



Statement on House Resolution No. 1109

We are appalled at the indecency and blatant disregard of the Filipino people's will displayed by the House of Representatives in its adoption of House Resolution No. 1109 that allows itself to convene as a constituent assembly to amend the Constitution, without the necessary participation of the Senate.

The question all Filipinos should ask is: For whose interest was this action taken? Certainly not the Filipino people's, as there is no widespread clamor to amend the Constitution, especially now that we are less than a year away from a presidential election. The resolution contains no issue of profound impact to the people's welfare.

By this action of pro-Administration congresspersons, any remaining doubts about the determination of the Arroyo Administration and its allies in the House to manipulate our democratic processes and institutions to prolong their hold on power have been erased.

Malacañang insists elections will be held as scheduled in 2010. But unless its avowals are backed by President Arroyo's clear and unequivocal rejection of her Congressional allies' maneuverings and an explicit commitment that presidential elections will be held next year, Malacañang's declarations amount to nothing but more subterfuge and double talk.

If and when the House is challenged for the legality of its actions, we call on the Supreme Court to strike down as unconstitutional the results of a constituent assembly that will not have included the Senate in its deliberations.

The election we look forward to in 2010 is an election for a new President and Congress that will restore the people's confidence in the government. We call on the Filipino people to vigorously fight and reject this diabolical effort to destroy our democracy!

9 June 2009