

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 8, March 18, 1986]

CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the new government is committed to uphold and respect the people civil liberties and human rights.

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution of December 14, 1984 encourages all member states to take steps for the establishment or, where they already exist, the strengthening of national institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The Presidential Committee on Human Rights. -There is hereby created a Presidential Committee on Human Rights to be attached to the Office of the President for general direction and supervision.

SECTION.2. Composition. The Committee shall be composed of the following:

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| a. Mr. Jose W. Diokno | - Chairman |
| b. Mr. Justice Jose B.L. Reyes | - Vice-Chairman |
| c. Mrs. Zenaida Quezon Avancena | - Member |
| d. Sr. Marianni Dimaraanaa | - Member |
| e. Miss Haydee Yorac | - Member |
| f. Mr. William Claver | - Member |
| g. The Judge Advocate General, AFP | - Member |

SECTION 3 . Nature of Committee. - The primary task of the Committee is to assist the President in the discharge of her duty to respect and foster human rights. It is purely advisory and consultative so that the Committee and all persons or personnel appointed, designated or contracted by it shall not be subject to civil service law, rules and regulations. Moreover, membership in the Committee shall not be construed as in conflict with any other public or private position or profession that the members may hold or practice. Members may designate alternates if they cannot attend a particular meeting or meetings of the Committee.

SECTION 4. Functions of the Committee. - The Committee shall have the following functions:

- a. Investigate complaints it may receive, cases known to it or to its members and