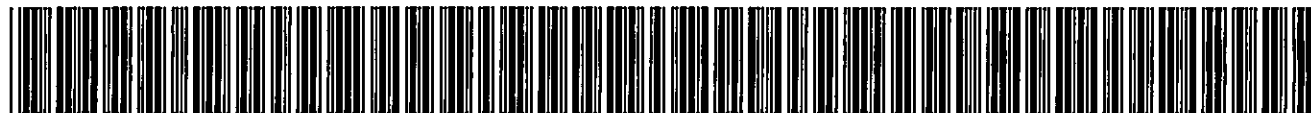


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Proceedings of the  
VOTECARE National Evaluation, Assessment  
and Planning

*June 6-8, 1995 Living the Gospel Community Retreat House  
Archbishop Reyes Avenue, Cebu City*

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### June 5, Monday

5:00 PM	Arrival of Participants / REGISTRATION
7:00 PM	SUPPER
8:30 PM	ORIENTATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Objectives</li><li>*Expectations</li><li>*Schedule</li><li>*House rules</li><li>*Formation of Committees</li></ul>

### June 6, Tuesday

#### AM

8:00 - 8:15	Morning Praise
8:15 - 8:40	Welcome Address <b>Sr. Rosanne Mallillin, SPC</b>
8:40 - 10:15	The Conduct of Election '95 <b>Comm. Regalado Maambong</b>
10:15 - 10:30	Break
10:30 - 11:30	Open Forum
11:30 - 12:00	Orientation of Workshop I

#### PM

12:00 - 2:00	Lunch break / rest
2:00 - 4:00	Workshop I
4:00 - 4:20	Break
4:20 - 6:00	Reporting by groupings
6:15 - 7:00	Eucharistic celebration
7:00 - 8:30	Supper / Break
8:30 - 10:00	Continuation of Reporting

**June 7, Wednesday**

**AM**

8:00 - 8:15	Morning Praise
8:15 - 8:35	Recap
8:35 - 9:05	National Office report
9:05 - 10:15	Synthesis of VOTECARE's report
10:15 - 10:35	Open Forum
10:35 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	NAMFREL's Assessment on VOTECARE <b>Telibert Laoc of NAMFREL</b>

**PM**

12:00 - 2:00	Lunch break / rest
2:00 - 4:00	Post-Election Challenge for VOTECARE... <b>Ronald Amorado of A C S P</b>
4:00 - 4:20	Break
4:20 - 6:00	Workshop II
6:15 - 7:00	Eucharistic celebration
7:00 - 8:30	Supper
8:30	Solidarity Night

**June 8, Thursday**

**AM**

8:00 - 8:20	Morning Praise
8:20 - 8:35	Recap
8:35 - 10:15	Reporting of groups for Workshop II
10:15 - 10:30	Break
10:30 - 12:00	Reporting

**PM**

12:00 - 12:45	Eucharistic celebration (Distribution of Certificate of Appreciation)
2:00 - 4:00	Reporting / Open Forum
4:00 - 4:20	Break
4:20 - 5:00	Final Resolutions
5:00	HOME SWEET HOME

## PARTICIPANTS

### LUZON

Fr. Adonis Bringas  
Manuel Onalan  
Tony B. Dayag  
Msgr. Angel Dy  
Fr. Ely Alvarez  
Froilan Alipao  
Myles B. Gonzales  
Jenalyn P. Lugo  
Fr. Gary Agcaoili  
Oscar R. Rabaja  
Fr. Sergs Nadres  
Ric Laureles  
Fr. Felix F. Vistal Jr.  
Fr. Jovic Lobrigo  
Fr. Tim Ngodcho SJ  
Ricel Vidal  
Mayette Galang

✓ Comm. Taha Basman

Myke Magalang  
Fr. Edmund Vargas

Bangued  
Tabuk  
Baguio-Benguet  
Sorsogon  
Masbate  
Iba  
Lipa  
Ilagan  
Tuguegarao  
Vigan  
Lucena  
Daet  
Libmanan  
Legaspi  
Bontoc-Lagawe  
Bontoc-Lagawe  
Bontoc-Lagawe

Philippine Islamic Council

LUSSA  
LUSSA

### VISAYAS

Almira F. Tobes  
Harold A. Manipol  
Mario Ian N. Mosquisa  
Nards Sabalo  
Noel Uy  
Fr. Allan Pacete  
Fr. Nilo  
Fr. Floro Baynosa  
Fr. David Nivero  
Fr. Jessie Sentina  
Fr. Cesar Aculan

Msgr. Jose Borces  
Laddie Jumao-as  
Edwin Leung

Catarman  
Romblon  
Borongan  
Maasin  
Tagbilaran  
Antique  
Talibon  
San Carlos  
Palo  
Naval  
Calbayog

VISSA  
VISSA  
VISSA

## MINDANAO

Rudy Arpon  
Mila C. Dayondon  
Arlene M. Rey  
Edwin S. Antipuesto  
Sr. Ma. Virginia Adre  
Lito T. Abadilla  
Fr. Rene D. Soldevilla  
Ma. Gina Alvar  
Fr. Antonio A. Saniei  
Sr. Angie Donado  
Ma. Eden H. Siyambio  
Fr. Vic Uy  
Boy Villanueva

Fr. Pete Lamata  
Cris Suelto-Chanyee

Pagadian  
Iligan  
Tagum  
Cotabato  
Sulu/ Tawi-Tawi  
Digos  
Cagayan de Oro  
Dipolog  
Butuan  
Marawi  
Marbel  
Surigao  
Davao

MISSAS  
MISSAS

## STAFF

SR. ROSANNE MALLILLIN SPC

EDILBERTO C. GUYANO

IGNACIO GAYOMALI JR.

ARACELI CADAHING-OCAMPO

MERALUNA BADON

MA. CORAZON ALVAREZ

FEDERICO JOSE LAGDAMEO

VOTECARE National Director

VOTECARE National Convenor

Assembly Coordinator

Secretariat

Secretariat / Logistics

Documentor

Documentor

## RESOURCE PERSONS

Comm. Regalado Maambong

COMELEC Commissioner

Mr. Telibert Laoc

NAMFREL Visayas  
Regional Coordinator

Mr. Ronald Amorado

Center for Social Policy  
and Public Affairs  
Ateneo de Manila University



**VOTECARE NATIONAL EVALUATION, ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING**  
**June 6-8, Living the Gospel Community Retreat House**  
**Archbishop Reyes Avenue, Banilad, Cebu City**

**INTRODUCTION**

Fifty-three dioceses adopted VOTECARE's program for the May 8 National and Local Elections. As resolved in November 28-29, 1994 VOTECARE National Consultation, VOTECARE's impact on the voting public in their selection of candidates and conduct of elections is worth assessing to determine the extent of its organization, operation, achievements and limitations. Moreover, in March 1995 during the VOTECARE Seminar-Workshop and final briefing in Cebu, program implementors confirmed the same need for assessment and expressed their wish to identify a possible role for VOTECARE during the post-election period.

It is in this context that a VOTECARE National Evaluation, Assessment and Planning was held. Its objectives are:

- 1) to assess and evaluate VOTECARE activities in relation to the May 8 National and local elections;
- 2) to define VOTECARE'S role in promoting and sustaining on going people's active participation in local governance in general, and in the local and national elections (1996, 1997 and 1998) in particular;
- 3) to strengthen camaraderie and solidarity among the participants for better coordination and implementation of planned activities;

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

**5 JUNE 1995**

**PM**

The orientation to the gathering opened on 8:20 PM with NASSA's Jun Gayomali facilitating for the time being. Laddie Jumao-as of VISSA and Commissioner Taha Basman of the Philippine Islamic Council (PIC) led the assembly in prayer. A review of the gathering's objectives, its schedule, and the expectations of the participants followed.

During the review, Sr. Rosanne suggested that expectations not within the context of the gathering's objectives be the ones aired, facilitating the review of the objectives and of the participants' expectations. The expectations and queries voiced out were:

- a. Clarifications on the coordination between VOTECARE and NAMFREL; on the relationships of the three citizens arm (VOTECARE, NAMFREL and PPCRV); and on the relationships with organizations VOTECARE has entered into an agreement (MOA signed); in their *official, actual and ideal* set-ups.
- b. How does VOTECARE fit into the current social action thrust should it become a regular program?

- c. With regard to the present credibility problem of the final count, particularly in the senatorial slate, what could be VOTECARE's immediate role in solving the discrepancies between the NAMFREL and the COMELEC count?
- d. What *exactly* is the Church mandate on social action's involvement on local governance; what are the clear guidelines on this matter?
- e. In what way can VOTECARE support its volunteers in **pushing** charges / cases against election violators?

Jun noted however that some of these expectations may be already covered by the specific objectives of the three general ones. He advised the participants to glean through their copies of the concept paper for information on these.

Comm. Basman commented on the manner of reporting indicated in the concept paper; he sought clarification whether PIC's report will be with that of Mindanao or separately. Sr. Rosanne answered that perhaps it would be better for reports to be given by sub-regions in order to be 'faithful' to the local context. Jun concurred this but opined that this arrangement will be best left to the steering committee.

The formation of the host teams followed. The host teams are divided into the three regions of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Each team has these functions: liturgical preparations, process observation, socials, recapitulation of the previous day's resolutions, time keeping, facilitation, and hall preparations. Meanwhile, the Steering Committee was specified to be composed of the four Executive Secretaries, the VOTECARE National Coordinator, the three VOTECARE Regional Coordinators, the facilitators and process observers from each host team, and one member of the documentation committee. Immediately after their formation, the committees met in preparation for next day's sessions.

**6 JUNE 1995**

**AM**

Erick Lagdameo of the Documentation Committee gave the recap of the previous evening's session. Afterwards the host team of the day, Luzon, conducted a solemn para-liturgy to formally begin the assembly.

Fr. Jovic Lobrigo of Legaspi helped the participants in getting acquainted with each other. Acting as the facilitator for the morning sessions, Fr. Jovic called on Jun for the house rules, and then on Sr. Rosanne for her welcome remarks.

With the late arrival of Commissioner Regalado Maambong, the body decided to go on with Workshop I, "Assessment of VOTECARE Program Implementation." Jun Gayomali gave an orientation on the workshop and issued the following guidelines:

1. The evaluation form sent to each diocese will be used for this purpose
2. The workshop would focus on Objective # 1 (see above)

3. Groupings will be by subregions as decided upon by the Steering Committee. A rundown on the attendees from each sub-region was then made:

LUZON

Cagayan Valley Subregion	-	3
Northern Luzon Subregion	-	4
Central Luzon Subregion	-	1
Southern Tagalog Subregion	-	2
Bicol Subregion	-	5

VISAYAS

Panay-Romblon Subregion	-	2
Negros	-	0
Cebu-Bohol Subregion	-	2
Samar-Leyte Subregion	-	2

MINDANAO

Daditama Subregion	-	3
Cabustab	-	1
Diopim	-	3
Kidmaco	-	1
Zambasuli	-	1
Philippine Islamic Council	-	1

Given the discrepancies in the number of participants in each subregion, a suggestion was made to combine some of them. Mindanao region, on the other hand, suggested that they be grouped as one only. On this, Comm. Basman commented that this may defeat the suggestion made by Sr. Rosanne the previous evening that some experiences which are noteworthy may not be entertained in a big group. Meanwhile, Sr. Virginia Adre from Sulu stood by her choice to share their assessment with the whole Mindanao region. Fr. Pete of MISSAS at this point, voiced out his concern on the need to be clarified with the existence of PIC, citing his own experience in Davao Muslim areas where he was able to meet a PIC staff only once. Sr. Rosanne then answered in behalf of Comm. Basman, saying that in the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by both VOTECARE and the PIC, some form of coordination was agreed upon. She thus suggested that PIC be given a chance to report their own accomplishments.

