

**2005 CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION**  
**To Propose the Revision of the 1987 Constitution**

**Committee on National Patrimony and Economic Reforms**  
**TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEETING**  
Wednesday, November 09, 2005

**OPENING OF THE MEETING**

*At 4:36 p.m., the Chairman of the Committee, Vicente T. Paterno, called the meeting to order.*

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Meeting will come to order. Mr. Floor Leader?

**ROLL CALL**

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.  
I move that we dispense with the calling of the roll.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
It has been moved and seconded that the roll call be dispensed with. I hear no objection, so we can begin the business of the day.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Maybe we need to go to the approval of the minutes first.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.  
I move for the approval of the minutes of the meeting on October 17.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
It has been moved that the reading of the minutes of our meeting of the committee on October 17 be dispensed with and the same be approved.

COMMISSIONER ANGELES.  
Second the motion.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Seconded. Any objections? None. Minutes are approved. Mr. Floor Leader?

**BUSINESS OF THE DAY**

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.  
May we go now to the Business of the Day -- 2.1, Sharing of the Results of the Visayas-Mindanao Consultations? At the back of the minutes, there is a summary form, Consultative Commission Revision on Economic Reforms.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

This is only for Team B. So, this has been submitted so that the team leaders of the other two teams, namely, Teams Alpha and Gamma, could share the results of their consultations, so that we can consolidate these results and use these results as the basis for any amendments that we might want to make in our draft.

Who was the team leader of Team A?

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Team A is Joey Leviste. But Joey was absent so it was Joji Bian.

COMMISSIONER ABUEG.

For the Team A for the Cebu consultation, Commissioner Tabanda and for Mindanao, Commissioner Lambino.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, the team leader of Team A for Cebu wants to share the results in Cebu...of the consultations?

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chair, I think the team leader is still in Baguio City.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Not yet here.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Not yet here.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, team leader for Team A in the next place was Cagayan?

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

Mr. Chairman...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Commissioner Azurin.

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

In Cebu, we were divided into three groups. The Chairman of the subgroup that discussed the economic provisions was Commissioner Francis Chua together with Commissioner Bengzon. Perhaps they can be the ones to share.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, Com. Francis Chua and/or Com. Mela Bengzon, would you like to report on the results of the consultations of Team A in Cebu?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Sir, maybe in the interest of time, I think attached to the minutes is the Team B consultation. I think I would like each and everyone to read it. Succinctly, it says that our consultations in Cebu, Iloilo and Davao, liberalization or ownership of private or agricultural land were most strongly resisted. Although in Cebu, it's half-half; but in Iloilo and Davao, they are more conservative. And then, it goes on...the response to our

question about ownership of commercial and industrial lands indicates that there is absence of passion on the matter, seeing the concern of business persons, not of the farmer.

Regarding liberalization of public utilities, in Cebu, they are all for liberalization but in Iloilo, they are not. For liberalization or lifting of the requirements on utilization of natural resources, in Cebu again, they are very receptive to the idea; in Iloilo and Davao, they are resisting such liberalization.

And also, there were five items that were up for discussion: land ownership, utilization of natural resources, operations of public utilities, mass media and the academic institutions. For Cebu, they are all for the liberalization of those. In Iloilo and Davao, we can summarize that they are not very strong on liberalization. The specifics will be in that paper.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Who is the team leader in Palawan?

COMMISSIONER ABUEG.

Mr. Chairman, the coordinator for the group that considered national patrimony and economy was Commissioner Jun Ortiz and I understand he is ready to make a briefing on what transpired in Palawan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

We can wait for him and, in the meantime, proceed to the reports...

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

I move that we defer, in the meantime, the submission of the reports of the other teams because there are teams here, the team leader is Commissioner Jimeno, and when we were in Leyte and Cagayan de Oro, the leader was already Commissioner Sarmiento. Both are not around, so the same with the other team. Perhaps we can defer the submission of the report.

Are you ready? So, there is now...Team ano yon?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Team A daw sa Palawan. So, we call on the Co-Chairman...

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

For the meantime, I withdraw my motion Mr. Chair.

COMMISSIONER ORTIZ-LUIS.

Thank you, Mr. Chair. In Palawan, initially, well it is better because they were very much organized, because they had pre-meetings even before our coming. And the membership of the group is quite really rounded. We have people from the academe, from the business sector, from the NGOs, from the public sector and they were very familiar...despite the lack of hand-outs...they were very familiar with the issues. And therefore, the format was quite different. Rather than us, the commissioners, chairing them, they elected their own chair and they discussed it among themselves. We merely acted really like resource people. And in the presentation, they made their own presentation of the results.

