

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR EN BANC
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
HELD ON OCTOBER 13, 2009**

Present:

Chairman Jose A.R. Melo
Commissioner Nicodemo T. Ferrer
Commissioner Lucenito N. Tagle
Commissioner Armando C. Velasco
Commissioner Elias R. Yusoph

On Official Business:

Commissioner Rene V. Sarmiento

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09-0676. **IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF AMBASSADOR
HENRIETTA T. DE VILLA, NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON, PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR RESPONSIBLE VOTING (PPCRV), TO
DECLARE OCTOBER 16, 2009 AS SPECIAL REGISTRATION
DAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

This pertains to the Memorandum dated October 08, 2009 of B/Gen. Edgardo M. Gurrea (Ret), Head Executive Assistant, Office of the Chairman, requesting confirmation of the action taken on the request of Ambassador Henrietta T. de Villa, National Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), to declare October 16, 2009 as Special Registration Day for Persons with Disabilities in six (6) key cities.

The Memorandum of B/Gen. Gurrea reads:

"Referred herewith is the letter dated October 5, 2009 of Ambassador Henrietta T. de Villa, National Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), requesting for approval of the following:

- 1. That Friday 16 October 2009 be declared Special Registration Day for Persons with Disabilities in 6 key cities of the country:*

<i>Cagayan de Oro</i>	<i>Zamboanga City</i>
<i>Davao City</i>	<i>Iloilo City</i>
<i>Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija</i>	<i>San Fernando, Pampanga</i>
- 2. That special arrangements be made on Election Day for the PWD voter unable to walk and whose polling precinct is located on the [2nd] floor of the Polling Center to be able to vote without having to be carried up - which could be an embarrassment and consequently a diminution [of] his/her dignity;*

Above letter-request was already approved by the Honorable Chairman on October 6, 2009, hence, this request for confirmation by the En Banc."

The Commission **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to confirm the previous approval made by Chairman Jose A.R. Melo on October 6, 2009 relative to the following requests of Ambassador Henrietta T. de Villa, National Chairperson, PPRCV:

1. that October 16, 2009 (Friday) be declared as Special Registration Day for Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in six (6) cities of the country:
 1. Cagayan de Oro City;
 2. Davao City;
 3. Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija;
 4. Zamboanga City;
 5. Iloilo City; and
 6. San Fernando, Pampanga

2. That special arrangements be made on Election Day for the PWD voter unable to walk and whose polling precinct is located **at** the 2nd floor of the Polling Center to be able to vote without having to be carried up.

Attached and forming integral part hereof is a copy of the Letter of Ambassador de Villa consisting of two (2) pages.

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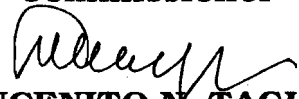
Let the Executive Director implement this resolution with dispatch.

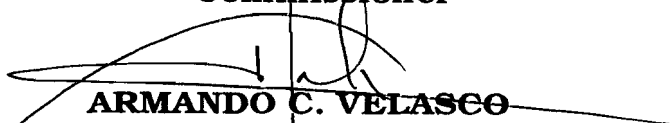
SO ORDERED.


JOSE A.R. MELO
Chairman

(On Official Business)
RENE V. SARMIENTO
Commissioner


NICODEMO T. FERRER
Commissioner


LUCENITO N. TAGLE
Commissioner


ARMANDO C. VELASCO
Commissioner


ELIAS R. YUSOPH
Commissioner

cc: Chairman
All Commissioners
Executive Director
Deputy Executive Director for Operations
Deputy Executive Director for Administration
Election and Barangay Affairs Department
Education and Information Department
Director Ladra, Planning Department
PPCRV (c/o Executive Director)

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Parish Pastoral Council For Responsible Voting (PPCRV)

"Boto Ko, Dangal Ko, Ipagtatanggol Ko!"

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05 October 2009

Chairman Jose A. R. Melo
Commission on Elections
Intramuros, Manila

Dear Chairman Melo,

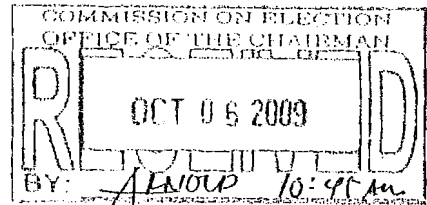
Warm greetings.

It is with special joy that we bring to your kind attention two requests of the PPCRV on behalf of the Filipino voters who are persons with disabilities.

1. That Friday 16 October 2009 be declared Special Registration Day for Persons with Disabilities in 6 key cities of the country:
Cagayan de Oro Zamboanga City
Davao City Iloilo City
Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija San Fernando, Pampanga
2. That special arrangements be made on Election Day for the PWD voter unable to walk and whose polling precinct is located on the 2nd floor of the Polling Center to be able to vote without having to be carried up – which could be an embarrassment and consequently a diminution of his/her dignity;

The PPCRV last year has entered into a partnership with AKAP PINOY, a federation of associations/organizations of Persons with Disabilities nationwide. Part of the concrete result of this alliance will be the implementation during the 10 May 2010 Elections of having a PPCRV pollwatcher with disability join other PPCRV Voters' Assistance Desk (VAD) pollwatchers. This will be carried out in all Polling Centers nationwide as an expression of PPCRV's solidarity with the implementation of Article 29 of the UN Convention on the Rights of PWDs, and Comelec Resolution No. 09-0427, as well as RA 9369 Section 6 (h) which states that "the automated election system must at least have the following functional capabilities ... (such as) accessibility to illiterate and disabled voters."

Prior to this, in the setting up of satellite registration centers by Comelec initiated by the PPCRV, we made sure there were always a number of PWDs as registrants. In the CAC activity carried out by PPCRV implementing a Research Comparative Study on Different Technologies for Automation in



read

10-16-09



Parish Pastoral Council For Responsible Voting (PPCRV)

"Boto Ko, Dangal Ko, Ipagtatangol Ko!"

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November 2008, the PWDs were visibly represented as participants. This was also true for the *Talakayan Sa Plaza Miranda* (a dialogue between the sectoral groups and public officials aspiring for the presidency) the PPCRV organized last 16 June 2009. One of the 6 sectors chosen was AKAP PINOY and a PWD representative was brought on stage to directly address her questions to the candidates.

This is being faithful to PPCRV's advocacy for CHAMP Elections – Clean **H**onest **A**ccurate **M**eaningful **P**eaceful – as specially tilted in favor of the poor, the youth and vulnerable sectors of our society.

In this light, we hope the Commission on Elections, through your kind intervention will grant our aforementioned requests.

As ever, our prayers are for you and all the good people of Comelec.

Sincerely,

Henrietta T. de Villa
National Chairperson

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVED
JOSE A R MELO CHAIRMAN	