

[VOL. IV, September 13, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 82

Saturday, September 13, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 9:47 a.m., the President, the Honorable Cecilia Muñoz Palma, opened the session.

THE PRESIDENT: The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE PRESIDENT: Everybody will please rise to sing the National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the National Anthem.

THE PRESIDENT: Everybody will please remain standing for the Prayer to be led by the Honorable Christine Tan.

Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.

PRAYER

SR. TAN: We will say our Prayer with the Hindu poet, Rabindranath Tagore.

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where the knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up into
fragments by narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms
towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost
its way into the dreary desert sand of dead
habit;
Where the mind is led forward by Thee into
ever-widening thought and action;
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let
my country awake.
Amen.

ROLL CALL

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary-General will call the roll.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading*:

Abubakar	Present	Aquino	Absent
Alonto	Absent	Azcuna	Present*
Bacani	Present	Nolledo	Present

Bengzon	Present*	Ople	Present
Bennagen	Present	Padilla	Present
Bernas	Present	Quesada	Present*
Rosario Braid	Present	Rama	Present
Calderon	Present	Regalado	Present
Castro de	Present	Reyes de los	Present
Colayco	Present	Rigos	Present
Concepcion	Present	Rodrigo	Present
Davide	Present	Romulo	Present
Foz	Present*	Rosales	Absent
Garcia	Present	Sarmiento	Present*
Gascon	Present*	Suarez	Present
Guingona	Present	Sumulong	Present
Jamir	Present	Tadeo	Present
Laurel	Present	Tan	Present
Lerum	Present*	Tingson	Present
Maambong	Present	Treñas	Present
Monsod	Present	Uka	Present
Natividad	Present*	Villacorta	Present
Nieva	Present	Villegas	Present

The President is present.

The roll call shows 35 Members responded to the call.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

MR. CALDERON: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Assistant Floor Leader is recognized.

MR. CALDERON: I move that we dispense with the reading of the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

MR. CALDERON: Madam President, I move that we approve the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

MR. CALDERON: Madam President, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary-General will read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary-General read the following Communications, the President making the corresponding references:

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Mr. Antonio A. Balgos of Villa Rica, Banica, Roxas City, expressing doubts whether the new Constitution will be ratified because of the inclusion of controversial and divisive issues, suggesting therefor that in the plebiscite, there must be only one "yes-no" vote on the main body of the draft which includes all "non-controversial" sections and to have separate "choice" votes by the people to allow them to select between two opposing versions of provisions of controversial sections.

(Communication No. 882 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Amendments and Transitory Provisions.

Letter from the officers and members of the Commission on Population, NCR Office, expressing their support on the basic primacy of human dignity and freedom in individual decisions concerning family planning.

(Communication No. 883 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Mr. Geronimo R. Cruz of 34 Lilac, SSS Village, Marikina, Metro Manila, suggesting that the completed Constitution, when presented to the electorate for approval, should exclude the controversial provisions of the Article on National Economy and Patrimony so that the voter will just approve/disapprove (a) the whole Constitution without said provisions and (b) only such controversial provisions.

(Communication No. 884 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Amendments and Transitory Provisions.

Letter from Dr. Frank Y. Arcellana, President of the National Organization against Nuclear Power and Nuclear Weapons (N.O. Nukes), requesting for a few minutes of the Constitutional Commission's time during the first day of its deliberations on the Declaration of Principles for the consideration of the Constitutional Commission so as to make a formal presentation of the first batch of signatures that it has gathered as part of the campaign for the inclusion of "nuclear-free" provisions in the new Constitution.

(Communication No. 885 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

THE PRESIDENT: With respect to this particular communication, the same has already been accomplished with the submission of the two volumes on signatures. So there is no need to refer this to the Steering Committee but to the Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading:*

Letter from Mr. Pedro R. Feliciano of 117 Quezon Avenue, Angono, Rizal, submitting for consideration various proposals regarding the establishment of national, provincial, city, and municipal museums; the rule of command responsibility; the Philippine flag; and the collection of taxes.

(Communication No. 886 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Letter from Mr. Teotimo Ponce Rosaceña of 1191 Sto. Rosario Street, Pandacan, Manila, suggesting, among others, that if school personnel decide to go on strike, their application should be filed before the opening of classes and be displayed in corners accessible to the viewing public.

(Communication No. 887 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Letter from Mr. Felino C. Marcelo of Taytay, Rizal, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision on the inviolability of the Church and the State.

(Communication No. 888 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Ms. S. Galia, transmitting Resolution No. 65, s. 1986 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Catarman, Camiguin, suggesting to the Constitutional Commission to reserve the title "President" to the President of the Republic only.

(Communication No. 889 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the Executive.

Letters seeking to incorporate in the new Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception, from:

1) Two hundred ninety-three students of St. Joseph's College, Quezon City, with their respective addresses.

(Communication No. 890 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

2) Dr. Nelo L. Conol and fifty-nine other residents of Cagayan de Oro City.

(Communication No. 891 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

3) Dr. Gerard Perlas and sixty-two other concerned citizens of Caloocan City.

(Communication No. 892 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

4) Ms. Vivian Fraga and twenty-six other concerned residents of Barangay No. 32, Legaspi City.

(Communication No. 893 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

5) Twenty-six students and teachers of St. Raphael's Academy, Legaspi City.

(Communication No. 894 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

6) One hundred forty-six students of Aquinas University of Legaspi, Legaspi City.

(Communication No. 895 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

7) Mr. Cesar C. Bilbao and one hundred ninety-one signatories from the Asian Development Bank.

(Communication No. 896 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

8) Six thousand five hundred eleven signatories from UP-PGH and other hospitals, UST, UP, San Miguel Corporation and government employees.

(Communication No. 897 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

9) Three hundred fifty-three concerned citizens working at International Packaging, Inc., Libis, Quezon City.

(Communication No. 898 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

10) Ms. Ma. Lourdes T. Pektipekit and one thousand two hundred eighty-nine other signatories from Cebu City.

(Communication No. 899 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

11) One thousand three hundred eighty concerned citizens from Malita, Davao del Sur.

(Communication No. 900 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

12) Nine hundred twenty-eight signatories from schools, colleges and universities in Metro Manila.

(Communication No. 901 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

13) Vice-Mayor Hector Ruiz of Olongapo City and four hundred forty-nine other concerned citizens of the city.

(Communication No. 902 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles.

Letters urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines, from:

- 1) Mr. George N. Capaque
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship
P.O. Box 2094, Manila.

(Communication No. 903 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

- 2) Ms. Ruth Pujadas and three others
Making Evangelical Church
Parang, Maguindanao

(Communication No. 904 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)