

# **COALITION AGAINST CORRUPTION**

7 March 2011

## **IMPEACH MERCEDITAS GUTIERREZ**

The Coalition Against Corruption respectfully asks Congress to expedite the impeachment process involving Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez for the sake of truth and justice.

Two years ago we said that our country needs an Ombudsman who is a skilled administrator, a committed public defender, a staunch protector of whistleblowers and victims of corruption, a paragon of independence and integrity, and a sentinel of justice. After six years in office, Gutierrez has failed to show that she embodies these qualities.

She is now accused again of unreasonable failure to take prompt action on a wide variety of corruption cases. At this point, the impeachment process is the only opportunity she has to prove her accusers wrong or to face the consequences of her betrayal and incompetence.

The Coalition Against Corruption expects the employees of the Office of the Ombudsman and our legislators to protect the best interests of the people and not their own vested interests. They must send a clear message to the public that they will not tolerate erring public officials. If they fail us again, we believe the Filipinos will rise up to demand for a trustworthy, capable, and credible Ombudsman who will genuinely serve the people and not the powerful.

**Ateneo School of Government  
Bishops-Businessmen's Conference for Human Development  
CBCP-National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice, and Peace  
Caucus of Development NGO Networks  
Dilaab Foundation  
Makati Business Club  
Management Association of the Philippines  
National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections  
Transparency and Accountability Network  
Christian Life Community of the Philippines  
NGO/PO Caucus for Development, Inc.  
N4NM (Negrenses4NoynoyMovement)  
Oroquieta City Coalition Against Corruption  
TANCSDI Dapitan  
Former Senior Government Officials (FSGO)  
INCITEGov  
PNoyPinay  
Anti-Graft and Transparency Advocate of Surigao Inc. (AGTASI)**