



National Commission

on the Role of Filipino Women

1977 Annual report

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Speech

For de Omen



We are a developing country. And in all developing countries how can womanhood rise up in hostility and in a position adversary or against that of the man, seek such exalted positions like equality when there are more important goals like freedom. When a man is fighting for the freedom of his country, what position can a woman take other than to stand beside him and offer her life as well as her talents, her courage and spirit.

But you can go back to the Western world which has attained the status of affluence where the women see the men engage in other activities than those which involve survival. There is perhaps reason, time and opportunity for the women to aspire for things other than the more elemental purposes in life.

But in the developing world and in the Third World countries, one sees that the drive is still toward mere survival. And in such a drive the women had taken it upon themselves not merely to be the equals but in some instances to be the initiators to attain the objective and the dream of freedom.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'F. Marcos'. The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President
Republic of the Philippines

Message



As chairperson of this Commission, I am pleased that it has made clear that feminism in the Philippines—or the Women's Movement in the Philippines—is not a divisive but a unifying force. Indeed, our women have been animated by a wholesome and all-healing harmony with their menfolk.

This harmony with man—perhaps unique in world feminism—is best shown by the presence here today, the eager, congratulatory and helpful presence, I might add, of the President and of the other men who sit in the Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, and of the many others who do not sit in it but nevertheless have worked with great good cheer and cooperation with the women's commission.

The Commission and the women of the Philippines have displayed a definite awareness of themselves, first, as human beings, as persons with their own individuality, and as citizens driven by a common passion for the development of self and of the community.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Imelda Romualdez Marcos". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

IMELDA ROMUALDEZ MARCOS
First Lady

Annual report: calendar year 1977

Introduction

The launching of *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* by His Excellency, President (now Prime Minister) Ferdinand E. Marcos by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 1609 on January 6, 1977 to mark the third anniversary of NCRFW followed by Memorandum Circular No. 971 started off the 1977 Calendar Year with a challenge to NCRFW for full blast nationwide operation. Whereas before the Proclamation, knowledge about NCRFW was still limited despite its promotion program featured by the slogan contest, television and radio programs, news releases and features, the Presidential Proclamation gave an overwhelming boost not only to the promotion but also, and more so, to the NCRFW action program. Its implementation was underscored by the subsequent memorandum circular.

NCRFW carried out its action program to the different parts of the country through the *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* movement with government executives giving their enthusiastic support and the private organized sector, especially the women, responding just as enthusiastically and committing themselves to the "Shoulder to Shoulder" movement—of women, men and youth working together, and government with the private sector because the movement directs itself primarily to human resources development. The area coverage and extent of involvement of the people in the movement are contained in this report.

1977 Calendar Year is replete with achievements, foremost of which is the raising of the consciousness of women in their potentials as partners in national development as: wife, mother, professional, worker and community volunteer. As the Undersecretary of Local Governments and Community Development said: "In the communities where *Balikatan* has been revitalized, the women do not wait to be called—they come out to volunteer."

That's a goal, if fully achieved will facilitate the integration of women in development.

NCRFW has an even more extensive and intensive action program for 1978.



LETICIA PEREZ DE GUZMAN
Executive Director

Report on major programs

PART I STATUS OF ON-GOING PROGRAMS (Achievements—Partial)

On the elimination of discrimination against women:

1 Legal reforms:

- a The draft of the proposed legal reforms after it had been taken up in public forums held in eleven provinces and cities in the country was referred back to the U.P. Law Center for the proposed revised draft. In this proposed revised draft, the NCRFW recommended temporary exclusion of absolute divorce, it being still a controversial issue.
- b There has been continued consultation with the U.P. Law Center on legal matters.

2 On employment and working women's rights:

- a To date, the appointment of qualified women for top positions has been rather slow. Among those appointed were: Atty. Sylvia Pascual Montes, Undersecretary of the Department of Social Services and Development; Dr. Minda Sutaria, Director of Elementary Education; and Dr. Evangeline Suva, Health Officer for the City of Manila, the first woman to be appointed to the position.
- b The proposed reforms in the Labor Code particularly the transfer of the funding for maternity leave benefits from the employer to the Social Security System has been approved, however, the proposed paternity leave has not yet been acted upon.
- c The implementation of equal pay for work of equal value covered in Presidential Decree has been announced but not fully implemented.

3 The setting up of neighborhood nurseries instead of nurseries in factory sites has been deferred for further study of funding and organizational setup.

