

# [ VOL. IV, September 23, 1986 ]

## R.C.C. NO. 90

Tuesday, September 23, 1986

### OPENING OF SESSION

*At 10:02 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 Efrain B. Treñas.

*Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.*

### PRAYER

MR. TREÑAS: Almighty God, we are about to finish waiting the Constitution. We are about to end a significant milestone in the history of our people in their quest for a Constitution truly reflective of their ideals and aspirations. To be sure, we have exerted our utmost efforts to hear the voices of the people. And as many as these voices are, many are also the views and ideas expressed by them. In the same manner, the thoughts and perspectives of the Commissioners differ from one another. These differences are perceptible in issues of tremendous impact on our people. But while disagreement is inevitable, we know very well that we are united in one supreme goal, and this goal, to express it quite simply, is to promote and protect the common good.

We submit to Your divine will. We surrender to Your divine wisdom. Therefore, as we are about to reach our final destination, we humbly pray that You give us the wisdom and the vision to see what else we need to include in the new Constitution, and to omit whatever is unnecessary and should not be included therein. So that after we shall have left these august halls — these halls which hear our speeches and debates, these halls which feel our dreams and hopes — we will be reassured and re strengthened in the knowledge that we have given to our people the best Constitution possible.

Finally, I wish to thank You for returning to me health and vigor so that I may continue the task You have assigned to me.

This we pray through Your Son. Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: We wish to acknowledge the presence of students from St. Paul College and the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

### 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	Absent
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	Absent	Treñas	Present
Lerum	Present	Uka	Present
Maambong	Present	Villacorta	Present
Monsod	Present	Villegas	Present

The president is present.

The roll call shows 31 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.

MR. RAMA: Madam President, I move that we approve the Journal of Yesterday's session.

MR. AZCUNA: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Commissioner Azcuna is recognized.

MR. AZCUNA: Madam President, on page 20 of the Journal of yesterday's session where we defined the rights of women, may we ask that the proposal, as finally approved be indicated as Section 11. On page 29, it says:

Thereafter, Section 11 was submitted to a vote and with 28 Members voting in favor and none against, the same was approved by the Body.

I move that immediately before that paragraph, we insert the proposal which was approved as follows: "SECTION 11. THE STATE RECOGNIZES THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN NATION-BUILDING AND SHALL ENSURE THE FUNDAMENTAL EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW OF WOMEN AND MEN."

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. Let the corresponding insertion be made.

The Chair would like also to call the attention of the Members to the second paragraph on page 29, which is a reproduction of Section 11. We should erase "MEN AND," so it would read: "THE STATE RECOGNIZES THE ROLE OF WOMEN. . ."

Is there any further correction?

MR. ROMULO: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Commissioner Romulo is recognized.

MR. ROMULO: Madam President, may I just manifest that my cosponsors for Section 11 are Commissioners Azcuna, Padilla and Aquino.

#### APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

THE PRESIDENT: There being no further observations, the Journal of yesterday's session is hereby 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 and Committee Report, the President making the corresponding references:*

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Maria Camilla R. Pascual of 13 Gen. R. Simon, Caloocan City, urging the Constitutional Commission to pick up the best of what has been written since the 1935 Constitution, to use the past as a reference not something to be cursed or discarded and to use the future as the objective and goal, and then to move on fast towards that goal.

(Communication No. 956 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Letter from Datu Melanio B. Limpuson, submitting Resolution No. 04, series of 1986, adopted in a joint meeting of the 1411 CHDF Battalion Officers and Staff and Subanons tribal and religious leaders, earnestly requesting the division of Zamboanga into three provinces.

(Communication No. 957 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the Legislative.

Letter from Mr. Rolando M. Borlaza of Magcaseville Elementary School, Santo Cristo, San Pablo City, submitting, for consideration by the Constitutional Commission, an article, entitled: "The Meaningful Symbol of Our Flag."

(Communication No. 958 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Ms. Marie Kletke of the Fil-Am Los Angeles Community, 904 N. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744, expressing hope that the draft Constitution will include provisions fostering the development of self-sufficient economic regions with economic and political autonomy.

(Communication No. 959 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the National Economy and Patrimony.

Communication from the Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP) signed by its president, Mr. Rolando Dizon, expressing its view that the issue of the U.S. bases should not be included in the Constitution but should be left to the government to negotiate so as to protect the highest national interest.

(Communication No. 960 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

(Communications seeking to include in the Constitution provision a obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception, from:

- 1) Dr. Editha Lanete and 51 physicians of UP-P.G.H., Manila
- 2) Mr. Ronald Masangkay and 95 other students from De La Salle University.
- 3) Ms. Flora Nisce Kagaoan Ministry of Health Regional Health Office No. 4 IPHO, Morong District Hospital Morong, Rizal
- 4) Ms. Marie R. Banaag, 42 Bolivia St., Better Living Subdivision, Bicutan, Parañaque, M.M. and 565 other concerned citizens.

(Communication Nos. 961, 962, 963 and 964 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communications seeking to include in the Constitution the following:

- a) the promotion of Philippine sovereignty over our natural resources,
- b) an anti-U.S. or any foreign intervention on Philippine affairs,

c) a no-U.S. military bases agreement, and  
d) an anti-nuclear power plant, from:

1) Glenn M. Bayon  
Infant Jesus Academy  
Silang, Cavite

2) Christmas Panganiban  
Infant Jesus Academy  
Silang, Cavite

3) William V. Panganiban  
Infant Jesus Academy  
Silang, Cavite

4) Oliver B. Castro  
Infant Jesus Academy  
Silang, Cavite

(Communication Nos. 965, 966, 967 and 968 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Report No. 40 on Petition No. 3, prepared by the Steering Committee entitled:

AN URGENT PETITION TO REOPEN SECTIONS 5 AND 11 OF THE ARTICLE ON THE LEGISLATIVE POWER, recommending that the same be given due course by the Commission.

Sponsored by Hon. Bengzon, Jr. and Davide, Jr.

To the Calendar of Unassigned Business.

MR. RAMA: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Floor Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 537 (Article on the Declaration of Principles) *Continuation*

#### PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

MR. RAMA: I move that we resume consideration of Proposed Resolution No. 537 on the Article on Declaration of Principles. We are still in the period of amendments.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The honorable chairman and members of the committee will kindly occupy the front table