With the arrival of Comm. Regalado Maambong from COMELEC, the discussion gave way to the original schedule.

Erick Lagdameo introduced the guest COMELEC Commissioner. The talk centered on the situation on the present canvassing (Annex 1); the cheating on elections, i.e., its history, systems, levels, processes, and examples; and the modernization of the voting system, its advantages and limitations. He ended up by saying that the modernization of the electoral process cannot eliminate cheating but it can provide us a safe and speedy counting of ballots.

A 20 minute break was called. Afterwards, the assembly returned for the Open Forum. The following were the questions raised:

✓ **Q(Comm. Basman):** In the statement by Comm. Maambong on the ARMM elections, that "we will not lose anything in the conduct of this", the body might take this literally. PIC has first-hand information on events and that comments are taken objectively. On the case of some COMELEC officials being assigned or re-assigned to new areas, what can be said is only this: graft and corruption occurs on two conditions: if the stakes are high and the risks are low.

**A:** On the statement in relation to the conduct of the ARMM elections, emphasis must be given to the fact that if the machine-testing in this special elections prove to be successful, there can be assurance of success in the national scale.

On the assignments of COMELEC officials, the rule is that the COMELEC does not rotate officials. However, there are certain circumstances that warrant the re-assignment of some, like on cases where the official is related to a certain candidate or is facing danger in the area.

**Q(Harold Manipol, Romblon):** There have been reports of election violations. How will the COMELEC coordinate with VOTECARE in response to election violations?

**A:** There are people involved in the COMELEC who are not within the COMELEC structure, e.g., teachers and some members of the municipal canvassers. Bust cases can be filed against these people if proven to be violators of election laws.

COMELEC have certain mistakes which really have to be admitted, e.g., Ilocos Norte vote padding and lessening.

**Q(Boy Villanueva, Davao):** Elections start with the registration. From here cheating can already be made. What can VOTECARE do to help or lessen cheating at this stage?

**A:** Yes, the election process starts with the registration. Every registration costs P600 million, thus the new system of registration, the continuing system, saves a lot of money. With the computerized voters' list, flying voters or cheating for that matter can be lessened. The thrust then here is to clean-up the voters' list and it was even suggested that this list be made available to everyone just like in other countries.

**Q(Fr. Pete Lamata, MISSAS):** After a meeting / assessment of the Archdiocese of Davao on its participation in the last elections through Laks Dabaw 2000, the body arrived at a suggestion that something must be done with the barangay officials who have become blatantly partisan.

**A:** There are levels in the government like elected officials who can campaign for their candidates like the President. The barangay officials belong to these, they being in elective offices; but at the same time, there is the barangay law which prohibits them to be partisan. There are really certain double and confusing stance and/or laws which should be sorted out by the COMELEC. But it should be noted that we are a government of laws and not of men, and that what is followed is the rule of the majority.

**Q(Nards, Maasin):** The practice on elections has been to reproduce 20% more ballots from the number of voters. Why add more ballots when experience has taught us that votes do not get to add up to a hundred percent?

**A:** This point has been pushed since 1991. But the problem could arise when a voter needs to get another ballot when his first was spoiled. In this case, there will be no provision for an extra ballot for him.

For the ARMM elections, no extra ballots will be printed.

**Q(Edwin Antipuesto, Cotabato):** Will NAMFREL still be accredited despite on-going talks on the failure of their quick-count for the last elections?

**A:** Operation Quick Count has been there since the beginning. As a personal viewpoint, NAMFREL has nothing to gain for it to engage itself in fraud. I am confident that NAMFREL can come up with a credible result if it was allowed to do so. Motion from the Congress to discredit and disqualify NAMFREL for the next elections is unjust and violative of equal protection clause of the Constitution.

**Q(Msgr. Angel Dy, Sorsogon):** On the case of Frivaldo of Sorsogon winning despite the disqualification case on him, what is now the COMELEC ruling or position on this?

**A:** Despite previous disqualifications of Frivaldo he keeps on winning by a landslide, and this is the problem. In the 1992 elections, no decision was reached by the COMELEC but the Supreme Court is the law of the land. Despite the fact that Frivaldo won by a landslide, winning over his opponents by a margin of 130,000, the legal status is that he is disqualified.

**Q(Manny Onalan, Tabuk):** There are reported cases of COMELEC manipulation of registration in Tabuk. The list of voters has been tampered by COMELEC officials themselves.

**A:** Contact Commissioner Flores who is assigned to this region and who will surely help you out.

**Q(Sr. Angie Donado, Marawi):** There was an election held in the four towns of Lanao del Sur last Saturday. Was there a close supervision of the COMELEC?

**A:** Elections in Lanao del Sur has been finished. According to newspaper reports, proclamations will be done at three this afternoon.

With no more questions coming from the assembly, the commissioner ended his session. The recap and synthesis of the previous day followed; it was given by Ric Laureles from the diocese of Daet.

#### Recap/Synthesis of Day 1

Previous day's session was opened by an ecumenical prayer from representatives from each region and the PIC; followed by the reading of the house rules by Jun Gayomali. A welcome address was given by Sr. Rosanne Mallillin afterwards. Instead of the talk of Com. Maambong who arrived late, program proceeded with the orientation on Workshop I, "Assessment of VOTECARE program Implementation," by Jun Gayomali. Orientation was discontinued due to the arrival of Com. Maabong who gave a two-hour input on the Conduct of Election '95.

Com Maambong gave an update on the present canvassing and mentioned of the alleged irregularities specially in the count for the senatorial race. From these, he went to give a backgrounder on how cheating in elections is being done. He pointed out the different systems, levels and processes of cheating in elections based on his experiences both as a Commissioner and as a previous candidate. He further talked on the need for modernization of the electoral process and its advantages and limitations as well. He ended up his talk by giving points on how citizens' arms and the electorate as a whole can do to improve the present electoral situation.

A one-hour open forum followed where clarifications and comments mainly on how the COMELEC works were asked by the participants. With the informative and interesting facts,

figures and experiences, the Commissioner in a whole sort of gave the body a crash course on the elections in the country.

**WORKSHOP 1: Assessment of VOTECARE program implementation**

<b>Assembly General Objective 1</b>	<i>To assess and evaluate VOTECARE activities in relation to May 8, 1995 senatorial and local elections.</i>	
<b>Specific Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. To share the experiences, reflections and insights of each diocese/chapter re; VOTECARE operation on Election '95</i></li><li><i>2. To find out the extent of VOTECARE organization, its operation, achievements and limitations.</i></li></ol>	
<b>Questions</b>	<p><i>(With reference to survey form)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. What were the VOTECARE activities accomplished?</i></li><li><i>2. How did VOTECARE fare in May 8 elections? State your insights and reflections.</i></li><li><i>3. What were the strengths and weaknesses of VOTECARE that affected the impact of its operation? What are your recommendations?</i></li></ol>	
<b>Process</b>	<p><i>*Groupings by region (with Luzon broken down into Northern and Southern areas)</i></p> <p><i>*Members of the regional secretariat should facilitate the discussion of the group.</i></p> <p><i>*Reporting by these four groups.</i></p>	
<b>Groupings</b>	<p><b>NORTHERN LUZON</b> <i>Bontoc-Lagawe Tuguegarao Ilagan Tabuk Vigan Baguio-Benguet Bangued</i></p> <p><b>VISAYAS</b> <i>Catarman Romblon Borongan Maasin Tagbilaran Antique Talibon San Carlos</i></p>	<p><b>SOUTHERN LUZON</b> <i>Lipa Iba Masbate Libmanan Daet Sorsogon Lucena Legaspi</i></p> <p><b>MINDANAO</b> <i>Pagadian Iligan Tagum Cotabato Sulu / Tawi-Tawi Digos Cagayan de Oro Dipolog</i></p>

*Palo  
Naval  
Marbel  
Calbayog*

*Butuan  
Marawi  
Surigao  
Davao*

CLARIFICATIONS:

- On the report by the Mindanao region that all VOTECARE areas in Mindanao were successful in its efforts except in Marawi:

Com. Taha Basman of the Philippine Islamic Council refuted this statement for it was in Marawi that PIC concentrated its efforts being a predominantly Muslim area.

- on how PIC's role as VOTECARE's affiliate in the last elections:

Com. Basman related how he was invited by Sr. Rosanne in one of their Interfaith Meetings on Moral Recovery program convened by DILG-Napolcom, to join VOTECARE's efforts specially in Muslim areas in Mindanao. A Memorandum of Agreement was entered into between PIC and VOTECARE and funds for election materials and for operations were released to them. It was PIC's first involvement as an electoral Citizens' arm and its efforts was mainly focused on electoral education. Sr. Rosanne added by saying that PIC's efforts and contribution in VOTECARE were indeed commendable.

- on the non-relevance of some VOTECARE materials:

The Visayas region reported that some materials were not relevant simply because they are not in their local dialect and thus proved to be somehow ineffective. They also commented on the VOTECARE poster for the inclusion of Cory Aquino's picture saying that its presence makes the poster partisan. Sr. Rosanne explained that Mrs. Aquino's picture in the VOTECARE poster was in the context of the revolution and restoration of democracy.

- on uncooperative and partisan clergy

Ms. Mylene Gonzales of the Archdiocese of Lipa related their experience where they had a hard time organizing some members of the clergy who proved to be uncooperative and sometimes partisan. Fr. Ngodcho of Bontoc-Lagawe remarked that these things are unavoidable and that VOTECARE thrust should be instead on the empowerment of the laity.

- on the use of two IDs

Fr. Ngodcho admitted that in some areas in his Prelature PPCRV-NAMFREL IDs were used for these were PPCRV areas. In day from the Diocese of Marbel then asked on what is wrong with using two IDs. Her question elicited certain reactions from the body. Sr. Rosanne noted that COMELEC made it very clear electoral arms should be able to identify its own areas of responsibility. This was the very reason that a coordinating body between VOTECARE, NAMFREL and PPCRV was formed, she added. VOTECARE National Coordinator, Edil Guyano also related by saying that the use of two IDs was a violation of the Memorandum of Agreement. He also expressed his disappointment with some dioceses which he thought to be really VOTECARE areas all along but proved to be using two IDs. Several reactions from the body were raised thus, the discussion was then called to a halt.

7 JUNE 1995

AM

After the morning para-liturgy, Mario Ian Mosquisa of Borongan recapitulated to the assembly the previous day's activities. He mentioned having morning praise, breakfast, being briefed on house rules, the introduction of the participants, the welcome remarks of Sr. Rosanne, the introduction of the guest speaker, and Commissioner Maambong's talk.

Ian indicated the highlights of the Commissioner's talk:

- a) the real purpose of canvassing: to declare real and true winners of the election;
- b) the problems in the elections which was basically *recording* of results, and involves ballots, election returns, statement of votes, and the municipal / provincial canvass;
- c) the types of cheating perpetrated are through *addition or substitution of votes*;
- d) there are tactics employed by losing candidates in delaying the proclamation of winners, tactics that 'fatten' a lot of lawyers: suspension of canvass, suspension of proclamation, and annulment of proclamation;
- e) the three commandments operative in an election:
  - Thou shall not lose
  - Thou shall not concede
  - Thou shall appeal
- f) update from the COMELEC:
  - The computerization process is pushing through despite its cost of 600 million pesos; its pilot testing will be during the ARMM elections; steps to follow in its implementation are: voters' education about this process, its piloting in an area, and then, full implementation; through this process, we are assured of an accurate and speedy count;
- g) personal account as a politician on the dynamics within the COMELEC on matters of deciding cases and protests;

An open forum followed afterwards with the participants raising questions on protests, disqualification of candidates, and the computerization process. Lunch was served shortly after.

