

**[ PROCLAMATION NO. 496, November 04, 2003 ]**

**DECLARING THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER 2003 AS NATIONAL PRESS CONGRESS WEEK AND THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 1 TO 31, 2003 AS THE MONTH OF PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, WRITERS, COMMUNITY JOURNALISTS AND BROADCASTERS IN THE SERVICE OF THE NATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Publishers Association of the Philippines, Inc. (PAPI) is spearheading the holding of the National Press Congress every first week of December;

**WHEREAS**, the PAPI is a professional organization dedicated to the promotion and defense of press freedom and to the lofty ideals of journalism as a public service especially in the countryside; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to focus public attention on the important role the PAPI plays in upholding press freedom and the dignity of journalism and publishing profession.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the first week of December 2003 as ***National Press Congress Week*** and the period from December 1 to 31, 2003 as the ***Month of Publishers, Editors, Writers, Community Journalists and Broadcasters in the Service of the Nation***, under the auspices of the Publishers Association of the Philippines, Inc.

**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 4th day of November, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

**(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

**(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
*Executive Secretary*



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