

### **Barangay and SK elections**

#### **Timeline of Activities**

**25 September-10 November 2010**

ELECTION PERIOD

Gun and bodyguards ban.

**1- 13 October 2010**

Filing of candidates 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 SK precinct

**20 October-** Last day of posting the Computerized Voters' List (CVL)

**25 October 2010**

Casting of votes from 7 a.m until 3 p.m.. Canvassing follows.

#### **Comelec Resolution**

**Resolution NO. 9046-** Preservation of the book of voters and other election documents used relative to the precautionary protection issued in PET case no. 004

**Res No. 9045-** Instructions to chief of police of cities/ municipalities on the conduct of the preliminary examination on the violation of the ban on firearms, other deadly weapons and security personnel

**Res. No. 9043-** Rules and regulation governing election campaign, propaganda, contributions and expenditures in connection with Oct 25 election

**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.

#### **MILF bans members from participating in barangay polls**

- The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) leadership has barred all its officers from participating in the upcoming barangay (village-level) elections on October 25, as part of its standing policy of "No participation/Hands off" in Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) elections. The order was stated in a Memorandum Order (MO) dated October 1, which was signed by Muhammad Ameen, Secretary of the MILF Central Committee, and Ghazali Jaafar, Vice Chairman for Political Affairs of MILF Central Committee. Through the MO, the MILF leadership specifically prohibits all its officers to participate in campaigns and rallies for any candidates, deliver political speeches during 'miting de avances,' solicit campaign funds, and to even lend their vehicles to candidates during the campaign period. Any violator of this Memorandum will be dealt with accordingly under the MILF judicial system. While the MILF's decision of not intervening in the election process may be viewed as belligerent, it would also isolate the planned peace talks from the fallout caused by the local elections and minimize the presence of armed personnel during the elections.

#### **Teachers are clamoring for a higher pay on October 25**

- The Teachers' Dignity Coalition (TDC), a 30,000-strong group, made an appeal to Comelec to consider a better compensation package and lighter workload for teachers on poll duty on the Oct. 25 Barangay and SK Elections. The Comelec will give a total of P1,500 for every teacher who will sit in the BET based on the Comelec Resolution No. 9030. According to TDC national chairperson Benjo Basas teachers must be paid not less than P3,000 per diem, P500 for sealing of book of voters and P500 transportation allowance. Apart from the compensation and workload issue, TDC will also ask the Comelec and the authorities to ensure the safety and security of teachers compelled to perform poll duties. Since its formation, the TDC has been constantly lobbying in Congress to put an end to the compulsory poll duties of public school teachers. Meanwhile, the Department of Education (DepEd) expressed support to the teachers who will serve as BET by coordinating with various agencies to ensure the smooth conduct of the coming polls. According to DepEd Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs and official spokesperson Alberto Muyot, to help ensure the protection of teachers who will the polls, DepEd will work closely with the Philippine National Police and Armed Forces of the Philippines for the safety of teachers. It is a known fact that the teachers are most prone to violence and other untoward incidents. It is unfair for teachers of denying them the just compensation they should receive. Non- monetary compensations like life and risk insurance should also be provided in if they are still compelled to serve in all elections.

#### **Comelec Bid Update: Bidding for Election Supplies, Forms, and related Services for the Barangay and SK Elections (BAC -0-10-0278)- BAC Reference No. 2010BE-001 to 003**

- NAMFREL Secretariat observers monitored the submission of bids last October 4 in a marathon bidding which lasted more than twelve (12) hours. The items for bidding were for election supplies and forms (non-accountable) and related services for use of the Working Committee for the October 25, 2010 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan. Total Approved Budget Contract (ABC) is Php 365,659,596.92 divided into nine (9) lots. Ten (10) prospective suppliers were originally considered for the bidding on the Printing and Delivery of Election Forms. One bidder withdrew (Ernest Printing) on the grounds of errors in the computation of their single largest contract requirement. The BAC was able to determine the eligible bidders to the post-qualification stage. While the new BAC tried to earnestly comply with bid procedures, some lapses were observed in the conduct of the bidding. These procedural lapses, manner in interpreting the Procurement Law, and the tedious process adopted by the BAC in conducting the bidding are areas where the Comelec BAC needs some improvement. The members of the BAC may be recommended for further training by the GPPB to make them more efficient and ready for upcoming challenges to make the process more transparent and competitive.

*[Sources: Manila Bulletin, Philippine Daily Inquirer, COMELEC data, NAMFREL data,*