The recap went over the first workshop and detailed its results, the achievements of the VOTECARE program, its strengths and weaknesses, and the assembly's recommendations in addressing these concerns. Reports were by the four groups with an open forum following each report. The daily mass was celebrated afterwards with Fr. Felix Vistal of Libmanan and Fr. Ely Alvarez of Masbate as main celebrant and preacher respectively.

Ian also outlined the concerns which emerged from the forum and reports themselves. The weak national projection in media by the National Office was one. Another was the issue of accountability and the use of numerous IDs. Transcendence beyond religious boundaries because of a common agenda was an opportunity for healing differences. With regards the MOA, it appeared like a case of common sense vs. Legal accountability. This was clarified however, by recognizing that there were two 'optics' or points of view to the issue: one, the National Office's, and two, the dioceses.

The assembly thanked Ian for his recap. VOTECARE National Convenor Edilberto Guyano proceeded to report for the VOTECARE National Office (Annex 3). The report covered



the number of affiliates; the MOAs signed; the funds disbursed; the coordination and partnerships entered into; the promotion and projection undertaken; and the administrative weaknesses seen.

· Meanwhile, the synthesis committee for that day ( Fr. Tim Ngodcho SJ, Oscar Rabaja, Fr. Rene Soldevilla, Eden Siyambio, and Almira Tober) presented the synthesis of the results from the first workshop:

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. On-going socio-political education should become an integral, regular, pro-active program of our SACs;
2. Strengthen the national secretariat to provide a more efficient and effective support of the SACs' advocacy program of political education and the implementation of post-election activities (e.g. monitoring elected officials' performance);
3. We should strengthen our common network and identity in pursuing common agenda for electoral reforms and other post election activities. At the same time, for purposes of support, we should network and link with other NGOs, POs, and GOs;\*
4. Early preparation and organization of VOTECARE (in relation to elections)
5. Lobby for the passage of a bill in Congress for electoral reforms, including a nationwide re-registration of voters;\*
6. Work for resource mobilization to ensure sustainability of pre-, during, and post-election activities;
7. Foster close collaboration and partnership between lay and clergy and among inter-faith groups;
8. A more effective nationwide projection;

### **ADDENDA (Suggestions made by the body in toto):**

1. Report to be prepared for VOTECARE to NASSA (for COMELEC) different from the report to be sent to PPCRV (the national report to COMELEC should be signed by the member dioceses).
2. Come up with a policy recommendation for the Bishops.
3. Internal arrangement: write a thank you letter to PPCRV as a response to its invitation to attend its national assessment.

\*Reformulated versions after clarifications

## **HOW DID VOTECARE FARE IN THIS YEAR'S ELECTIONS?**

1. Minimized electoral fraud, served as a deterrent factor and positive moral influence to BEIs, teachers, and other COMELEC officers;
2. (Nurtured the) growing social awareness on the part of the people of church participation on social concerns, e.g. election;
3. Provided an alternative political culture vis a vis the prevailing patronage politics in our country through guidelines in electing candidates, issue advocacy, distinction of authentic vs. traditional politics;
4. Instilled a growing awareness in and participation by the church hierarchy while at the same time fostered recognition of the empowerment of the laity;
5. Provided an avenue for inter-faith cooperation and partnership in pursuing a common agenda;
6. Gained respect as a credible network in providing hope to our people to effect social change;
7. (Congratulations and a big bang to all our volunteers!)

## **COMMON ISSUES AND CONCERNS (Problems and Weaknesses)**

1. Lack of effectiveness of voters' education: voters' education did not translate into votes;
2. Influence of power, political dynasties and money in our body politic
3. The prevalence of disenfranchised voters, padded lists of voters, etc.
4. The preparation in the organizing of VOTECARE (e.g. preparation of materials, etc.)
5. Inadequacy of financial resources;
6. Understaffed secretariat to meet the enormous demands of work;
7. Lack of national projection;
8. The relationship of VOTECARE and PPCRV (common network and identity)
9. Voters' education materials not translated into local dialect;

## ACCOMPLISHED VOTECARE ACTIVITIES

<i>PRE-ELECTION DAY</i>	<i>ELECTION DAY</i>	<i>POST ELECTION DAY</i>
<p>Voters' Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-candidates' fora and covenant signing</li> <li>-tri-media campaign</li> <li>-fora</li> <li>-mobile education</li> <li>-social catechism</li> <li>-seminars, workshops</li> <li>-homilies, sermons, CBCP pastoral letter</li> </ul> <p>Voters' verifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-registration day activity</li> <li>-revision day</li> </ul> <p>Recruitment of volunteers for election mobilization (e.g. pollwatching, setting up Voters' Assistance Centers [VACS], Monitoring), organization, and training with tasking</p> <p>Networking, Linkaging with GOs, NGOs, POs, other sects, the media</p>	<p>Pollwatching</p> <p>Manning VACs</p> <p>Operation QuickCount</p> <p>Canvass Watch: municipal and provincial</p>	<p>Assessments in the Diocesan and Regional levels (Mindanao &amp; Visayas)</p>

The participants approved of the synthesis report. They applauded the committee responsible and later welcomed Telibert Laoc of NAMFREL who had just arrived. His report was of NAMFREL's assessment on VOTECARE (see Annex 4). He ended saying that VOTECARE provided most of the structure and machinery of NAMFREL in the former's areas and that without it, Operation QuickCount would not have been successful. After the terse presentation he welcomed questions and at the same time proposed that VOTECARE come up with its own assessment of NAMFREL (Mindanao recommendations to NAMFREL in Annex 4).

✓ Comm. Basman opened the forum with an inquiry on some problems the PIC met in Lanao del Sur. It appeared that NAMFREL assigned task forces which undertook pollwatching in the area. Thus, there were two groups doing the same task and at the same time causing confusion.

Telibert answered that it was a special case of sorts, but one which he admitted resulted from lack of coordination from both parties. He also added that the situation there was complex so as to have led into that problem.

To a question on how did NAMFREL fare, Telibert responded that it had achieved what it intended to, and that in itself is successful. However, NAMFREL also has to face reality and acknowledge that it has its limitations. Rather than providing a 100% count, it aimed for 70% because although "we have done much, we also can only do so much."

For instance, the oversight on the use of the computer program. In some areas, the program proved incompatible since it was designed for a "286 and higher " computer capability.

Ric Laureles of Daet wanted clarification on the ad which NAMFREL placed during the previous weekend. Ric pointed out that Telibert acknowledged VOTECARE providing manpower, but the ad did not mention this or VOTECARE for that matter.

Fr. Jovic Lobrigo of Legaspi seconded this, and added that NAMFREL is socially accountable for the ad which is "deceiving" the public of its projection of having a national network.

Telibert could not reply to this, however, saying that this matter "needs to be elevated to the higher level."

Pursuing the issue, Fr. Lex Vistal of Libmanan asked how is it that NAMFREL got to 'ride on' VOTECARE's machinery and structure. It was Sr. Rosanne who answered. She explained that the MOA between NAMFREL, VOTECARE, and PPCRV indicated the functions of each. It soon became apparent, however, that NAMFREL lacked the time for organizing or re-organizing its own chapters. It soon had to rely on existing structures which inadvertently had most of their contact persons.

Fr. Gary Agcaoili of Tuguegarao commented that some moneys did not reach the intended provinces or dioceses. Realizing that *there were* funds released, he wondered about the accounting for of these funds.

Telibert replied that it will and should be accounted for. Nonetheless, if anyone knows of information on certain anomalies regarding this matter, he expressed gratitude to the help that will be extended.

At the forum's end, the assembly thanked Telibert and all proceeded to have their lunch break.

## PM

Ronald Amorado of the Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs commenced with the afternoon session with his talk on "Post-election Challenge for VOTECARE in the context of People's Participation in Governance" (see Annex 5). Outlining the gains and losses of the just concluded elections, Amorado defined broadly areas where people's intervention can be crucial and effective. Moreover, he quelled anxieties over the possible shift of government to a parliamentary form by saying that it will have little or no effect at all on LGUs. Their autonomy which is due to the Local Government Code (LGC), shields them in a way from changes such a shift would entail. Consequently, he also informed the assembly that the LGC is up for review next year.

A few questions were asked after his discussion. The more prominent were about strategies in dealing with the attitude of the clergy with regard the issue of local governance, and about the non-partisan stance of the church which seemed to prohibit any organization closely linked to it not to be partisan, thus removing opportunities of direct involvement in local governance.

The speaker responded that in the case of the former question, the same intensity exhibited and employed in the church's campaign against Flavio, for example should be continued, although it should be properly directed. With the latter, he explained that the church's participation can be either direct, as with church-affiliated groups, or it can be indirect as with the church hierarchy itself.

On the issue of initiatives springing in the barangay level, Fr. Vistal noted that these should not be isolated from those in the higher levels; rather, these should be a tie-up of all these endeavors in all levels.

At the end of the forum, the assembly moved for a break and then returned for the second workshop of the gathering.

#### *WORKSHOP II: VOTECARE Post May 8 Activities*

##### *Assembly*

*General Objective 2: To define VOTECARE's role in promoting and sustaining on-going people's active participation in local governance in general, and in the local and national elections (1996, 1997, and 1998) in particular.*

*Specific Objectives: To identify Post May '95 election VOTECARE activities.*

*To maximize VOTECARE machinery and to sustain the spirit of volunteerism of the volunteers.*

*Process: Groupings as of Workshop I*

*Use the matrix provided (Annex 6), focusing on the collated recommendations from WORKSHOP I.*

After the groups' discussion, the assembly celebrated mass, had their supper, and then got together later in the evening for an unorganized Solidarity Night.

**8 JUNE 1995**

**AM**

Edwin Antipuesto of Cotabato provided the recap of the previous day. He noted yesterday's schedule beginning with the morning praise, the ice breaker, the review of the schedule for that day, Ian's recap, Edil's VOTECARE National Office Report; the Synthesis of Workshop I results, the recommendations and clarifications raised, Ronald Amorado's discussion, and the workshop that followed.

