

# THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON GOOD GOVERNMENT

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**(3 AUGUST 2011)**

**RE: “PCGG SUPPORTS COMPENSATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS VICTIMS (HRVVS)”**

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) welcomes the President’s announcement—in his second State of the Nation Address—of the administration’s “aim to give due compensation to the victims of Martial Law.”

“The inclusion of this important matter in the President’s legislative portfolio, hopefully, will go a long way in furthering our government’s human rights agenda,” said PCGG Commissioner Maita Chan-Gonzaga. “We trust that our lawmakers will take their cue from the President. This is a matter that transcends party lines. It’s simply about doing what’s right, because it’s about time.”

“From day one, this Commission has been clear in its support for the efforts to fully compensate the Martial Law victims—that is, through an act passed and approved by Congress,” she added.

Commissioner Gonzaga further indicated that the PCGG is looking to promote the full and adequate compensation of the Martial Law victims through a campaign targeted, primarily, at the youth “to encourage them to get informed and get involved” and to communicate to the public “the necessity of passing a law for this very urgent matter.”

“There’s no arguing that we need to do right by our people. We need to help ease the burden of those who suffered under the dictatorial regime,” said PCGG Chairman Andy Bautista. “It’s safe to say that we are all on that same page. Now, we just need to get behind our lawmakers and our President to assure them and let them hear that this, too, is what we—the Filipino people—want.”