

Barangay and SK elections

Timeline of Activities

4- 13 August 2010

Registration for Barangay polls

6- 15 August 2010

List up for the SK elections

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.

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. 9027 – In the matter of exercising provision and control over the Philippine National Police in connection with the October 25, 2010 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections

Res. No. 9026- Request for the concurrence of the president of the Republic of the Philippines in the deputation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP)

Comelec can save millions by not using logo on poll forms

- The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) can save half the budget in the coming barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections if it will agree to dispense with the use of its logo on some of the non-accountable forms that will be used in the October 25 elections. Lawyer Ferdinand Rafanan, head of the Comelec bids and awards committee (BAC), yesterday said they are looking at possible savings of "tens of millions of pesos" should the logo requirement be dispensed with. He said a total of P398 million has been allocated for the supplies and forms to be bid out for the coming polls. He said the BAC has already forwarded the matter to the Comelec en banc for approval. Among the non-accountable supplies that could dispense with the Comelec logo are ballpens, markers, ballot secrecy folders, continuous forms, and bond papers, among others. Rafanan said that based on their initial canvass of materials to be used in the elections; many of the non-accountable forms that would be needed are readily available at the Department of Budget and Management procurement service (DBM-PS). The DBM-PS serves as the centralized procurement body that makes available commonly used supplies for government agencies.

Possible rise in election violence on October 25 especially in the ARMM

- Vote Peace monitored election-related violence and recorded 130 incidents from January 10 until May 13. Of this number, 22 percent took place in ARMM. The infamous massacre of 57 people and 32 journalists in Maguindanao on November 23, 2009 was a typical example of intense political rivalry in the region. In the 2007 Barangay and SK election, the COMELEC issued a resolution authorizing the PNP personnel and/or trainees to act as Special Board of Election Inspectors (SBEI) for Special Elections in the province of Lanao del Sur. Total number of deputies reached about one thousand four hundred sixty one (1,461 = 487 total clustered precinct x3) because of the possible refusal of teachers to serve as BEI on poll day due to threat, intimidation and harassment. Moreover, previous reported election related deaths and injuries from bombing, ambushes, abductions and strafing may deter participation. Given that ARMM regional poll is just a few months after the barangay and SK polls, similar election related violence could recur if not given immediate action. Political rivalries are intense in the five-province and one-city region, which is gripped by pervasive cases of clan feuds that mostly stem from politics.

Afghanistan election updates

- Afghan officials said militant attacks on Election Day (18 September) killed at least 21 civilians and nine police officers. Washington-based National Democratic Institute raised concerns on 280 cases of direct attacks by the insurgents and 157 cases of warlords committing violence. The Free and Fair Election Foundation of Afghanistan (FEFA) reported several election violations and irregularities such as intimidation, ballot-stuffing, proxy voting, underage voting, fake voter's card, repeat voting, obstruction of observers, late openings, washable inks, missing materials, absence of female staff, delayed counting etc. The state electoral commission, however, criticized observer groups and the media for being quick to imply the electoral process was unsuccessful based on allegations of fraud and misconduct. To follow NAMFREL in Afghanistan visit www.namfrel.org.ph or <http://twitter.com/namfrel>.

[Sources: Malaya, Vote Peace, Comelec Data, PNP data, Namfrel Data]