The assembly proceeded with the reporting on Workshop II with Oskar Rabaja for Northern Luzon, Froi Alipao for Central and Southern Luzon, Fr. Biboy Nivero for Visayas, Lito Abadilla & Mila Dayondon for Mindanao, and Comm. Basman for PIC. (For group reports see Annex 7)

The collated results by the synthesis committee are the following:

### **ACTIVITIES FOR WORKSHOP I RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### ***On-going socio-political education should become an integral, regular, pro-active program of our SACs***

1. Formulation of policy to be submitted to NASSA-ECSA
  - sort of mandate from the bishops for the implementation of this program
2. Trainors' training, particularly Social Marketing, municipal and provincial canvassing
  - module making, scheduling
3. Popularization of local governance and electoral reforms
4. Mobilization of POs, BECs, NGOs
5. Consultation with bishops and clergy
6. Declaration of Voters' Education Month

#### ***Strengthen the national secretariat to provide a more efficient and effective support of the SACs' advocacy program of political education and the implementation of post-election activities (e.g. monitoring elected officials' performance)***

1. Creation of an effective Public Affairs Bureau
  - a) Informal meetings and gatherings (lay and clergy)
  - b) Wide media projection in all levels (appearance in TV, radio; ,press releases)
    - tie up with PFCB
  - c) Organization of an effective and charming VOTECARE social weather bureau
2. Organization of personalities for projection
  - linkages and coordination with the media in the national level
3. Consultation
  - regular updating of NO-RO-DSAC
4. Hiring of full-time technical experts for advocacy and lobbying
5. Good governance watch
6. Organization of Catholic Lawyers' Guild

***We should strengthen our common network and identity in pursuing common agenda for electoral reforms and other post election activities. At the same time, for purposes of support, we should network and link with other NGOs, POs, and GOs***

1. CBCP formulation of guidelines for (church participation, i.e., hierarchy and structure, laity) local governance and clear out functions/relationship of lay people and clergy
  - the context of which is to clarify the involvement of the church in political activities specially in the case of Sonny de los Reyes, a known leader of a church group, who endorsed candidates, thus clouding the stance of non-partisanship of other church groups like VOTECARE et al
2. Institutionalization of VOTECARE volunteers towards government watch
3. Regular visitation of different Sub-regions-DSAC
4. Regular consultation with identified NGOs, POs, GOs, and other interfaith groups for common involvement
5. Declaration of Voters' Education Month

***Early preparation and organization of VOTECARE (in relation to elections)***

1. Tap lawyers for legal and technical assistance for municipal and provincial canvassing
2. Set-up VOTECARE's secretariats in ARMM for march Election
3. Strengthening/Building up alliances (NGOs, POs, etc.) in all levels
4. Formulation of letters of appeal to CBCP to come up with one electoral arm for involvement in electoral process (pre-, during, post)
  - program level institutionalization
  - what are we to institutionalize
  - there are existing groups of volunteers which should be continuously employed, whether called as VOTECARE or another, it is all a matter of strategy, i.e., Mindanao has existing institutionalized groups to which VOTECARE as an election task force can complement

***Lobby for the passage of a bill in Congress for electoral reforms, including a nationwide re-registration of voters***

1. Participation in the National re-registration
2. Formulation of electoral reform agenda
3. Organize brainstorming sessions on law making
4. Spearhead Congress Conference for electoral reforms with other Citizens Arms and advocacy NGOs to propose a draft for electoral reform measures to be integrated in the COMELEC proposed New Election Code
5. Barangay profiling of voters through BEC and organized interfaith groups

***Work for resource mobilization to ensure sustainability of pre-, during, and post-election activities***

1. Promotion of the program to the people
2. Proposal making
3. Establish IGPs, pledges, second collections

***Foster close collaboration and partnership between lay and clergy and among inter-faith groups***

1. Inventory of existing organizations of interfaith groups for identification of credible contact persons
2. Critical and principled collaboration

***A more effective nationwide projection***

1. Informal meetings and gatherings (lay and clergy)
2. Wide media projection in all levels (appearance in TV, radio; press releases)  
-tie up with PFCB
3. Organization of an effective and charming VOTECARE social weather bureau

GOALS / OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES TO BE USED	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS
To effect meaningful and relevant electoral reforms	*education and trainings *lobby campaign and advocacy	
To facilitate realization of a higher degree of political maturity among the people	*media liaisoning *documentation and research	
At the end of the three year program, the masses had been educated, organized, and mobilized	*comprehensive planning *grassroot level education *core group formation	Core groups/trainors were formed  Presence of initiative on the part of the masses in participating in local governance (brgy-provl)



GOALS / OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES TO BE USED	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS
People themselves have been organized, mobilized in line with local initiatives	*linkaging / networking / collaboration *fund sourcing	Enough volunteers and support group had been mobilized
DSACs, POs, NGOs, GOs, be able to build a strong network	*mobilization *planning assistance *community organizing *social planning	Presence of a strong alliance among DSACs, POs, NGOs, GOs

Other questions and recommendations were fielded during the reporting, but were not reflected by the final resolution on the synthesis; the following is a gist of those.

**On the proposed Activities:** Project proposal making especially regarding fund sourcing is an important component in the campaign for the other post-election activities. Likewise, The drafting of education modules should be unified, that is, from top to bottom. This is so because particular cultures have their nuances which needs to be addressed properly. The need to lobby for a nationwide re-registration of voters has also been voiced out. In this connection, the formation of a pressure/lobby group is a must.

PM

**On the Insurance fund:**

Marbel began the discussion on the insurance fund by asking whether they can expect anything from it after an accident involving their volunteers had undergone medical attention and had spent for repairs. It was immediately pointed out that according to what was decided last March at VICTO, and as recorded in the proceedings of that gathering, P50,000 will be given only to the beneficiaries of the volunteers who have unfortunately died. Another suggestion arose, one that suggested P10,000 coming from NASSA's disaster or discretionary funds be given per injured volunteer. The reply to this was, this should be done in a case-to-case basis: submit individual requests with the local counterpart coming from the security / insurance fund.

At this point, to put order to the whole discussion, the creation of a committee governing and deciding over these issues was suggested. Mike of LUSSA, however, moved to go to the document which declared the decision of having only to pay for volunteers who died and leaving injury expenses and the like to the diocesan chapter. The document, the proceedings of the VICTO gathering, was however put into question by Fr. Jessie Sentina particularly the one dealing with injury expenses. The documentor of that gathering then explained that during the discussion on the insurance fund, Msgr. Dayao of Cabanatuan insisted that there was no need to be bogged down by technicalities governing the fund(which was what was happening then, since the discussion seemed unable to come to a resolution). He then appealed to the assembly's idealism

and sense of charity by saying that let's mark the P50,000 from the accumulated insurance fund for volunteers who died and let expenses from injuries and other mishaps be shouldered by the local VOTECARE chapter. No one contested this; and thus it stood in the document.

In this light then, participants suggested that diocesan chapters without casualties help in supporting chapters who do have them. It thus came to pass that Marbel and others like it who have casualties extended their appeal for help, not only to fellow chapters but to NASSA as well.

In the meantime, Fr. Jessie relented on the clause of the proceeding indicating the arrangement regarding the insurance fund, but pointed out that technically there was no approval of the whole proceedings as a whole. He said it could be an oversight on the part of the organizers to include the reading and consequent approval of previous proceedings in assemblies like the present one. He thus proposed that it become a standard operational procedure to read the previous proceedings for clarification and approval.

Further clarifications were made about the fund afterwards. One is that NASSA has no authority to issue disbursement of the insurance fund outside the pretext agreed upon by the whole body. Another is that there was no prohibitive measure adopted regarding the creation of a committee governing this issue. What was made during the previous gathering was to hold off any like action in the meantime since it was getting in the way of the scheduled agenda to be discussed. A motion for the creation of such a committee was immediately forwarded and approved although it had yet to be formally presented to the assembly. As it was, no committee had been formed for the moment.

#### **On the Recommendations forwarded:**

All recommendations made imply programs not to be primarily effected by NASSA NO but by the diocese; what NASSA NO can do is monitor and offer support, but actual implementation will be left in the hands of the DSACs. Fr. Tim asked however, how far do these recommendations of theirs go; in effect, he was asking about the status of these recommendations once they left the assembly level. Cris of MISSAS seconded this saying that there are a lot of disagreements about NASSA's output, i.e., it did not reflect what was in the assembly level. She thus asked assurance of the assembly being able to approve of this particular output before it is forwarded to ECSA.

Finally, Fr. Gary suggested to have an assessment of VOTECARE, something which is internal, to see areas where coordination in all its forms is lacking. He added that we should encourage the faithful to be directly involved in partisan politics as a means of changing it, although such a course of action will have a direct implication on VOTECARE.

Republic of the Philippines  
**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS**  
 Intramuros, Manila

**NATIONAL BOARD OF CANVASSERS**

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS  
 OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
**R E C E I V E D**

**MEMO-REPORT**

FOR : Chairman Bernardo P. Pardo  
 DATE : June 4, 1995  
 SUBJECT : Analysis of Corrections Made Based on Retabulations of the Statement of Votes (SOV) Attached to the Provincial/City Certificates of Canvass (COC)

*ms* 6-4-95  
 SIGNATURE DATE/TIME

The Chairman has been quoted in an earlier statement as saying that the corrections made by the National Board of Canvassers based on the retabulations of the SOVs made were minimal and will not affect the result of the election for Senators.

Many did not believe the Chairman's statement.

After analyzing, however, the additions and subtractions made on the votes of each and every candidate as reflected in the statement of votes (SOV) already retabulated, it turned out that the Chairman was correct.

The discrepancies which have already been corrected is between the total in the certificate of canvass (COC), and total arrived at after adding all the votes by municipality or precinct from the statement of votes (SOV) attached to the certificate of canvass (COC). We still have to hear and receive evidence regarding the alleged discrepancies between the entries in the SOVs we retabulated, and the City or Municipal Certificates of canvass.

Out of the strong contenders, the smallest discrepancy total is that of **Santiago** (*she was deducted 53 votes*), while the biggest was that of **Biazon** (*he was added a total of 44,135 votes*).

These are the gainers in the retabulation: (1) **Biazon** - 44,135; (2) **Tolentino** - 20,146; (3) **Tatad** - 10,876; (4) **Arenas** - 10,106; (5) **Magsaysay** - 1,878; (6) **Osmeña** - 1,534; (7) **Honasan** - 1,504; (8) **Flavier** - 1,165; and (9) **Macapagal** - 1,104.

Those who lost substantial votes were: (1) **Drilon** - 30,258; (2) **Enrile** - 29,806; (3) **Mitra** - 15,870; (4) **Marcos** - 11,011; and (5) **Raymundo** - 8,569.


**Pimentel** gained only 678 votes; **Coseteng**, 498; and **Roco**, 474. **Santiago** lost only 53 votes.

To be sure, votes still have to be subtracted or added in the few remaining certificates of canvass still to be retabulated, but these corrections will not make any difference.

Attached is the breakdown of corrections made per candidate starting with Amerel to Tolentino. The total deduction or addition I computed per candidate easily he re-checked using a pocket calculator.

This report is unofficial, but I based my computation on the official corrections already made which I publicly announced during the canvassing.

**For your information.**



**REGALADO E. MAAMBONG**  
Commissioner-In-Charge  
Canvassing Systems Preparations

cc:

All Commissioners

Executive Director Resurreccion Z. Borra

Director Romeo C. Cacanindin, ERSD

Director Sonia D. Barros, EID

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Republic of the Philippines  
 COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS  
 Intramuros, Manila

NATIONAL BOARD OF CANVASSERS

RESULTS OF THE CORRECTION  
 BY RETABULATION CONDUCTED  
 BY THE NBC USING THE DATA  
 IN THE STATEMENT OF VOTES  
 BY PRECINCT/MUNICIPALITY IN  
 RELATION TO THE VOTES IN  
 THE CERTIFICATE OF CANVASS

AS OF 31 MAY 1995

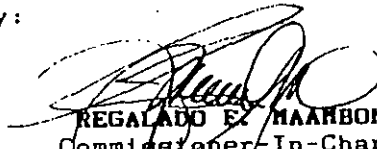
<u>CANDIDATES</u>	<u>VOTES DIFFERENCE</u> <u>PER CITY/MUN./PROV.</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u> <u>DIFFERENCE</u>
1. ANEREL	: - 50 (Davao City) ; : + 3 (Valenzuela) ; : + 1 (Makati City) ; : + 1 (Marikina) ; : - 10 (Iligan City) ; : + 4 (Isabela) ; : - 1 (Ilocos Norte) :	- 52
2. ARENAS	: - 291 (Davao City) ; : + 370 (Valenzuela) ; : + 13 (Makati City) ; : + 297 (Marikina) ; : + 370 (Iligan City) ; : + 9,047 (Isabela) ; : + 300 (Nueva Vizcaya) :	+ 10,106
3. BEDUYA	: + 263 (Davao City) ; : + 3 (Valenzuela) ; : - 7 (Makati City) ; : - 381 (Marikina) ; : - 10 (Iligan City) ; : - 3 (Pangasinan) ; : + 117 (Isabela) :	- 18
4. BIAZON	: - 5 (Davao City) ; : + 1,470 (Valenzuela) ; : - 917 (Makati City) ; : - 1,655 (Marikina) ; : - 20 (Iligan City) ; : + 7,272 (Isabela) ; : + 37,900 (Cavite) ; : + 90 (San Juan) :	+ 44,135
5. BIEGO	: - 1 (Davao City) ; : - 1 (Valenzuela) ; : + 1 (Makati City) ; : - 32 (Marikina) ; : - 4 (Iligan City) :	- 37
6. COSETENG	: - 5 (Nueva Ecija) ; : + 990 (Davao City) ; : - 575 (Valenzuela) ; : + 11 (Makati City) ; : - 457 (Marikina) ; : - 6 (Iligan City) ; : + 540 (Pangasinan) :	+ 498