Basically, during the discussions, there was also resistance on the ownership issues but when it was explained to them that what we wanted really to do was unclog the Constitution but leave it to legislation. They were happy with that and that is what the recommendations they agreed to. They, basically, agreed of clearing the Constitution of most of the restrictive policies on ownership and leave it to legislation, provided proper safeguard is put in terms of transitory provisions that while legislation is not yet passed that there is a safeguard that it will not be abused in the process.

They also requested that in the report on the provision on patrimony that the local concern, the provincial concern be also taken up. What they suggested on the local concern really was related to what Commissioner Abueg presented to us as resolutions. They wanted the provision on patrimony to be protected and they have issues on ownership of project...when we go federal regarding the...well of course of their natural resources, mainly the oil, in the fifteen kilometer distance. I do not know if we are the ones to address that. That is a big concern of theirs on the patrimony. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, there was no objection to liberalization on ownership outside of the land.

COMMISSIONER ORTIZ-LUIS.

Even in the land, provided that there is an ample provision on transitory that until and when legislation comes in, that there will be no abuse. I guess, provided that we are able to put that in place, they are much in favor of it.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, they are in fact willing for Congress to be the one to determine the extent of foreign ownership and the safety nets.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chair, I move that we defer the submission of the reports of Team C. The leader and the co-leader are not around.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Okay.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

I move now that we consider Item 2.2, Indicated Changes in the Draft Amendments of Article 12.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

I would like to bring before the Committee the question of whether or not we should make changes in the amendments that we had agreed upon in the last meeting about the amendments in the different sections in view of the consultations. That is one option. One option, therefore, is to make changes in the amendments that we agreed upon last time in order to reflect the results of the consultations in Visayas-Mindanao. The other option, of course, is to wait 'til after we have had consultations in Luzon before we make the changes, so that the changes will already be the final draft...our final draft. What is the pleasure of the committee?

Sister Commissioner Luz?

COMMISSIONER SORIANO.

I think we should wait until we complete the consultations. Otherwise, we lose time. We might as well put together all the results of the consultations both in the South and in Luzon.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Any other views? Commissioner Bondoc.

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, we should incorporate the results of the consultations if any, as amendments to the amendments so that we can present these as well to future consultations for validation of whatever reaction or for talking points.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Are you suggesting that we inform the future consultations about the reactions of Visayas-Mindanao?

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Opo.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Mr. Peña.

COMMISSIONER PEÑA.

Mr. Chairman, may I suggest maybe a matrix type of presentation where you can have the initial, then what other areas are, so you can see the development on a matrix form?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Pwede rin, in other words, the matrix that we presented can have some, sort of, footnotes, for example, accepted in Visayas and Mindanao or resisted in Visayas and Mindanao, something like that. Commissioner Bengzon?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

That is correct. But we already have a present matrix. Remember, we can just put in the consultations...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Just add the...maybe even in...so that they don't have to retype...maybe in handwriting...

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Right. 'Coz we worked on that draft in Cebu and in Davao and Iloilo, the draft will work also.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Maybe a remarks column.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Some kind of a remarks column to reflect the reactions in Visayas and Mindanao, then

the people in Luzon may say, “we agree” or “we do not agree,” or whatever, so that the results of our consultations can be geographic in character. Very good. Any other comments?

(Silence)

Well, if there are no other comments, then there is no need for a review of our matrix other than to make these footnotes or, you might say, remarks column.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chairman, I move that we defer consideration of 2.3.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

...of 2.3.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

2.3.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Mr. Floor Leader, the reason for this is that we did not actually present for approval by the commission or by the plenary because I understand that we did not have a resolution to present at that time. So, for formality's sake, we just thought that we could present our resolution for the approval of the plenary, finally.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chair, this draft resolution was the one utilized in Cebu and in the other places, submitted it to them.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Yes.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

In fact, it was not really approved in the plenary because the consideration was deferred but even with the deferment, we submitted these for consideration in the Visayas and Mindanao, the draft.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Mr. Chairman, just as a background on that, we drafted the resolution on that because the Floor Leader wanted to have a resolution to be put to plenary. But in any case, I think that's the one that was utilized. It only says that to use that matrix as talking points. Maybe we can just have that approved because we have used it anyway. It is already...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

