



### **Barangay and SK elections**

#### **Timeline of Activities**

##### 25 September-10 November 2010

COMELEC Resolution No. 9019, sets the election period to September 25, 2010 until November 10, 2010.

Carrying of deadly weapons and the use of bodyguards by candidates is prohibited.

##### 1- 13 October 2010

Aspiring candidates for the Barangay and SK polls may file their Certificate of Candidacy (COC).

##### 14- 23 October 2010

Candidates campaign period.

##### 18 October 2010

Last day for filing of disqualification cases.

18- 20 October- Inspection and verification of completeness of the Voters' Registration Records and sealing of the Book of Voters for each barangay and sangguniang kabataan precinct (Sec. 31, R.A. 8189)

20 October- Last day of posting the Computerized Voters' List (CVL) for purposes of the Synchronized Elections of Sangguniang Kabataan and Barangay Officials (Sec. 30, R.A. 8189 in relation to Sec. 28, R.A. 8436)

##### 25 October 2010

Casting of votes from 7 a.m until 3 p.m. The counting and canvassing of votes and the proclamation of winning candidates will immediately begin after the casting of votes.

#### **Comelec Resolution**

Res. No. 9042- In the matter of placing some areas in the country under COMELEC control

Res. No. 9040 - Enforcement of the prohibition against appointment or hiring of new employees, creation or filling up of new positions; giving salary increases; transferring/ detailing of civil service employees; and suspension of elective local officials in connection with the Oct. 25 election.

Res.No. 9039 - Rules and Regulation governing public works ban and ban on the release, disbursement and expenditures of public funds in connection with the Oct 25 election.

### **Comelec wants P2.5-B for ARMM polls**

- The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) wants an additional P2.5 billion for the 2011 elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. COMELEC Commissioner Nicodemo Ferrer told members of the House of Representatives appropriations committee that the P480 million budget in the 2011 National Expenditure Program for the COMELEC is not enough. Aside from the budget for the automated ARMM election, the agency's main budget of P4.5 billion also faces possible cuts. Lawmakers also questioned the absence of many commissioners from the budget hearing. Ferrer said Chairman Jose Melo and Comm. Rene Sarmiento are on official trip. Comm. Gregorio Larrazabal, meanwhile, stayed in the office for a number of meetings. Only Comm. Ferrer, Lucenito Tagle and Elias Yusoph faced the committee. The three assured the lawmakers the commission will be ready to face the plenary.

### **Palace seeks exemption from appointment ban**

- Malacañang is seeking an exemption from COMELEC that would allow President Aquino to continue to exercise his powers to appoint officials in government even during the period prior to and after the holding of barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) elections on Oct.25. The COMELEC prohibition covers the hiring of any new employee as well as transferring of posts, creating new positions, suspending any elected official and granting salary increases. It took effect last September 25 and will run up to November 10. Under the country's Constitution, Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa explained the power of the President to hire and fire are executive functions that go together. Hence, the Palace made this request for exemption from the Comelec election ban. Ochoa disclosed the Palace needs to fill as many as 1,000 more presidential appointees, "not 5,000" as frequently mentioned in previous reports in media. He said these are positions being held by coterminous appointees of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo who are automatically considered resigned after she stepped down from office last June 30. The Palace had earlier extended the stay in office of Arroyo coterminous officials until Oct. 30 under Memorandum Circular 1-A issued by the Executive Secretary. So far, he said, the President has issued already more than 1,000 appointments, including Cabinet officials.

### **Good governance advocacy: NAMFREL observes several biddings for medicine and textbook monitoring**

- The DepEd as the procuring body called for a bid on 13 September for printing, packaging and labeling of scan- able answer sheets and essay answer sheets; processing of scan- able answer sheets and checking and analysis of essay answer sheets for the alternative learning system accreditation and equivalency test (A&E Test) amounting to P11, 850, 000.00. NAMFREL attended the opening bids. One bidder was not able to comply with the requirements, thus deeming them to have failed the bidding, no further deviation nor were irregularities observed. Furthermore, the failed bidder was given three (3) working days to file a motion for reconsideration. NAMFREL also attended the rebidding for purchase of medical supplies worth P1, 345,895.00 at the DOH- Center for Health Development IV- B (MIMAROPA). Only one bidder expressed intent to participate in the re-bidding for the purchase of medical supplies. There was a failure of bidding since one of the documents submitted by the bidder was not an original, or at least a certified true copy. The Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC) had their public evaluation of eligibility and opening of bid on 15 September. This was a negotiated procurement attended by only one bidder. During the proceedings, no significant irregularity or deviation was observed. NAMFREL observers sitting in various government bids and awards committee is part of volunteers' effort to promote transparency and accountability in governance and among elected leaders. For more on NAMFREL's procurement monitoring programs visit <http://www.namfrel.org.ph/activities/specialprojects.htm>

[Sources: ABS-CBN News, Philippine Star News, NAMFREL data]