7.	CRUZ	:	- 20 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 11 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 20 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 127 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 10 (Rizal)	;	
		:	+ 2 (Isabela)	;	+ 150
8.	DRILON	:	- 10 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 139 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 10 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 163 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 60 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 600 (Bukidnon)	;	
		:	- 30,000 (Ilocos Norte)	;	- 30,258
9.	ENRILE	:	- 8 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 48 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 76 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 72 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 5 (Occ. Mindoro)	;	
		:	- 30,000 (Ilocos Norte)	;	- 29,806
10.	FERNAN	:	+ 70 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 331 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 303 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 327 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 10 (Laguna)	;	- 219
11.	FERNANDEZ	:	+ 1 (Eastern Samar)	;	
		:	+ 90 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 84 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 4 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 153 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 73 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 10 (Isabela)	;	
		:	+ 304 (San Juan)	;	+ 553
12.	FLAVIER	:	+ 6 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 18 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 166 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 1,288 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 13 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Isabela)	;	
		:	- 9 (Pampanga)	;	
		:	- 292 (Ifugao)	;	+ 1,165
13.	HONASAN	:	+ 2,000 (Basilan)	;	
		:	- 53 (Davao City)	;	
		:	- 5 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 31 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 233 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 6 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 30 (Pangasinan)	;	
		:	- 200 (Guimaras)	;	+ 1,504
14.	LAUREL	:	- 70 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 9 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 9 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 88 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 17 (Zambales)	;	
		:	- 10 (San Juan)	;	- 185

15.	MACAPAGAL	:	- 500 (Mt. Province)	;	
		:	+ 177 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 273 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 494 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 30 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 630 (Aurora)	;	+ 1,104
16.	MAGSAYSAY	:	+ 55 (Eastern Samar)	;	
		:	+ 5 (Davao City)	;	
		:	- 66 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 3,336 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 779 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 26 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Isabela)	;	
		:	- 700 (Ilocos Norte)	;	+ 1,878
17.	MARCOS	:	+ 29 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 10 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 6,901 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 91 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 2 (Romblon)	;	
		:	- 3,600 (Zambales)	;	
		:	+ 400 (Cavite)	;	
		:	- 1,018 (San Juan)	;	- 11,011
18.	MITRA	:	+ 30 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 298 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 34 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 1,329 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 4 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 3,000 (Sultan Kudarat)	;	
		:	- 565 (San Juan)	;	
		:	- 20,000 (Ilocos Norte)	;	- 15,870
19.	OSMENA	:	+ 3,165 (Davao City)	;	
		:	- 20 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 889 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 662 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 60 (San Juan)	;	+ 1,534
20.	PIMENTEL	:	+ 172 (Davao City)	;	
		:	- 1,265 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 1 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 766 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 999 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Isabela)	;	
		:	+ 6 (Cavite)	;	+ 678
21.	POLINTAN	:	+ 1 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 5 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 6 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 11 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 30 (Isabela)	;	
		:	+ 14 (Nueva Vizcaya)	;	- 37
22.	RAYMUNDO	:	- 56 (Eastern Samar)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Davao City)	;	
		:	- 9,008 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 91 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 184 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 1 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 400 (Cavite)	;	- 8,569

23.	ROCO	:	+ 19 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 26 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 105 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 204 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 8 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 30 (Ilocos Norte)	;	
		:	+ 100 (San Juan)	;	
		:	- 2 (Or. Mindoro)	;	+ 474
24.	ROXAS	:	- 269 (Eastern Samar)	;	
		:	- 299 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 11 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 156 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 1,106 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 110 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 10 (San Juan)	;	- 1,699
25.	SANTIAGO	:	+ 77 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	- 60 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 152 (Marikina)	;	
		:	- 50 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 172 (San Juan)	;	- 53
26.	TATAD	:	+ 10 (Eastern Samar)	;	
		:	+ 5 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 20 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 189 (Makati City)	;	
		:	- 580 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 36 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	- 297 (Isabela)	;	
		:	+ 11,593 (Cavite)	;	
		:	- 100 (San Juan)	;	+ 10,876
27.	TILLAH	:	- 999 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 15 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 257 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 74 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 11 (Iligan City)	;	- 642
28.	TOLENTINO	:	- 319 (Davao City)	;	
		:	+ 1,584 (Valenzuela)	;	
		:	+ 902 (Makati City)	;	
		:	+ 2,494 (Marikina)	;	
		:	+ 90 (Iligan City)	;	
		:	+ 9,024 (Isabela)	;	
		:	+ 371 (Zambales)	;	
		:	+ 6,000 (Cavite)	;	+ 20,146

Compiled by:

  
**REGALADO E. MAABONG**  
 Commissioner-In-Charge  
 Canvassing System Preparations  
 Committee



## WORKSHOP 1 RESULTS: NORTHERN LUZON

ACTIVITIES	INSIGHTS / REFLECTIONS	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<p><b>Pre-election:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-recruitment of volunteers</li> <li>-conduct voters' education</li> <li>-trainors' training for pollwatching</li> <li>-formation of prov'l committees</li> <li>-mobilization of existing groups</li> <li>-fund raising/mass media/ grpmedia</li> <li>-coordination with COMELEC and political groups</li> <li>-conduct candidates' fora (municipal and provincial)</li> <li>-setting up of billboards</li> </ul> <p><b>Election Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-pollwatching</li> <li>-quick count</li> </ul> <p><b>Post</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-assessment of VOTECARE</li> </ul>	<p>Voters' Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-for advocacy</li> <li>-to be improved</li> <li>-kept election peaceful (yet not honest)</li> <li>-also given to political parties</li> </ul> <p>Spirit of volunteerism high</p> <p>Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-fully involved</li> </ul> <p>quarreling groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-VOTECARE vs. PPCRV</li> </ul> <p>existing recognized groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-CCAGG</li> </ul>	<p>Maximized resources</p> <p>volunteerism</p> <p>new breed of BEI</p> <p>organized group adopting VOTECARE</p> <p>involvement of clergy</p> <p>communication facilities</p> <p>support were solicited from various groups and persons</p>	<p>presence of conflicting groups</p> <p>disunity among them</p> <p>not all of the clergy were involved or cooperative</p> <p>lack funds for communications of volunteers and network in general</p>

REALIZATIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-political involvement</li> <li>-working for social transformation</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Through VOTECARE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-empowerment of the laity</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Voters' education should be made long before the elections</li> <li>2. There's a need for continuous voters' education and conscientization</li> <li>3. Continuing resource mobilization</li> <li>4. Earlier accreditation</li> <li>5. organization of VOTECARE to NASSA should be done 10 months before the election</li> <li>6. Consider the location and financial status of municipalities / parishes</li> <li>7. Continuous monitoring and strengthening of organization and commitment of volunteers</li> </ol>

## WORKSHOP 1 RESULTS: SOUTHERN LUZON

ACTIVITIES	INSIGHTS / REFLECTIONS	WEAKNESSES	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Pre-election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-consultative meetings in the diocesan and parish levels: presbyterium and commission</li> <li>-information dissemination on VOTECARE</li> <li>-trainors' training: diocesan and parish</li> <li>-massive voters' education: creation of modules, use of other means like street theatre, brgy. masses</li> <li>-recruitment of volunteers (especially of Youth Ministry members)</li> <li>-training on pollwatching</li> <li>-coordination with COMELEC, DILG, PNP, NGOs, Radio groups, other churches, media</li> <li>-conduct candidates' fora and peace covenant signing</li> <li>-voters' verification</li> <li>-issuance of Circular letters</li> <li>-training on radio communication</li> <li>-preparation of jingles</li> <li>-liturgical and para-liturgical activities</li> </ul> <p>Election Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-pollwatching</li> <li>-quick count operation</li> <li>-Voters' Assistance Center</li> <li>-Canvassing(precinct-municipal-prov'l)</li> </ul> <p>Post</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-documentation of irregularities and proceedings of the election</li> <li>-diocesan evaluation</li> <li>-other culminating activities</li> <li>-monitoring</li> </ul>	<p>Helped in deterring fraud in the precinct, municipal and prov'l levels</p> <p>most of the voters were not well educated</p> <p>effective implementation of VOTECARE program</p> <p>clergy had supported the VOTECARE program and its activities (not all of the clergy, siyempre!)</p>	<p>lack of commitment and support from the clergy</p> <p>some clergy were partisan</p> <p>VOTECARE is not a well-known group (no media projection)</p> <p>absence of a strong legal plan</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. massive voters' education</li> <li>2. it should become a regular and pro-active program</li> <li>3. serious implementation of post election activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-100 days-ULAT sa BAYAN</li> <li>--municipal/ provincial watch</li> <li>-strengthen municipal and provincial watchers</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. strengthen Church structure of electoral program</li> <li>5. VOTECARE projection</li> <li>6. Formation of the clergy on electoral involvement</li> </ol>



## cont. of WORKSHOP 1 RESULTS: VISAYAS

<i>IMPACT</i>	<i>STRENGTHS</i>	<i>WEAKNESSES</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>
<p>Improved the conduct of the elections</p> <p>Minimized electoral fraud (lessened the number of irregularities)</p> <p>Minimized political tensions</p> <p>Provided guidance to voters</p> <p>Highlighted the concrete issues affecting the community</p>	<p>Mobilization/ tapping of seminarians, religious, lay, youth leaders</p> <p>SAD's commitment</p> <p>SAC NETWORK</p> <p>Provide venue for active non-partisan involvement</p>	<p>MOA (e.g. funds verbally expressed)</p> <p>Miscommunication to the parishes regarding finances</p> <p>DELAY in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-communication changes of MOA</li> <li>-distribution of materials</li> <li>-Advisories</li> <li>-accreditation by COMELEC</li> </ul> <p>Lack of Publicity (National)</p> <p>Some materials not relevant</p> <p>Lack of preparation compared to the 1992 elections; WYD activities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clarify staffing in NASSA for VOTECARE program, promotions/ projections</li> <li>2. Set up one umbrella organization for electoral involvement</li> <li>3. Ensure accreditation of citizen's arm to proper agencies notably during election</li> <li>4. Institutionalize VOTECARE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-continuous voters' educ.</li> <li>-lobbying for electoral reforms</li> <li>-improve fund sourcing</li> <li>-on-going formation for lay, clergy, religious</li> <li>-on-going linkaging</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Improvement in training materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-visual aids</li> <li>-training module</li> <li>-comic (e.g. localized)</li> <li>-posters</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