4 In education:

- a The printing of learning modules for the elementary, secondary, and tertiary levels produced by the seminar-workshop on "Optimizing the Potentials of the Filipino Women as Man's Partner in Development" held in 1976 was not accomplished because of funding constraints. The Department of Education and Culture and the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women are considering to tap the World Bank Fund for funding this project.

b The NCRFW is directly involved with nonformal education with major thrust on women's involvement. The role of women in non-formal education has been defined and included in the national program.

Rural women—A major thrust of the NCRFW has been on the rural women through the *Balikatan* movement.

1 The *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* movement:

The President proclaimed January 6, 1977 as *Araw Balikatan* and every January 6 thereafter. In Presidential Proclamation No. 1609, the President said, thus: “. . . enjoins all government officials and employees and all civic, charitable and other private organizations and all citizens and residents of this country to participate in or conduct *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong* in their respective localities. . .”

Furthermore, the Office of the President issued an implementing circular—Memorandum Circular No. 971 again enjoining “. . . all heads of departments, bureaus and offices of the national government, including government-owned and/or controlled corporations and local governments, to encourage and facilitate the organizations of local committees or councils to enable all citizens and residents of the country to participate in or conduct *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong* in their respective localities. . .” The NCRFW sent out communications to all provincial governors and municipal and city mayors motivating them to join the movement as a strategy for nation-building.

What was originally launched as a movement has evolved into ad hoc organizations to serve as the implementation machinery. The first phase was limited to orientation seminars but the need for an organizational structure arose and such organizations are now being evolved. An evaluation will be made in 1978 to chart the direction of this movement and set guidelines for the local organizations.

The Department of Education and Culture issued its own implementing circular based on the Circular No. 971. The same is true with the Department of Local Governments and Community Development who came out with their own circular on the implementation of *Balikatan*. The support given by the government and the response

of the private sector, spearheaded by women leaders have facilitated the organization of local chapters.

At the close of 1977, a total of 32 provinces and cities have had successful *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong* and have formed chapters.*

The NCRFW has given out 3,000 certificates of attendance at *Balikatan* seminars and issued I.D.'s to 14,400 members who committed themselves to *Balikatan*. A total of 24,500 pieces of the movement's informative leaflets has been distributed.

2 Other provinces and cities have launched the movement but have not yet come up with organized chapters. All provinces have been invited to send delegates (from the government and the private sectors) to the live-in seminar-workshop on *Balikatan sa Makataong Lipunan* scheduled for January 4-6, 1978 at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Tagaytay City.

On women in the labor force—urban area:

The NCRFW has done a supportive role in the program of the Bureau of Women and Minors for its program for women in the urban areas, to wit: factory workers, hospitality girls, etc. The NCRFW has established direct contacts with women in the labor force.

On Muslims and other ethnic groups:

1 The NCRFW has recommended another Muslim, Mrs. Santanina Tillah Rasul to be one of the Commissioners but her appointment has not been released up to the close of the year 1977.

2 *Balikatan* was introduced to the cultural minorities in Mindanao, but the scheduled workshops had to be deferred for 1978 due to peace and order conditions. The first seminar was scheduled for January, 1978 for the Tausogs.

On the youth:

1 The NCRFW has given assistance to Philippine Youth groups and those from other lands: Asian countries and Russia through donations (minimal) and through its facilities and staff, care of Commissioner Sylvia Muñoz.

*Please refer to the Table of Organized Provinces.

2 Students have been encouraged to avail of the library materials for their research work and references. Interviews with women leaders have also been arranged for them. A total of 189 individuals; 30 colleges and universities, and 21 government and private agencies have been assisted by NCRFW Library.

3 Youth representatives have always been involved in NCRFW activities.

On nongovernmental organizations:

1 Closer working relations have been brought about between the NCRFW and nongovernmental organizations through their involvement in NCRFW programs/activities among which were: the annual conference of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines, the national council of sixty-five duly-established women organizations; Soroptimist Clubs, Inner Wheel Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Jaycees and Jaycerettes, Business and Professional Women's Association, consumers' groups, National Federation of Women's Clubs, etc.—all adopting as their convention workshop: *Balikatan*.

On NCRFW information drive:

1 The information drive on the NCRFW and its program was further intensified. The television program, "Starliners, Man and Woman," has featured the NCRFW program and women leaders.

2 Publications of the NCRFW and those gathered from other organizations/agencies on their service programs were distributed to different organizations and especially in the rural areas.

3 The NCRFW enriched its library with purchases of more books, periodicals and exchanges from other countries. The goal is to make the NCRFW the information center and, hopefully, the clearing house for progress involving women in the Philippines and Asia.