...approved as amended or?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

No, no, no. Remember, just as a background, before we went into the regional consultations, there was a matrix that was presented by Mr. Ortiz-Luis. But the Floor Leader objected because it was not in a proper resolution form. But then we already had to take off. So, what we did, so as to just to use the matrix, we made a draft form of a resolution that just says the matrix talking points. So, it is just basically form. So, for the

sake of procedure, why don't we just have that approved right now? It was talking points...di ba 'yung...but we have already finished it except that it is a paper lying around. It was already submitted. It was already used. So, for proper procedure, I would move Mr. Chairman, that we just approve that resolution now.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

The Committee to approve the resolution?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Yes, because we haven't done that yet. That was just a draft that we...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

It was a draft that really was not presented for approval to the committee nor to the Commission.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Yes, not yet because although it was just a formal paper that the Majority Floor Leader wanted...because what Commissioner Ortiz-Luis presented at that time was just a matrix. So, Majority Floor Leader objected that it was not in a proper resolution form. So, what we did was just put that in a proper resolution form.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

Excuse me...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

There was a previous...yes?

COMMISSIONER CALISIN.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just attended this...this is the first session of the committee that I attended. I am James Calisin.

To my mind, to have a draft of a resolution from Mindanao and Visayas consultation and having matrix is still for me wrong or half-baked. I think the best way to consolidate the information gathered from the areas we consulted is we finish first our consultation with Luzon. And after that, we consolidate the data and have a matrix from all over Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao so that we may not be amending and amending later on and changing...if we are going to amend right now, to amend the amendments, we will be, I think, topsy-turvy later on because we have not consulted yet Luzon, which is the biggest area in the entire...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

I think that is the consensus that we have gathered so far.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

Mr. Chairman, just point of order. I agree with what he said. But this is totally a different matter, what I am talking about. For proper procedure, before we left for the consultation, there was a hanging or a pending motion for a need for a resolution. I am sorry for those who just came in. It has nothing to do with what you are saying. It has nothing to do with the consultations of Mindanao and Visayas. So, for proper order, Mr. Chairman, what I wanted to do was just approve that resolution because otherwise, our minutes may be hanging in the sense that we never concluded what was done before.

Let me read to you...can I ask the Secretariat to give me a draft of the resolution?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Maybe we need...since we have at least five members who are coming in new and who were not at the consultations in Visayas-Mindanao, perhaps we need to explain further. On October 17, the Committee met in order to draft amendments to provisions on the national patrimony and on the economy. After discussion within the Committee, drafting committees were formed to make the drafts of the respective sessions in Article XII. The drafts made by the drafting committees were essentially approved by the Committee in full meeting. This is the matrix that was being referred to. However, at the plenary meeting of the Commission that followed, the Floor Leader gave the opinion that the matrix could not be officially considered without an attached resolution requesting such approval by the plenary meeting of the Commission. However, even if there was no formal approval of the matrix and of the Commission, we proceeded to present that matrix at the consultations in Visayas and Mindanao. So, in a sense, it was an unauthorized or officially unapproved version of the matrix. So, to legitimize the matrix, we now are talking about presenting both the resolution and the matrix for the approval of the Commission at its plenary meeting tomorrow. Then, in effect, we will have a legitimate matrix with the proper approval of the Plenary. That is the reason why Commissioner Bengzon is saying for formality's sake or good procedure, we need to present the resolution and the matrix for the approval of the Plenary tomorrow.

COMMISSIONER CHUA.

Mr. Chairman, I do suggest...I support that idea because the very basic working paper that we worked on is this matrix. If we do not approve it, it is as if what we have been doing is not being sanctioned by the Commission. So, it is absolutely necessary that we would have to approve it.

COMMISSIONER ORTIZ-LUIS

Besides, Mr. Chairman, it is very clear in the resolution they are talking points, we are not approving, they are the talking points for the consultation

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chair, the arrangement when the resolution was approved, the draft resolution together with the matrix was the one utilized for consultation. So, I really don't know Mr. Chairman if the Body would like to approve both the...approve the resolution and make the matrix as an annex to the resolution...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

That's right.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

...And in fact, it's really an annex here.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

So, we should present a resolution...

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Yes, Mr. Chair.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.  
Mr. Chair, can I ask a question, please?

COMMISSIONER VARELA.  
Yes, Mr. Chairman. It's very important, Mr. Chairman...

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Sorry...Commissioner Varela.

COMMISSIONER VARELA.  
Yeah. I think it is very important for us to have this resolution in the light of the consultations in Visayas and Mindanao. We have to establish positions very clearly, so that in the next consultation there will be more preparedness in making the presentations.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Thank you.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.  
Mr. Chairman, clarification?

