

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 847, November 23, 2009]

**CREATING THE CHURCH-POLICE-MILITARY-LIAISON
COMMITTEE TO FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT A
COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH STRONG
PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE AND THE CHURCH ON
MATTERS CONCERNING PEACE AND ORDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution protects and forever allows the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference;

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the indispensable role of the Church in the alleviation of poverty, the upholding of justice and the protection of human rights;

WHEREAS, the State and the Church have established various fora for coordination to seek lasting solutions for peace and order issues and human rights;

WHEREAS, it is essential for the State and the Church to institutionalize this partnership based on mutual respect and reverence for more effective cooperation and coordination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. Organization. The Church-Police-Military Liaison Committee (CPMLC) is hereby created under the Office of the President to formulate and implement a comprehensive program to establish strong partnership between the State and the Church.

Section 2. Composition and Leadership. The CPMLC shall be headed by a Chairman to be appointed by the President with the rank of Secretary, with the Chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and the Chief, National Prosecution Service (NPS), as members. The rest of the membership of the CPMLC shall, upon invitation of the President, be composed of the following religious aggrupations:

- a. One (1) representative from the National Council of Churches in the Philippines;
- b. One (1) representative from the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches;
- c. One (1) representative from the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines;
- d. One (1) representative from Ulama-Bishops Conference; and