



**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS**  
INTRAMUROS, MANILA  
Office of the Chairman

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October 7, 2011

**BISHOP BRODERICK PABILLO**

*Auxiliary Bishop of Manila*  
121 Arzobispo Street, Intramuros, Manila

**DR. PABLO MANALASTAS**

*Automated Election Systems Watch (AES Watch)*  
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**ATTY. RONA ANN CARITOS**

*Legal Network for Truthful Elections (LENTE)*  
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**BISHOP EFRAIM TENDERO**

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**PROF. GEORGINA ENCANTO**

*Transparency International – Philippines*  
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**DR. JAIME D.L. CARO**

*University of the Philippines – Information Technology and Training Center*  
Diliman, Quezon City

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Dear **SIRS AND MESDAMES:**

Greetings!

I write in response to your joint Statement of Concern dated October 4, 2011 “posing strong and unequivocal opposition” to my confirmation as Chairman of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC). Kindly allow me to express some of my lingering perceptions on the following points of objections, *to wit:*

1. I find it quite unfortunate to have received your written opposition to my confirmation the day before my scheduled appearance before the Commission on Appointments (CA) without affording me the opportunity to explain my position in all your alleged concerns/objections;

2. As "election monitoring/stakeholder" groups, your manifested adversarial stance would make it most difficult for us to achieve our desired goal of improving Philippine electoral processes;
3. I would like to believe that the signed Statement of Concern is more of a personal act rather a collective stand by your organizations you seemingly represent;
4. After reading your Statement of Concern, it appears that the issues raised are adopted in the formal opposition filed by another oppositor – Atty. Ferdinand T. Rafanan, *Director IV* of the COMELEC;
5. I would like to state also my unfamiliarity with the signatories though I have probably met some of you in a number of occasions; and
6. The issue of my confirmation as Chairman of the COMELEC is now **academic** through the decision rendered by the CA last October 5, 2011. However, unless the issues/personal concerns are thresh out amongst us, future relationship maybe negatively hampered and shall serve no benefit for the Filipino people.

Allow me to also shed light on the allegations of Dir. Rafanan and all controversies arising thereat by attaching my Reply Affidavit filed before the CA on October 5, 2011 for your guidance and information.

In view of the foregoing and as now the confirmed Chairman of COMELEC, I am more than willing to set aside the apparently "adversarial positions" taken by your organizations regarding my confirmation. I am also of the opinion that perhaps it does not look good for stakeholders like you to have taken such position against me considering that we shall be working together toward all future elections.

I would like to assure all of you of my impartiality and commitment to deliver/effect good governance and principled leadership. It is also my earnest desire to meet all of you at the soonest possible time to talk things out and settle whatever differences we might have had.

Should you have any other concerns, please feel free to write/contact us.

Very truly yours,

  
SIXTO S. BRILLANTES, JR.  
Chairman

Enclosure : As stated