



# PRESS RELEASE

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Date Released: 31 May 2017

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## Clarificatory Statement of Sec. Delfin N. Lorenzana

Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana clarifies that during an executive session in the Senate on 29 May 2017, what he said was that the government security forces can contain the situation in Marawi City even without Martial Law. However, he emphasized that Martial Law is imperative to once and for all address security concerns in the entire Mindanao immediately and decisively.

The situation currently being dealt with by State security forces goes beyond Marawi City. President Duterte’s imposition of Martial Law aims to put an end to the long running rebellion in various provinces in the south, as evidenced by the incidents that happened in Zamboanga, Davao, Bohol, Lanao, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-tawi and Maguindanao.

As the President has repeatedly said, “*kung magde-declare ako ng Martial Law, tatapusin ko nang lahat ito,*” referring to threats posed by ISIS-linked local and foreign terrorist groups whose network covers the entire Mindanao.

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