COMMISSIONER JURADO.  
Mr. Chairman? Yeah. I thought the Chairman put the matter very well and very clearly when he said that as the consultations proceed in the provinces in the cities, we obtain feedback from the various respondents, sectors. Now, we take note of these responses of the various sectors and then take a look at the matrix which was presented earlier which never really was officially acted upon and then note – if I understood the Chairman correctly – indicate in forms of footnotes, the amendments that need to be introduced as we go on. And then, report put these...once all the consultations are perfected, we put all these together and make a total thorough amendment of the matrix. That will be the time to present that to the Plenary, alright. In the meanwhile, the various plenary that are approaching, we can always report what we have accomplished during the consultations. So, I thought what the Chairman said is perfect and I would like to second it if it's a motion already made.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.  
Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Commissioner Pedrosa...

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.  
My impression is that there were two resolutions. The first resolution was on the Committee level. And now, is a resolution being proposed based on the matrix. I can't see why we should not include that Committee level resolution which was voted upon by the Committee itself and was going to be presented to the Plenary.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Sorry, the matrix was voted upon..

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

No, no, no, a resolution on which the matrix was patterned. It was a report actually of the Committee.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Mr. Chair, I move that we approve the resolution recommending, subject to the outcome of consultation for approval in the Plenary session, that the citizenship requirement and foreign equity restrictions in Sections 2 to 22 of Article 12 of the 1987 Constitution be liberalized and other relevant amendments together with the matrix.

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

Second the motion.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

Second the motion.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

The motion has been made and seconded. Are there any objections to that?

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, I understand that this resolution was already moot and academic because this pertains to the consultations on 24 to 28 unless this resolution will be amended, then this cannot be considered, Mr. Chairman. If the resolutions you are saying is the one distributed to the Commission members, it pertains to the consultations on 24 and 28 of October.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

That's correct but that's... that was not really acted upon, that's why it was in the Plenary if you remember before we went on to the consultations, the Majority Floor Leader asked that the matrix be remanded back to the Committee level to draft a proper resolution. So we left it at that. We went on with the consultations. This is the first time we are meeting. We need to do that, that resolution, to ratify whatever we did there because we used that as talking points. Anyway, in principle, the Committee really approved the matrix. This time we are just approving the formal resolution language that for proper procedure the Majority Floor Leader required.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

So without need...?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

...Form lang. It's just form.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

So without need of amending this...?

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.

No more, no more.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

No more need.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.  
Just for proper procedure.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.  
For formality. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER BENGZON.  
It's just form.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Okay. I take it there are no objections, so the motion is approved.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.  
Mr. Chair, we go to number 3, other matters. I do not know what the other matters are...

COMMISSIONER ABUEG.  
Mr. Chairman? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we go to other matters, may I request for a correction of the minutes of October 17, 2005? The name of this representation does not appear as present during that meeting. However, my name appears twice in page 9 of the minutes and also on page 11 of the minutes. At one point, paragraph 1, 2, 3, 4 of page 9 upon the left margin, it says that..."Commissioner Chua did inform the Committee that Article 2 Section 22 has already been cancelled. Commissioner Abueg added that Isagani Cruz has already questioned the constitutionality...", and so on. And then on paragraph 4 at the right hand portion of page 9, it says..."Commissioner Abueg presented this proposal filed with the Secretariat...", and so forth, etcetera. Then on page 11, right hand portion fourth paragraph it says..."Commissioner Abueg expressed his concurrence in the proposal of Commissioner Garcia to restore the power of reclassification of land to the President..." etcetera. So, may I ask that the Secretariat be directed to make the necessary correction to make it appear that this representation was present during the meeting of October 17, 2005?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.  
Is the Secretariat taking note of all the observations of Commissioner Abueg?

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.  
Did you get the comments of Commissioner Abueg? Commissioner hindi ata nadinig yung sinabi ninyo? They cannot hear you. Can you get the microphone closer to you?

COMMISSIONER ABUEG.  
I asked that the Secretariat be directed to make a minor correction in the minutes of the just previously approved, October 17, where the name of this representation does not appear to be present during that meeting while my name appears on...page 9 fourth paragraph of the left hand portion; page 9 also fourth paragraph of the right hand portion and page 11 fourth paragraph of the right hand portion, where my name appears to have made manifestation.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.  
Documented.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.  
Mr. Chairman!

