

**[ PROCLAMATION NO. 23, August 24, 2010 ]**

**DECLARING AUGUST 25, 2010, AS A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING**

**WHEREAS**, on August 23, 2010, as a consequence of the hostage-taking incident in the Quirino Grandstand, Manila, eight innocent civilians lost their lives under tragic circumstances;

**WHEREAS**, the Hong Kong government declared a day of mourning to express sorrow over the deaths of their nationals;

**WHEREAS**, these deaths are a great loss to the peoples of Hong Kong and the Philippines, and call for the most solemn commemoration and respect at a time of grief for our two peoples;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby proclaim August 25, 2010 as a day of national mourning, in solidarity with the people of Hong Kong and the bereaved families of the slain.

I instruct all the public institutions in the Philippines and our embassies and consulates overseas to lower the Philippine flag to half-mast on August 25, 2010.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 24th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

**(Sgd.) BENIGNO S. AQUINO  
III**

By the President:  
**(Sgd.) PAQUITO N. OCHOA,  
JR.**  
Executive Secretary

