

[VOL. IV, September 08, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 77

Monday, September 8, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 9:56 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 Gregorio J. Tingson.

Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.

PRAYER

MR. TINGSON: From the Holy Scriptures, specifically from the Book of Hebrews, we read about the subject of faith:

Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, for by it the elders obtained a good report. Through Faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Let us pray. Loving heavenly Father, Whose we are and Whom we serve, we approach Thy throne of grace this morning as we start another day of work at our Constitutional Commission with deep humility and with a profound sense of gratitude; deep humility because we are not worthy to be entrusted with such a heavy and intricate task; profound gratitude because we can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us which is really faith at work; faith which is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen; faith which is the flow of divine energy through us who are willing to do that which is well pleasing in Thy sight; faith which is believing the incredible, seeing the invisible and doing the impossible.

Our country, dear Lord, needs a political stabilizing document. Help us write it well. We need to finish this Charter fairly soon. We cannot afford to disappoint our people. Bless us with a discerning mind, a believing heart, a strong physique, and a living and uncompromising faith.

And along with St. Paul, we declare true faith in Thy goodness, tolerance and understanding when he said: "This is our work and we can do it because Christ's mighty energy is at work within us."

In the Blessed and Matchless Name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading*:

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

The President is present.

The roll call shows 33 Members responded to the call.

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

MR. RAMA: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Floor Leader is recognized.

MR. RAMA: 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. RAMA: 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. RAMA: 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

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

- (1) Miriam E. Communication No. 759
Auza 60-B
Mabilis
Street
Diliman,
Quezon City
- (2) Beth Bañez Communication No. 760
32-A Scout
Madriñan
Quezon City
- (3) Josephine Communication No. 761
Sasoy
56 Miranda
Street
Panabo,
Davao
- (4) Ana E. Communication No. 762
Japay
58 Peach
Street
SSS Village
Marikina,
Metro
Manila
- (5) Orpah Communication No. 763
Marasigan
32-C Scout
Madriñan
Quezon City

- (6) Karenina B. Communication No. 764
Montemayor
Beverly Hills
Subdivision
Antipolo,
Rizal
- (7) Beth C. Communication No. 765
Manalastas
Sampaguita
Street, Sto.
Nino San
Fernando,
Pampanga
- (8) Jing Carpio Communication No. 766
32-A Scout
Madriñan
Quezon City
- (9) Leah M. Communication No. 767
Darwin
73-E Scout
Lazcano
Diliman,
Quezon City
- (10) Cyd H. Communication No. 768
Latuño
66-D Gen.
Lim Street
Heroes Hill,
Quezon City
- (11) Rachel Ma. Communication No. 769
Virtucio
70-3 Gen.
Malvar
Street
Davao City
- (12) Adela S. Communication No. 770
Erpelo
914
Guadalupe
BLISS I
Makati,
Metro
Manila
- (13) Maria Jovita Communication No. 771
M. Perez
56 Luna
Street
San Pedro,
Laguna
- (14) Lutgarda Communication No. 772
Ocastro
1721 Phase
3

Guadalupe
BLISS
Makati,
Metro
Manila

- (15) Leonida Ramos
217 Paraiso Street
Tondo,
Manila Communication No. 773
- (16) Alvina Torres
ACPO Box
51 Quezon City Communication No. 774
- (17) Roy Bolina
70 Scout de Guia Street
Quezon City Communication No. 775
- (18) Zillah Balico
Barotac
Nuevo Iloilo Communication No. 776
- (19) Rowena Jameo
Quezon City Communication No. 777

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Mr. Manuel Navoa expressing his gratitude and that of the 300 persons in death row for the abolition of the death penalty and also seeking the enactment of a law providing compensation to acquitted prisoners, as well as to victims of crimes.

(Communication No. 778 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Communications urging the Constitutional Commission to include in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception, from the following:

- (1) 121 signatories from BIR Catholic Charismatic Community, East Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City;
- (2) 7005 concerned citizens of the Province of Misamis Occidental.

(Communication Nos. 779 and 780 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Letter from Mr. Jesus B. Blando, submitting Resolution No. 1 of the BIR Improvement Movers Association, urging the creation of a Constitutional Commission on Revenue.