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

The Secretariat is now taking note.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for the record, can I make also some correction in the minutes of the October 17 meeting? It is on page, can you get this please? Attention, Secretariat. On page 8 of the minutes, may I just correct the figure at the bottom there is a figure there "600 million hectares"...the correct figure would be 6,000 hectares...6,000 hectares. So, that is in the last paragraph of the first column. And in the second column page 8, first at the last paragraph of the first column, "the 6 million hectares" should be changed to 6,000 hectares; then, instead of "604,000" only 600 hectares--604 hectares...Yes, remove the thousands only 604 hectares. And in the second column, Mr. Chairman, on paragraph 3 it states again "6 million hectares", then correct that into 6,000 hectares; and...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Question? Commissioner Adamat, shouldn't that be 600,000 hectares, not only 6,000?

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

...6, a, 6...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

We are talking of indigenous lands...

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Yeah...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

...I mean ancestral lands of indigenous peoples...

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Oh, no...6 million, I should say...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Oo, nga.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

6 million, yeah...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Okay.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

...not 600 million. 6 million hectares

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Okay. 6 million hectares.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Yes, 6 million hectares.

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Hindi po 6,000 lang, kasi kung 6,000 kasing liit lang po ng Hacienda Luisita yan, e.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Tama, tama. Yes, yes. I stand corrected, Mr. Chairman. 6,000 hectares...

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

6 million po. 6 million.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

A, 6 million. Then, instead of 604...no, I think that is correct 604,000 hectares.

COMMISSIONER BONDOC.

Yun, tama po yun.

COMMISSIONER ADAMAT.

Then, on the third paragraph of second column, instead of 6 million hectares, instead of 600 million hectares, then 604,000 hectares is correct. So, that's about all, Mr. Chairman. Thank, you.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Thank you, Commissioner Abueg—I mean Commissioner Adamat. The Secretariat will please reflect those corrections in the minutes.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Mr. Chairman? I have...Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Sir.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

I have the same manifestation with Commissioner Abueg. I was making intervention but I was not present in the list of commissioners present.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Did the Secretariat take note of that observation? Will you please repeat, the Secretariat did not catch?

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Commissioner Matula was present on October 17 and I was in fact making some intervention but my name was not in the minutes of those present. So, I move that my name be included in the attendance.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Has the Secretariat noted? Will you please reflect that change? Any other observations in the minutes? Commissioner Pedrosa?

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

Is that the one...? I don't have the minutes before me but since you're asking about the minutes that need to be corrected, there was a disagreement between what was said of me and Mr. Azurin and myself. And he has corrected it but somebody told me that I cannot do that without bringing it to the Plenary. So, I bring it to the Plenary...

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman? Are you referring to the October 17 minutes under study, or are you referring to another...?

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

No, no, no, from other but he made a private correction to the Secretariat.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Can you just write...put it in writing kung ano yung minutes you are referring to the Secretary General so I can...

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

It's just a matter of procedure that I said it in the Plenary.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Yeah, please, kuwan na lang because we are talking about another set of minutes here.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

Yeah, yeah. Thank you, thank you.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Ibang minutes yan e; ibang meeting ito, Chit. Okay na.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Okay. Commissioner?

COMMISSIONER JURADO.

Mr. Chairman, I suggest that when any of us, when any Commissioner...

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Can you use the mic, please, closer to the mic, because our people cannot hear, that's the reason why they cannot get your points, e. They cannot hear you.

COMMISSIONER JURADO.

Alright. Well taken. I suggest that when we refer to numbers – and I am not referring only to the number what is being discussed at this moment – we must write these numbers down and then provide them either to the Chairman or the Secretariat. Because it is so easy to make mistakes citing numbers and then the Secretariat recording only on the basis of what seem to sound in the microphones. Let's put these numbers down in written form correctly so that we don't waste time correcting numbers as – I think we are wasting time now. That's all I want to make, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Thank you, I'm sure the members have noted that observation. If no other comments, I take it that the motion has been approved for the Committee to approve the resolution with the matrix attached and present it to the plenary meeting of the Commission tomorrow. Okay.

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Commissioner Azurin.

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

Just to put it on record also. I made corrections to the section on the group report on National Patrimony and I've already given it to the Secretariat.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Secretariat will consider those corrections submitted by Commissioner Azurin.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Well, Mr. Chair, may we go now to item 3, Other Matters?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

This is an open-ended...the Chair has no suggestions on other matters but we wanted to bring the occasion to the members of the Committee in event that there are matters which you want to take up here rather than at the Plenary. Let us not have too many discussions in the Plenary, let us discuss those matters here. Are there any other matters that you want to bring up?