## WORKSHOP 1 RESULTS: MINDANAO

<b>ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
<b>Voters' education and training of volunteers</b>	Recruitment of credible volunteers	Lack of preparation: -late decision from hierarchy to participate -late arrival of materials and other assistance	Enhanced / Motivated people to volunteer  Awareness that political participation is an integral part of evangelization	VOTECARE to involve itself in mainstream electoral processes  Advocate the passage of Bill for the observance of Voter's Educ. month
<b>Candidates' Fora and covenant / peace signing</b>	Church in-placed structure	Very limited resources to sustain efforts	Honed knowledge and skills on Electoral technology and process	Groom lay people for active and actual involvement in future elections
<b>Peace rallies, vigils, masses, street dramas, stage plays, media exposures, prayer power house</b>	Established good partnership with COMELEC deputies (except in Lanao del Norte provincial registrar)	Education / training programs lacked emphasis on organizing and leadership	To some extent, Voters' education did not manifest change in the values and orientation of voters	Conduct a year-round political education program  Ensure availability of resources to sustain Church comprehensive electoral program
<b>Mobile Education</b>	Qualified trainers and formators	No defined monitoring machineries	Most candidates were challenged to be more issue-oriented and people-oriented in presenting their platforms / programs	Lobby for the enactment of the proposed electoral laws
<b>Recruitment, organizing and mobilization / deployment of volunteers / pollwatchers</b>	Support of bishops and priests, nuns	Lack of comprehensive programs to effect change in electoral process	To some extent, covenant-signing promoted a sense of accountability	Ensure regular assessment of activities from GKK / BEC level
<b>75,000 volunteers</b>	Presence of volunteers deterred fraud and other irregularities	Incohesiveness of the organization	Diminished fraud and irregularities particularly in the precincts (presence of VOTECARE volunteers)	Continue monitoring and strengthening of organization and individual commitment of volunteers



## cont. WORKSHOP 1 RESULTS: MINDANAO

<i>ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>STRENGTHS</i>	<i>WEAKNESSES</i>	<i>IMPACT</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>
	<p>VOTECARE activities hastened COMELEC tasks</p> <p>Promoted, fostered and enhanced ecumenical / interfaith cooperation</p> <p>Enhanced the spirit of volunteerism (except in Marawi, and may areas in Lanao and Maguindanao)</p>	<p>Educational materials not adaptable to other faiths</p> <p>VOTECARE could not compete with political party's recruitment strategies due to monetary considerations</p> <p>Some volunteers backed out in last "2 minutes"</p> <p>Some volunteers were pressured on Election day to be partisan due to threats and intimidation, e.g. some places in Lanao Norte, Maguindanao, and Marawi City</p>		<p>Decide to get involved early</p> <p>Advocate for a nationwide RE-REGISTRATION of voters through the passage of a bill</p> <p>Clearly define and/or settle organizational problem with NAMFREL, PPCRV and other electoral groups with national network (decide to select only one electoral group)</p> <p>NAMFREL should have its own group of volunteers, structure and organization</p> <p>Church should venture on Quick Count Operation</p> <p>Maintain alliance and coordination with COMELEC</p> <p>Document violation of Electoral laws during the MAY elections, submit documents to COMELEC and follow-up on the prosecution of these cases</p>

## cont. WORKSHOP RESULTS 1: MINDANAO

<i>ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>STRENGTHS</i>	<i>WEAKNESSES</i>	<i>IMPACT</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS</i>
				<p>Maximize Church Tri-media network's resources for the purpose of electoral reforms while continuing its good relationship with the commercial tri-media network</p> <p>Institutionalize local electoral groups which were effective in the past elections, e.g., LIHOK DAVAO, SURCIMO, CCRGFI, KASAMAPA, etc.</p> <p>Conduct profiling of elected officials</p> <p>Intensify awareness seminar of Local Government Code and the Phil. Gov't's Management and Policy / Strategy formulation technology</p>

## VOTECARE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT REPORT (June 6-8, 1995, Cebu City)

### INTRODUCTION

VOTECARE Program for May 8, 1995 Elections started right after its November 1994 consultation at the Communication Foundation for Asia which was attended by representatives from 35 dioceses. In that consultation, objectives and program of activities were spelled out and the diocese that adopts the VOTECARE program should carry out its implementation. The regional secretariats were tasked to monitor the diocesan activities while the National Office, as a national secretariat, will give the necessary support particularly funds and materials to the VOTECARE dioceses. In view of this, a Memorandum of Agreement between the National Office and the diocese was issued to that effect. However, it was made clear that the MOA did not prevent the dioceses from coordinating with other citizens arms but rather it ensures that only VOTECARE IDs will be used during election day.

### Objectives:

1. To educate the voting public on social issues and criteria for a principled selection of candidates;
2. To organize and train volunteers in every parish in a diocese adopting VOTECARE as its official election body;
3. To support, in every way, COMELEC's efforts to conduct credible elections in cooperation with other citizens arm of the commission which are working for the same ends;
4. To set-up impartial and neutral machinery which is competent in election rules and ready to face intimidation;
5. To tap, after elections, the organized volunteers as a group that will monitor the performance of elected officials;

### Programs of Activities:

1. Voters' Education including skills training on pollwatching and holding candidates' fora and covenant signing in coordination with the commission and/or its local counterparts.
2. Setting-up of Voters' Assistance Centers.
3. Actual pollwatching.
4. Quick Counting in the local level.
5. Monitoring the performance of the elected officials.

### MEMBERSHIP / AFFILIATION (MOA)

Out of 79 dioceses, fifty-three (53) have signed the MOA, yet only fifty-one (51) dioceses have actually used VOTECARE IDs. About sixty-one (61) dioceses have availed of NASSA's financial support. Only three (3) out of seventy-nine (79) have not received materials from VOTECARE.



The fifty-one (51) dioceses affiliated with VOTECARE.

LUZON	VISAYAS	MINDANAO
Baguio-Benguet Bangued Boac Bontoc-Lagawe Cabanatuan Calapan Daet Gumaca Iba Ilagan Imus Infanta Libmanan Lipa Lucena Masbate Nueva Segovia Sorsogon Tabuk Tuguegarao Virac (Bagong Ina - Makati) (Sandiwa - Sampaloc)	Borongan Calbayog Catarman Maasin Naval Palo Romblon San Carlos San Jose de Antique Tagbilaran Talibon	Butuan Cagayan de Oro Cotabato Davao Digos Dipolog Iligan Ipil Jolo Kidapawan Malaybalay Marawi Marbel Mati Ozamis Pagadian Surigao Tagum Tandag (PIC)

## MATERIALS

VOTECARE has distributed its materials and other related election paraphernalia particularly COMELEC documents to 76 dioceses regardless of their affiliation. Many have still asked for additional materials, however, the supply could only provide so much.

VOTECARE Manual  
 VOTECARE Comics  
 VOTECARE Posters  
 VOTECARE T-shirts  
 VOTECARE Primers  
 PIC-VOTECARE Posters  
 VOTECARE Volunteer & Pollwatcher IDs  
 2 CBCP 1995 Pastoral letters for Elections

General Instruction for BEIs  
 Omnibus Election Code  
 General Instruction for BOC  
 Lists of positions and precincts  
 Election tapes  
 others

## TRAININGS

The National Office together with the regional secretariats concerned conducted VOTECARE Trainings and Orientation Seminars in the following areas:

Talibon Palo Mindanao-wide Consultation	Catarman Romblon	Borongan Calbayog	Aurora Makati San Jose Seminary	Baguio-Banguet Bukidnon
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The National Office has held two consultations wherein better coordination between the NO, the Regional offices, and the Diocesan Social Action centers were to be fostered. To this end, the NO drafted a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the DSACs. It also issued five advisories during the pre-election period, providing guidelines and other protocols.

NASSA has also signed a MOA with the Philippine Islamic Council (PIC) to ensure that Muslim areas which cannot be reached by its diocesan volunteers, PIC can do the function of VOTECARE. However, PIC people are instructed to coordinate with our diocesan VOTECARE director in the area they are working on.

The NO has also entered into an agreement with NAMFREL and PPCRV; the latter with regards areas of responsibility for voters' education and pollwatching, while with the former, the Quick Count. A MOA was signed with these two other citizens arm o f the COMELEC. VOTECARE maintained close coordination with the COMELEC through meetings and command conferences. The coordination provided the network with thousands of materials and other pertinent information from the Commission.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF IDs

A total of 256,467 volunteers' IDs and 216,626 pollwatchers' IDs were distributed to the dioceses, groups and individuals.

	Volunteers' IDs	Pollwatchers' IDs
LUZON		
Dioceses (21)	92, 182	74, 700
Other groups:		
Bagong Ina	5, 000	4, 000
Sandiwa		500
VISAYAS		
Dioceses (12)	39, 600	37, 900
MINDANAO		
Dioceses (19)	119, 600	99, 439
NO / ROs	87	87

#### MEDIA PROJECTION

The National Secretariat has attended five TV talk shows on election issues: three in Channel 5, one in Channel 7, and one in Channel 9.

The National Secretariat came out with 32 Press Releases in the whole election period. However, most of these are VOTECARE statements on the election which were published in the Manila Chronicle, TODAY, Philippine Journal, Philippine Star, Peoples' Journal, Bandera, Pulse, Pinoy, Taliba, Balita and Remate.

## EXPENSES

In terms of funds, the National Secretariat has released P 4, 147,950 to the 61 dioceses, regional secretariats, and PIC. It has also spent on the following major items:

VOTECARE IDs .....	P 280,000
VOTECARE materials.....	520,000
Delivery, handling.....	60,244

As of April 30, 1995, the total VOTECARE expenses amounted to P 5, 507, 078. 86.

## ELECTION DAY MONITORING

The NO has recruited 30 volunteers on election day. The volunteers were assigned to different tasks. Since there were two Manila-based organizations affiliated with VOTECARE --Bagong Ina of Makati and Sandiwa of Sampaloc-- VOTECARE NO created four mobile roving teams to monitor the performance and situation of our volunteers in these areas.

Other volunteers were assigned to TV and radio monitoring especially on VOTECARE areas, others to receive calls from the network, and other volunteers were assigned to VOTECARE's post in La Salle for possible call/reports from the network.

Conduct of elections in these two areas was peaceful but voter disenfranchisement and late arrival of election materials were the issues reported to the NO

## ASSESSMENT ON NO

1. Lack of visible VOTECARE staff in the secretariat to do its job and attend to the needs of the network.
2. Lack of coordination among the secretariat staff.
3. Line of authority and responsibility of the people in the secretariat were not clearly defined.

## OUTLINE OF NAMFREL'S ASSESSMENT

### 1. Official OQC results

- 1.1 Total precincts counted, Total votes cast, respective percentages
- 1.2 Presentation of provincial coverage where there is VOTECARE/NAMFREL collaboration: 71.05%

### 2. COMELEC Feedback on OQC '95

- Chairman Pardo commented against OQC for a less than 100% count
- The COMELEC nonetheless approved of the 6th copy of Election Returns for OQC

### 3. Highlights of public opinion on OQC '95

- the media had a good review of the OQC

### 4. Presentation of problems encountered on OQC

- 4.1 Operational difficulties encountered during pre-OQC
  - 4.1.1 organizing and mobilization was delayed
  - 4.1.2 Sending funds
  - 4.1.3 Sending OQC forms; training forms were delayed
  - 4.1.4 Computer program not compatible at times
- 4.2 Solutions/ Measures adopted
  - Continuous contact / activity
- 4.3 Difficulties encountered during OQC proper
  - 4.3.1 decrease in number of votes, voters who voted, registered voters, etc. In current against previous messages
  - 4.3.2 running totals in XFs misunderstood
  - 4.3.3 missing number of registered voters and voters' who voted in XFs
- 4.4 Solutions / Measures adopted
  - continuous verification
  - constant re-checking

### 5. Post OQC issues

- 5.1 Requests from candidates for NAMFREL PTFs as evidence for resolving electoral protests

### 6. Over-all assessment of OQC '95

- 6.1 Fulfillment of objectives - 70% mark was achieved
- 6.2 Relationship with partners and contributors - full support
- 6.3 Point of view of volunteers - efficient

### 7. "The OQC '95: How much did it cost?"

- 7.1 manpower - 100 M (provide by volunteers for free)
- 7.2 materials - 10 M
- 7.3 equipment - 5 M

