Education and other technical courses.

SEC. 5. CREATION - For this purpose, there is hereby created a Regional Madrasah Graduate Academy with an acronym of REMACADEMY, an education institution of higher learning and shall coordinate with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). As government supported academic institution of higher learning, the Academy shall be headed by a Dean of the Graduate School who shall act as President of the Academy. He (Dean) shall be appointed by the Regional Governor of the autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao with recommendations from at least two recognized Islamic Organizations, such as: President of the Luginat Uliyah (Association of Ulama) in Maguindanao, and a President of a recognized Islamic institution which shall be endorsed by the Commission of Higher Education of the ARMM. He shall receive salary equivalent to salary grade of thirty (30) with allowances and benefits authorized by law. He shall be authorized to appoint academic and non-academic personnel of the Academy in accordance with the Civil Service Commission rules and regulations.

SEC. 6. FUNCTIONS - in the exercise of its functions, the REMACADEMY shall coordinate with the Commission on Higher Education, Department of Education, Technical Education Skills and Development authority, and other government agencies doing similar function for the attainment of quality and standard academic performance.

SEC. 7. - GOALS, VISIONS AND OBJECTIVES:

- a. To offer crash and regular graduate and post-graduate programs for the Ustadzes, Ulama and other secular professional and educators graduates of the Middle East, nearby Asian, local and national Universities.
- b. To establish tertiary laboratory department for the products of madaris institutions in the area of the ARMM.
- c. To train and develop the Ulama and Ustadzes on educational administration and management, local government administration, vocational, fisheries, agriculture technical and scientific management.
- d. To design and develop a training module on Islamic education, supervision, management and administration as an instrument for Islamic governance for local leaders, managers and educators and teachers.

- e. To develop a project study on the development and upliftment of the madaris system of education so that this institutions will become functional and geared toward the development of the Bangsamoro people.
- f. To undergo research works on the development of textbooks and other usable reading materials for the madaris institution both in the elementary, secondary and in the tertiary levels.
- g. The Academy shall institutionalize thesis and dissertation writings of the graduate and post-graduate students as textbooks and other reading materials for Madaris institutions.

SEC. 8. - AUTHORITY - the REMACADEMY as special government institution of higher learning shall have the authority to grant degrees in the tertiary, graduate and post-graduate students who had completed the academic requirements as mandated by the Commission on Higher Education.

SEC. 9. - ORGANIZATION – the REMACADEMY shall be managed by a Board of Trustees composed of five (5) members, such as:

Chairman.....	CHED – ARMM
Member.....	(1) Senior Professor of the Academy
Member.....	(2) Representative from the Ulama Association
Member.....	(3) Representative from the Alumni Association
Member.....	(4) Representative from the ORG
Secretary.....	Dean of the Academy

SEC. 10. - QUALIFICATION – Of the Dean of the Academy shall be a doctor of Education (Ed. D.) or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) graduate of a recognized institution of higher learning here and or abroad. All other academic personnel of the Academy shall be full pledge graduates of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) and Doctor of Education (Ed. D.) with majors in School Administration, Education Management, Public Administration and other related field of specializations.

SEC. 11. - TERM OF OFFICE - The Dean of the Graduate School shall hold an academic rank equivalent to Full pledge Professor VI with a salary grade level of thirty (30) and shall hold office for six years term subject for renewal for another term. After the expiration of his term as dean, he must render his full time work as full pledge professor subject to the rules and regulation of the Civil Service Commission. Members of the Board of Trustees: the CHED – ARMM shall act as a permanent Chairman of the

Board of Trustees. All other members of the Board of Trustees shall serve for the period of four years each. They shall be replaced when they can no longer serve for the interest of the REMACADEMY and or resign for their post for other reason. They shall receive honoraria in the amount of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) each for every meeting (regular/special/emergency) which shall be called at least once every semester.

SEC. 12. - GRADUATE ACADEMIC PRIVILEGES - The REMACADEMY shall offer scholarship privilege to those deserving Ustadzes and or Ulama grantees who shall enjoy free payment of tuition fees except for the thesis fee and shall receive allowances of P1,000.00 per month for five months per semester and a book allowance of P1,500.00 per semester for the graduate grantees. For the post-graduate grantees shall enjoy free payment of tuition fees except for the dissertation fee and shall receive an allowance of P1,500.00 per month for five months per semester and a book allowance of P2,000.00 per semester subject to availability of funds.

SEC. 13. - FUNDING - An amount of One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) be allotted as an initial appropriation for the operation of the Regional Madrasah Graduate Academy and shall thereafter be incorporated into the annual General appropriation of the Commission on Higher Education of the ARMM. Thereafter, the ARMM shall continuously appropriate subsidy to the Academy to be determined by the Regional Legislative Assembly subject to the availability of funds.

SEC. 15. - This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

APPROVED.

(SGD) ISMAEL B. ABUBAKAR, JR.
Speaker

This Act was passed by the Regional Legislative Assembly on March 11, 2004.

(SGD) JAIME M. AYUB, MPA, CSEE
Chief, Plenary Affairs Division
OIC-Secretary-General

APPROVED:

(SGD) PAROUK S. HUSSIN
Regional Governor
Date: _____