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Mr. Chairman, can I come up with an administrative matter for all so we can plan out things also. Administrative ito.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Secretary General has the floor.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Okay, this is a Secretary-General's report, so more or less you will know what you are going to do in the next few days. We have targeted Luzon, Region 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 for consultation starting November 28 up to December 3. So please block-off your schedule November 28 to December 3. Because after this we need at least 2 weeks to sit down in order to finish everything by the fifteenth of December, okay? Number 2, we have targeted November 21 up to November 26 for Metro Manila consultations. We have two big consultations, 21 and 22 under the auspices of the Mayor of Manila – Atienza who's going to bring in about a thousand barangay captains; 23, 24, 25 or 23, 24 would be the smaller cities; and 25, 26 would be Quezon City under the auspices of Mayor Belmonte. The person on top of this is our Vice President for Metro Manila, Commissioner Chit Pedrosa.

We also have a special team that will go to Laguna and another special team that will go

to Bacolod. Those who are going to Bacolod are those people basically who were not able to participate in the nationwide consultations last time. So there are about 6 of you plus the 4 new ones who are just recently appointed including Vice Governor Calisin here, plus they will be headed by Commissioner Bengzon as the Team Leader. This will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, or just 18<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and then come back here in the afternoon or evening of the 18<sup>th</sup>. Bacolod, one day lang yan. So, please have this blocked already in your calendar because a lot of you people were not able to attend because of your previous engagements. So, I suggest that Regions 1 to 5 including the Bicol provinces will be targeted on the 28<sup>th</sup> to December 3.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

May I interrupt, Mr. Secretary, this is just a Committee, we are small, e. Perhaps your announcement should be done tomorrow because...

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

I will also announce it tomorrow because some of the members will not be here tomorrow also. Para maka-block lang kaagad ba.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

Ah, sigé.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

Small cities yan -- Muntinlupa, Caloocan at saka yung 21 to 26 Metro Manila, okay. So, yun lang, just to make sure that you have it blocked in your calendar.

COMMISSIONER LAUS.

Excuse me, more or less what time is the consultation in Metro Manila?

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

We will give you the details later on, we will give the details later.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Are there any other matters to take up?

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Other matters, Mr. Chairman. I understand, Mr. Chairman, that the consultation on the National Economy and Patrimony in the different cities that we have conducted, there are some documentation. Probably we can request the Secretariat for copies of this documentation.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

At least in so far as Team B is concerned, we requested the Secretariat accompanying us to follow up with NEDA because NEDA acted as the Secretariat of the consultation meetings. Perhaps we can get a report from the Secretariat on whether any minutes of the meetings during the consultations have been sent to us by NEDA as yet. Meron? Wala pa.

COMMISSIONER LORENZANA.

We are still preparing...we just don't want to give you the raw data. If you prefer the raw data we can also give it to you but we are trying to work out so we can have the highlights, di ba? Ang gusto namin mas highlights na para mas kumpleto lang. We should be able to give it to you in the next few days. Hopefully we can give it to you... try to see if our Secretariat can give it to you by the plenary session.

COMMISSIONER MATULA.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

That answers your question? Thank you. Any other matters? I hear none, so... Commissioner Azurin.

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

I suddenly remembered. One issue we have not discussed in the National Economic Provisions is the exercise of professions, whether we will lift the restrictions on foreigners exercising professions. I don't recall that we discussed it, did we?

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

I would suggest, Mr. Chair that after all these consultations since we will consolidate, we go back to the Committee, this matter should be discussed in the Committee.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

I would concur with the Floor Leader that the matrix as we evolved it is the one that we will use for the consultations. And any changes to this matrix would be made after all the consultations have been done.

COMMISSIONER APOSTOL.

After all, we will go back to this Committee and then we will discuss and consolidate what we have gathered. So I move to adjourn.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

I just heard that in the consultations in Iloilo, there was a Bayan group. They were quite prominent in the objection to liberalization and it is...I think that should be pointed out when we describe the consultations and the decisions that we are making then.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

That will be part of the minutes that will be reported to us by NEDA.

COMMISSIONER PEDROSA.

Okay, thank you.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

COMMISSIONER AZURIN.

Mr. Chair, there is an outstanding motion to adjourn the meeting.

CHAIRMAN PATERNO.

Meeting to adjourn has been seconded, if there are no objections, meeting is adjourned.

*It was 5:27 p.m.*