**8. After OQC '95, what next?**

- 8.1 Effective lobby for computerization of the elections
- 8.2 Voter involvement programs
  - 8.2.1 enhancing local government accountability
    - 8.2.1.1 LGU Watch
    - 8.2.1.2 Congress Watch
  - 8.2.1 Parliamentary Shift? What can we do?
    - 8.2.2.1 Role of Election Volunteer Organizations (EVO)
    - 8.2.2.2 Role of EVOs in influencing the selection of delegates to the Constitutional Convention organized for this purpose

**9. Strengthening the volunteer-base in the country**

-continue nurturing volunteerism

**MINDANAO'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO NAMFREL**

1. NAMFREL should have its own organization and structure;
2. There should be clear and practical agreements between VOTECARE and NAMFREL in writing as regards to coordination, logistics, volunteers, parameters, etc.;
3. Clarify line of coordination;
4. Simplify forms and instructions;
5. Be realistic in terms of providing financial and other assistance;
6. Early preparation and training of volunteers;
7. Settle these and other organizational problems at the top level

## POST-ELECTION CHALLENGES IN THE CONTEXT OF PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE

### A. Some electoral analyses:

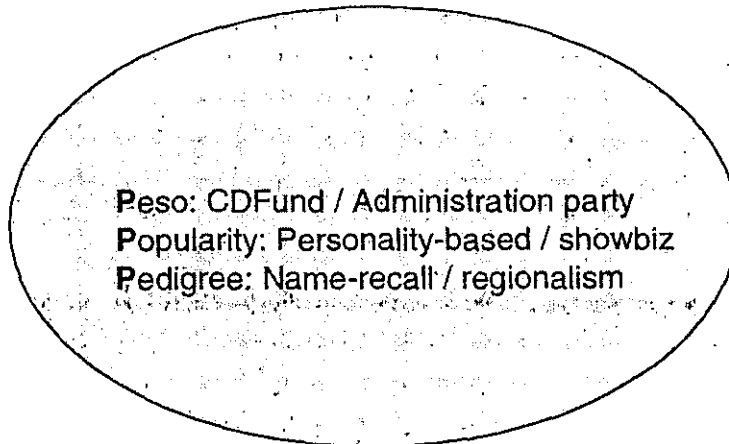
1. Three popular commandments that best describe the recent elections (1995):

Thou shall win!  
 Thou shall not lose!  
 Thou shall not concede!

-----  
 Golden Rule: Thou shall do it first before  
 others can do it unto you!

-everybody wants to rule the world, and that there are only two types of candidates: *nananalo at dinadaya!*, as if nobody loses in elections.

2. These commandments guided by the golden rule substantiate themselves in 3 actively performing Ps:



1995

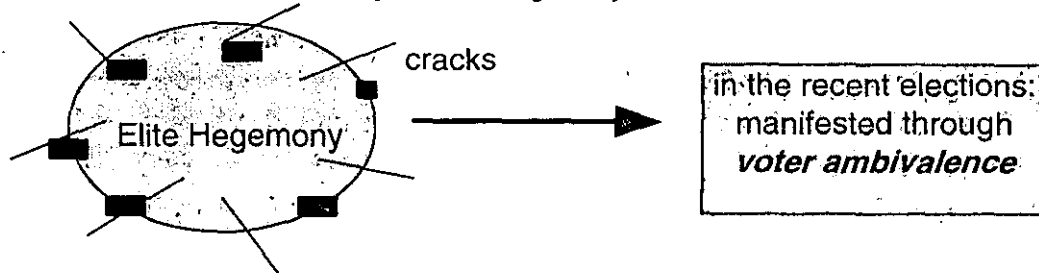
focus on local contests

1998

not only local but also  
 national

early announcements  
 for presidentiables

3. However, to look at it closely, the elite hegemony is not monolithic:



4. Elite hegemony characterized by non-monolithic nature; it is fractured by its cracks.

-this condition can also serve as window of opportunities for entry points or people's interventions.

5. The cracks are such that:

**Peso:** for every Enrile who won, there is one Arenas who lost

**Popularity:** for every Herbert Bautista who won, there is a Robin Padilla who lost

**Pedigree:** for every Macapagal and Magsaysay who won, there is a Bongbong Marcos who lost

-in short, this voter ambivalence means that for every incredible candidates who are voted into positions, there are corresponding credible candidates (at least by qualifications); i.e., for every Revilla, you have a Roco or Macapagal.

6. Voter ambivalence means craving or tendency to balance; not extremism; and this manifests that there are no monolith tendencies in the general political scenario.

7. 1995 electoral assessments:

-voter ambivalence manifests non-monolith character;

this may mean hopes or opportunities for action

-elite also not monolithic: also an opportunity

-more manifestation on form rather than substance

-increased awareness on local contests; generally young and saw the emergence of new faces of candidates although still many are familiar politicians / clans; also saw the downfall of old and seeming lifetime officials (Remulla, Asistio, etc)

B. Impact to participation in governance:

1. Requisites:

-non-monolithic character of our governance must be recognized; it offers hopes and opportunities for people's interventions; current debate: may pag-asa ba o wala ang gobyerno?

-there is no escaping government; it's the only one we've got anyway; thus, if we want this government to succeed, we have no

other choice but to help this government;  
current debate: criticisms with alternatives

-governance: new arena of struggles (mainstream politics);  
current debate: collaboration or cooptation; or independence with  
autonomy

-because we will be dealing with government, we must be open and willing to  
work with government; cynicism, narrow-mindedness and self-righteousness  
appear to be obstacles to our openness to government;

-mainstreaming implies participation and involvements on how our government  
is run (basic definition of governance).

2. If we are convinced of most of these, if not all, participation can take off. Concretely,  
we can participate in governance by:

-continue active role in governance, directly or indirectly, and this would require  
increasing awareness and commitment in taking part in running the affairs of  
our government, especially among local governments; thus, re-focus efforts at  
respective local government areas or units;

-get involved in local government machineries, if feasible, take leadership roles  
in the executive branch and its committees, or the legislative branch or its  
committees; and the LSBs; get to know your Sanggunian, for example, are they  
qualified in the first place? are they doing their jobs? What programs or  
ordinances are they passing? the same goes true with the local chief  
executives and other officials.

-assume fiscalizing roles to monitor government activities and ensure they are  
in accordance with their mandate, and check out politicians who have made  
promises during his campaign;

ex: CCAGG - Abra  
GDFI - Samar

-pro-actively initiate to undertake projects that are good for the communities  
through the system of initiative and referendum; or submit proposals for  
ordinances.

-enter into partnerships with local government agencies.

3. Enabling mechanisms:

-set up governance desks or programs with corresponding resources and  
sustained plans of activities;

-continue to organize a critical mass for effective governance by building civic  
constituencies

-level of participation: barangay  
city / municipality  
provincial

-each has its functions, resources (especially finances), etc

-concept of integration



**WORKSHOP 2**

1. Discuss exhaustively each recommendation presented and determine / formulate the following:

- a. SPECIFIC activities with time frame and areas of responsibility;
- b. Policy recommendations to the hierarchy (if necessary);
- c. Immediate actions (to be presented to, decided upon, and approved by the assembly).

Note: You may use the matrix below.

Areas / Concern of Recommendation	Activities Needed	Time Frame	Areas of Responsibilities	Policy Recommendation to the hierarchy	Immediate Actions
			Diocese RO NO		

2. Based on the above and the 1992 and 1995 collective VOTECARE's electoral experiences:

- a. What would be our goal / objectives for 1995-1998 in particular; and
  - a. 1. in relation to local governance and electoral reforms, in general;
  - b. What would be our strategies and indicators of success and criteria for monitoring and evaluation

Note: Please refer to the matrix below.

Goals / Objectives	Strategies to be used	Indicators of success Criteria for monitoring and evaluation

## WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: NORTHERN LUZON

<i>Activities Needed</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>	<i>To be Responsible</i>	<i>Policy Recommendation to the hierarchy</i>	<i>Immediate Action</i>
<b>1a. Preparation of Education Modules</b>	June-July '95	NO		*Formation of team *Research of existing related modules
<b>b. Trainors' Training</b>	August '95	RO		*Research of related data *Identify Trainees *Fund Sourcing
<b>2a. Expand the JP desk to provide support to SAC's "concerns" for good governance</b>	August '95	NO / RO	to ECSA / RECSA	*Make representation with ECSA / RECSA
<b>b. Consultation with municipal and provincial chapters</b>	June-July '95	SAC		*Basic orientation with the clergy

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: NORTHERN LUZON

ANNEX 7

<i>Activities Needed</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>	<i>To be Responsible</i>	<i>Policy Recommendation to the hierarchy</i>	<i>Immediate Action</i>
2/3c. Set-up / strengthen SAC's advocacy desk to include institutionalization of VOTECARE volunteers towards government watch	August '95	Dioceses		*Research and Documentation *Linkaging with LGUs, NGOs, POs, other faiths and line agencies
4a. re 1996 ARMM Election i. set-up VOTECARE Secretariate in ARMM for March 1996 Elections ii. each diocese/ province to send representative or volunteer to directly work/ observe the conduct of elections in ARMM, esp. to familiarize them on the new technology on voting	July '95	NO / RO / PIC		*Make representation with the bishops in ARMM  *Identify possible volunteers
b. re 1997 Brgy. Elections i. encourage lay leaders esp. from small faith communities (BECs) for brgy. positions ii. refer to activies #1	July '95	Dioceses		
c. re 1998 National / Local Elections i. refer to # 1 and 2	June '95 May '97	DSAC Baranggay Network		*Consultation with clergy *Identify possible, credible lay leaders

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: NORTHERN LUZON

ANNEX 7

<i>Activities Needed</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>	<i>To be Responsible</i>	<i>Policy Recommendation to the hierarchy</i>	<i>Immediate Action</i>
<p>5. Spearhead Congress / conference for electoral reforms w/ other citizens arms and advocacy NGOs to propose a draft of electoral reforms measures to be integrated in the COMELEC proposed "New Election Code"</p>	<p>September '95</p>	<p>NO / RO / Dioceses</p>		<p>*Make representation to DECSA / ECSA</p>

NOTE: REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS 6, 7, AND 8, REFER TO 1, 2, AND 3.

## WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: CENTRAL & SOUTHERN LUZON

ANNEX 7

<i>AREAS / CONCERN OF RECOMMENDATION</i>	<i>ACTIVITIES NEEDED</i>	<i>TIME FRAME</i>	<i>AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY</i>		
			<i>DIOCESE</i>	<i>RO</i>	<i>NO</i>
<b>1. Socio-Political Education</b>	1. Popularization of local governance and electoral reforms				
	a. Preparation of a simplified module on Local Governance and Electoral Reforms	July '95	X	X	X
	b. Trainors' Training				
	-Regional / Sub-regional → -Diocesan - Parish → -Barangay →	August '95 Sept-Dec Oct'95-May'98	X	X	X
	2. Mobilization of POs, BECs, NGOs for Local Governance (Brgy-Provincial)	Jun'95-May'98	X		
<b>2. Strengthen National Secretariat</b>	3. Creation of <i>Public Affairs Bureau</i> at the National Level	July-Dec '95		X	X
<b>3. Common Network</b>	4. CBCP will formulate a guideline on local governance - SACs -lay initiative in supporting leaders -preparation of political arenas thru massive voters' education(structure) -involvement in social reform agenda -clear-out functions / relationship of lay people and parish priests -declaration of <i>Voters' Education Month</i>	July '95			X

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS:CENTRAL & SOUTHERN LUZON

ANNEX 7

AREAS / CONCERN OF RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES NEEDED	TIME FRAME	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY		
			DIOCESE	RO	NO
4. Early preparation and organization	5. Strengthening and / or building up alliances (NGOs, POs, GOs, DSACs) in the diocesan, regional and national level	July'95- May'98	X	X	X
	6. Formulation of a LETTER OF APPEAL to CBCP to come-up with only one Church electoral-arm that will take care of: VEs, PW, OQC and lobbying for Electoral Reforms in Congress	June '95	X	X	X
5. Re-registration and participation in Barangay Elections	7. Participation on the National Registration / Re-registration		X	X	X
	8. Involvement in Barangay Election -VEs, PW, recruitment / organizing, CF	Jan '96- May '97	X	X	X
6. Work for Resource Mobilization: sustainability	9. DSACs formulation of a comprehensive program on local governance and electoral reforms (in connection with Justice and Peace, Alay Kapwa Program)	Jun-Aug'95	X		

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: CENTRAL & SOUTHERN MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

AREAS / CONCERN OF RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES NEEDED	TIME FRAME	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY		
			DIOCESE	RO	NO
7. Effective Nationwide projection	10. Wide media projection in the national and local levels. -appearance in televisions / radio -press releases in different newspapers			X	X

GOALS / OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES TO BE USED	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS
1. At the end of the three year program, the masses had been educated, organized and mobilized.	*comprehensive planning *trainors' training *grassroot level education *core group formation	1. Core groups / trainors were formed. 2. Presence of initiative on the part of the masses in participating in local governance (Brgr - Prov'l)
2. People themselves have been organized and mobilized in line with local initiatives.	*linkaging / networking collaboration *resource mobilization *mobilization	3. Enough volunteers and support group had been mobilized.
3. DSAC s, POs, NGOs, GOs, be able to build a strong network.	*mngm. information system *research and documentation *planning assistance *community organizing *social planning	4. Presence of a strong alliance among DSACs, POs, NGOs, GOs.

## WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

AREAS / CONCERNS OF RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES NEEDED	TIME FRAME	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	POLICY RECOMMENDATION TO HIERARCHY	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS
<p><b>RECOMMENDATION 1</b>                      Davao - Vision 2000                      Lakaw Dabaw                      Digos - DSAC through DS-VOTECARE                      Tagum - DSAC thru P.A.R.P.                      Marbel - CCRGFI in coord. w/ DSAC                      Cotabato - DSAC-JP                      Cag. de Oro - DSAC                      Butuan - DSAC thru BDCRV                      Surigao - DSAC thru VOTECARE                      Dipolog - DSAC thru JP's Peace movement                      Iligan - DSAC-RCJP-VC                      Marawi - DSAC thru DLF                      Sulu - DSAC through VC</p>	<p>Consultation and Assessment</p> <p>Comprehensive planning and programming including GANTT charting</p>	<p>June to July 19</p> <p>June to July '95</p> <p>August-Sept '95</p>	<p>RO</p> <p>DO</p> <p>DO</p>	<p>Policy recommendation to the hierarchy in statement form to continue voters' education program in the areas concerned</p>	<p>Formulation and lobbying to the bishops</p>
<p><b>RECOMMENDATION 2</b></p>	<p>Organize pool of personalities that can be on-call for projection purposes</p>	<p>Oct '95</p>	<p>NO</p>		



cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

AREAS / CONCERNS OF RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES NEEDED	TIME FRAME	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	POLICY RECOMMENDATION TO HIERARCHY	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS
RECOMMENDATION 2	Hiring of full-time team of technical experts / trainers for advocacy and lobbying	Sept 30 1995	NO		
	Public accountability of elected officials / good governance watch through the ff. activities: -public fora -yearly Ulat ng Bayan -radio & TV programs	July '95 to time "immoral"	NO, RO, DO		
	Organize Catholic Lawyers Guild and VOTECARE's legal assistance volunteers for pushing of agenda				
RECOMMENDATION 3	MISSAS regular visitation with different sub-reg. / dioceses	July '95 to T. I.	NO, RO, DO		
	Regular consultations / meetings with identified NGOs, POs, GOs for common involvement	July '95 to T. I.	NO, RO, DO		

cont. WORKSHOP 2: MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

<i>AREAS / CONCERNS OF RECOMMENDATION</i>	<i>ACTIVITIES NEEDED</i>	<i>TIME FRAME</i>	<i>AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>POLICY RECOMMENDATION TO HIERARCHY</i>	<i>IMMEDIATE ACTIONS</i>
<b>RECOMMENDATION 4</b>	<p>Tap lawyers for legal and technical assistance on municipal and provincial canvassing</p> <p>Incorporation of pollwatching during voters' education but assimilation during final briefing</p> <p>Convene diocesan representative for module-making and submit to NASSA for production and distribution</p> <p>Simplification of Forms</p>	<p>July '95 to...</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>3 months before election</p>	<p>DO, RO</p> <p>NO</p> <p>NO</p>		
<b>RECOMMENDATION 5</b>	<p>With functional and technical experts for actual lobbying in Congress, formulation of electoral reform agenda</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	<p>NO</p>		

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

AREAS / CONCERNS OF RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES NEEDED	TIME FRAME	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY	POLICY RECOMMENDATION TO HIERARCHY	IMMEDIATE ACTIONS
RECOMMENDATION 5	Organize brainstorming sessions among law-makers with expert people for eventual support for the passage of electoral reforms	ASAP			
RECOMMENDATION 6	Brgy. profiling of voters thru GKK / BEC and organized interfaith groups	ASAP	RO, DO		
RECOMEMNDATION 7	Promotion of programs to the people	ASAP	NO, DO, RO		
	Establish IGPs	ASAP	DO		
	Pledges and 2nd collections once a month in big parishes	ASAP	DO		
	Inventory of existing organized interfaith	ASAP			
	Identification of credible contact person	ASAP			
	Critical and principled collaboration	ASAP			

cont. WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: MINDANAO

ANNEX 7

<i>AREAS / CONCERNS OF RECOMMENDATION</i>	<i>ACTIVITIES NEEDED</i>	<i>TIME FRAME</i>	<i>AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY</i>	<i>POLICY RECOMMENDATION TO HIERARCHY</i>	<i>IMMEDIATE ACTIONS</i>
<b>RECOMMENDATION 8</b>	Informal meetings and gatherings of lay and clergy  Organization of an effective and charming VOTECARE Social Weather Bureau  Request Bishops to allow / provide radio time for VOTECARE (local)	ASAP  ASAP			

<i>GOALS / OBJECTIVES</i>	<i>STRATEGIES TO BE USED</i>	<i>INDICATORS OF SUCCESS</i>
To effect meaningful and relevant electoral reforms  To facilitate realization of a higher degree of political maturity among the people	Education and trainings  Lobby, campaign and advocacy  Media liaisoning  Documentattion and Research	

## WORKSHOP 2 RESULTS: PHILIPPINE ISLAMIC COUNCIL

### Post - Election Activites

1. Submit proposals to the COMELEC on the March 1996 ARMM elections.

Target date: June 1995

2. Translate / Print VOTECARE Manuals and other relevant materials on Local Governance and the Election Process into the different Muslim dialects (e.g. Maranao, Tausog, Maguindanao, Yakan and Sama).

Target date: July 1995

3. Set-up PIC-VOTECARE headquarters in the four provinces covered by ARMM (Lanao del Sur, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, and Maguindanao).

Target date: July 1995

4. Organize structure for educational campaign regarding ARMM Election activities and positions, and use Tri-media for this purpose.

Target date: August 1995

5. Hold trainings / seminars on the following:
  - a) Election Process and the Vote Counting Machine
  - b) Good values (a la Moral Recovery Program)
  - c) Campaign for the prevention and stoppage of RIDO (family conflicts)
  - d) Local governance

Target date: October-December 1995

6. PIC-VOTECARE mobilization for the ARMM elections.

Target date: January-March 1996

## SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

Out of forty-two diocesan representatives, twenty-seven responded to the evaluation form distributed to them. Below is the summary of the items evaluated with 5 the highest and 1 the lowest.

### A. Objectives

1. To assess and evaluate VOTECARE activities in relation to May 8, 1995 senatorial and local elections.

5	-	33.33%
4	-	55.55%
3	-	11.11%

2. To define VOTECARE's role in promoting and sustaining on-going people's active participation in local governance and electoral reform in general, and in the local and national elections (1996, 1997 and 1998) in particular.

5	-	14.81%	2	-	3.70%
4	-	66.66%			
3	-	14.81%			

3. To strengthen the spirit of camaraderie and solidarity among the participants for better coordination and implementation of planned activities.

5	-	22.22%	2	-	7.40%
4	-	51.85%			
3	-	18.51%			

### Comments

- Mindanao group built a group of their own
- Not much time was given for camaraderie with other groups
- Other regions were not prepared in their assessment
- NAMFREL assessment should have been included in the subregional/regional reports
- Absence of Sr. Rosanne did not facilitate well the planning
- Planning session proved to be no longer productive with some of the participants already exhausted
- Objectives are greatly relevant
- The objectives were reached and the responsibility now is to bring the results down the diocesan and parish levels
- There should be more interaction with other groups or regions in particular with the the Mindanao group "na sila-sila lang."

### B. Facilitation

5	-	3.70%	No response	-	14.81%
4	-	48.14%			
3	-	33.33%			

## Comments

- Some people spoke many times during the open forum and did not give chance to others.
- Facilitator answered and even made comments on questions without soliciting first the participants' responses.
- NASSA personnel should develop facilitation skills.
- Some facilitators had the tendency to actively participate in the discussions which gave rise to further discussions.
- There was mishandling by some due to lack of skills
- No summary in each talk/activity was given for proper framework and continuity

## C. Contents

1. The Conduct of Elections '95  
Comm. Regalado Maambong

5	-	29.62%	No response	-	14.81%
4	-	48.14%			
3	-	7.40%			

2. NAMFREL's Assessment on VOTECARE  
Telibert Laoc

			2	-	22.22%
4	-	29.62%	No response	-	18.51%
3	-	48.14%			

3. Post-election Challenges  
Ronaldo Amorado

5	-	0%	2	-	7.40%
4	-	40.74%	No response	-	3.70%
3	-	48.14%			

## Comments

- Hand-outs be given after each input
- Post-election challenges was too general and inputs were a common knowledge already
- NAMFREL did not give a satisfactory evaluation
- Inputs on post-election were just a tip of the iceberg
- Commissioner Maambong is a good speaker
- NAMFREL is good but limited
- NAMFREL did not really assess VOTECARE
- On post-election challenges, lack of presentation of a framework
- NAMFREL should have given outright responses to sensitive questions, "hindi lista-lista lang"

## D. Accommodation

## 1. Food

5	-	22.22%	2	-	14.81%
4	-	33.33%	No response	-	3.70%
3	-	33.33%			

## 2. Facilities

5	-	25.92%	2	-	3.70%
4	-	27%	No response	-	3.70%
3	-	29.62%			

## Comments

- The place is very hot
- Fish ,more vegetable and less meat is suggested for the menu
- Extend curfew hours
- Bedrooms are crowded
- Menu is not varied
- Problem in sound system

## E. Recommendation/s

- Follow-up on recommendations
- Inputs/synthesis and proceedings should be distributed after every discussion
- Policies and agreements must be followed up by the National Office
- Mindanao group should also accomodate other regions
- Look for a place with no curfew
- Proceedings must be distributed to all participants as soon as possible
- Ensure full participation of all dioceses
- Curfew hours i.e, silence should be imposed specially when others are already sleeping
- Change venue
- Planning is necessary and should be held more often
- NASSA should hav an organized team specially in synhtesizing the results of the day to save time and to achieve the desired results.
- Get outside facilitators to avoid biases

## F. General Evaluation

5	-	22.22%
4	-	62.96%
3	-	14.81%