[VOL. II, July 25, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 39

Friday, July 25, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 9:41 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 Renato V. Sarmiento.

Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.

PRAYER

MR. SARMIENTO: A reading from the Book of Psalms, 136: 1-3:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His

mercy endures forever;

Give thanks to the God of gods, for His mercy

endures forever;

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for His mercy

endures forever.

Almighty and ever loving Father, our mighty protector and fortress, we thank You for the countless graces and blessings You faithfully give us, as we, in this hallowed assembly, work day and night to draft our people's Constitution. In particular, we thank You for the joys we experience as we interact with our colleagues and share ideas with them; we thank You for the patience You bestow upon us as we perform diligently and enthusiastically our noble task; we thank You for the support we receive from the Secretariat without whose untiring help and experience our work will be difficult; we thank You for the life You have generously given us so that we can, with all our virtues and weaknesses, humbly serve not the mighty and powerful but the least of our brethren, the thirsty, the hungry, the sick, the prisoners, and the naked. As we thank You today for Your love and mercy, we ask for Your wisdom so that in the framing of our people's Charter we will do what is right in Your sight, and do it without fear or vacillation. Guide us to place in our Constitution provisions that will, for the generations to come, give happiness to our fellowmen, hope to our youth, security for our fathers and mothers, confidence to our farmers and fishermen, optimism to our workers and assurance to our prisoners.

When, in the appointed time, our task is finished, may we, alone or in the company of our loved ones, rejoice in the thought that we have done our best for Your glory and for the lasting peace, prosperity and progress of our country.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, reading:

Abubakar Alonto	Present * Present *	Natividad Nieva	Present [*] 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
Brocka	Present	Rigos	Present
Calderon	Present	Rodrigo	Present
Castro de	Present	Romulo	Present
Colayco	Present *	Rosales	Present
Concepcion	Present	Sarmiento	Present
Davide	Present	Suarez	Present
Foz	Present	Sumulong	Present
Garcia	Present *	Tadeo	Present
Gascon	Present *	Tan	Present
Guingona	Present	Tingson	Present
Jamir	Present	Treñas	Present
Laurel	Present *	Uka	Present
Lerum	Present *	Villacorta	Present
Maambong	Present	Villegas	Present *
Monsod	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 the previous session.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection that we dispense with the reading of the Journal of the previous session? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

MR. CALDERON: Madam President, I move that we approve the Journal of the previous 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. Augusto L. de Leon, President of RFM Corporation, of Pioneer St., Pasig, Metro Manila, suggesting a constitutional provision for foreign infrastructure investment, allowing foreign investors to invest in government-approved infrastructure.

(Communication No. 310 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the National Economy and Patrimony.

Draft constitution submitted by the National People's Forum entitled — *An Alternative Filipino Constitution.*

(Communication No. 311 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Letter from Mr. Paterno S. Garcia of 3822 Daffodil Street, Sun Valley, Parañaque, Metro Manila, proposing a constitutional provision on the development of a national

language.

(Communication No. 312 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Letter from the Solidarity of 531 Padre Faura, Manila, requesting appropriate action on the proposal concerning "Constitution Framers Urged to Adopt Decentralization Proviso."

(Communication No. 313 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Local Governments.

Letter from Mr. Alberto T. Lustestica of Pangpang, Sorsogon, Sorsogon, proposing a provision in the new Charter banning from any elective post those next of kin of public officials to avoid the propagation of "Political Dynasties" and warlordism.

(Communication No. 314 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Constitutional Commissions and Agencies.

Letter from Pastor Cornelio R. Dalisay of the Philippine Evangelical Mission, Inc., submitting various proposals for the consideration of the Constitutional Commission.

(Communication No. 315 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Letter from Judge Alex L. Macalawi, Municipal Circuit Trial Court, Balindong, Lanao del Sur, urging proposal to incorporate in the Article on the Bill of Rights in the new Constitution that detention prisoners shall be compensated upon acquittal by the government corresponding to the number of days of their detention.

(Communication No. 316 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Communication from the Bulacan Social Action Movement, 844 Paseo De F. Estrella, Barangay San Juan, Malolos, Bulacan, signed by its Secretary-General, Tirso G. Robles, Jr., proposing a provision which would require the legislature to enact laws on "socialized medicine."

(Communication No. 317 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the Legislative.

Letter from Mr. Eduardo Salas of 2271 F.B. Harrison St., Pasay City, and Atty. Joveno Angel of 170 Villaruel St., Pasay City, submitting, among others, proposals that election of President, Vice-President and other elective national officials should be based on equal geographical representation.

(Communication No. 318 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Ricardo L. Magno of Mangaldan, Pangasinan, stressing the need to create the People's Consultative Council to give life and meaning to an effective involvement of the citizens in government affairs.

(Communication No. 319 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Citizenship, Bill of Rights, Political Rights and Obligations and Human Rights.

Letter from Datu Ebrahim Bakar of Kabuntalan, Maguindanao, suggesting some qualifications of candidates for mayors, vice-mayors, barangay captains, among others.

(Communication No. 320 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Local Governments.

Communication from the Sangguniang Panglungsod of the City of Puerto Princesa, requesting the Constitutional Commission to abolish the component city classification.

(Communication No. 321 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Local Governments.

Letter from Mr. Jorge C. Magno, Local Government Officer I, c/o Ministry of Local Government, Region III, San Fernando, Pampanga, suggesting, among others, that compulsory retirement age be reduced from 65 to 60 years old.

(Communication No. 322 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Constitutional Commissions and Agencies.

Communication from Messrs. Florencio L. Garcia, Jesse P. Gemora, and Eugenio H. Cadelina and residents of Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, requesting the adoption of a provision on old age pension.

(Communication No. 323 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Letter from Mr. D. M. Niere, President of the Central Philippines Union Mission of Seventh Day Adventists, Cebu City, urging the separation of Church and State and saying that the teaching of religion is primarily an individual and a church function.

(Communication No. 324 – Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.