4 Materials on the program of the New Society, on the NCRFW and *Balikatan* were widely disseminated (a total number of the latter reaches 24,500 copies).

On regional and international affairs funded by NCRFW in 1977:

A Regional

1 The formal organization of the Association of Southeast ASEAN Nations Project (Organizing the ASEAN Women) has been held pending care of Commissioner Rosario G. Manalo.

2 The NCRFW sponsored representatives to Regional and International Seminars on areas of concern to NCRFW.

B Regional and international participation

January 8 to 9, 1977

Mrs. Santanina T. Rasul, Professor, National Defense College and Dr. Trinidad Gomez from Department of Health attended a seminar on the Muslim Women—her full potentials at Morocco.

February 11 to March 3, 1977

Sonia C. Saldivar, NCRFW staff who was chosen by NEDA as Philippine representative attended the Seminar for Public Administration Officers on Women's Problems (Colombo Plan).

February 12 to 14, 1977

Mrs. Aida L. Dizon of Katipunan ng Bagong Pilipina attended the first meeting of the continuing committee of the World Congress for International Women's Year with Dr. Minerva G. Laudico which was held in Berlin and Moscow.

February 15 to 22, 1977

Mrs. Emily Marohamsar, Mindanao State University Vice President for Academic Affairs and Commissioner Nora Z. Petines attended a UN regional seminar on Participation of Women in Political, Economic and Social Development with special emphasis on women in development held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

February 27 to March 5, 1977

A Philippine delegate, Mrs. Natividad Malolos of Philippine Association of University Women attended the Pacific Basin Regional Conference on: East Meets West—culturally conditioned views on the Role of Women held at East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii.

June 1 to 30, 1977

Bai Hadji Fatima Plang, a Commissioner of NCRFW visited Moscow, Cairo and Tripoli to foster better understanding and goodwill.

June 17 to July 5, 1977

Professor Herminia Ancheta, Mrs. Esther A. Vibal and Atty. Carolina Basa Salazar, of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines and Ambassador Helena Z. Benitez and Dr. Leticia de Guzman of NCRFW attended the 21st Triennial Conference of the International Council

of Women and Post Conference in Human Habitat and Future Challenges held at Vancouver, Canada.

July 30 to August, 1977

Dr. Minerva G. Laudico went to Japan to attend the Symposium on the Damage and After Effects of the Atomic Bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

August 4 to 11, 1977

Dean Milagros Ocampo, the President of Philippine Association of Colleges of Pharmacy attended in Seattle, Washington seminar-workshops and observed educational institutions offering medicinal plant farming courses and clinical pharmacy.

August 31 to September 6, 1977

Mrs. Felicisima Garcia, the Vice President of Philippine Association of Biology Teachers left for Tampa, Florida to attend and read a paper in the Second International Mycological Congress.

August 31 to September 17, 1977

Dr. Belen E. Gutierrez, an NCRFW commissioner together with Dr. Leticia P. de Guzman, the NCRFW Executive Director attended the UNESCO Conference on Education with Focus on Women's Education in Geneva, Switzerland. They proceeded to New York and called on Miss Helvi Sipila to present the NCRFW status report on Philippine program per UN Action Program.

October 1 to 15, 1977

Atty. Carolina Basa Salazar, President of the Civic Assembly of Women of the Philippines together with Miss Sonia C. Saldivar, an NCRFW staff attended a seminar on situation of children and observed women's organization and labor conditions in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

October 3 to 16, 1977

Mrs. Elisa "Boots" Anson Roa, volunteer in NCRFW Public Relation Program represented the Philippines' garment industry in the International Trade Fairs held in Amsterdam and Paris.

October 3 to 16, 1977

Mrs. Eugenia Lara, an NCRFW staff attended a seminar on "Voluntary Action in Development Society" in Haifa, Israel.

October 3 to 16, 1977

Miss Leonor Pablo of Manila Social Work Department attended two international conferences on social welfare and family life held in Teheran, Iran and Madrid, Spain.

October 1977

Dr. Horacio Morales, Jr., of Development Academy of the Philippines was sent to New York, U.S.A. to follow up the NCRFW project proposal for the UN Voluntary Funds.

November 11 to 13, 1977

Dr. Carmen Carlos of the Division of City Schools represented the Philippine Association of University Women at the interim meeting of the Federation of Asian Women's Association held in Taipei, Taiwan.

November 13 to 15, 1977

Dr. Minerva G. Laudico, an NCRFW commissioner, attended in Taipei and Hongkong the regional conference on the theme "Women's Role in Service—The Zontian Way."

December 1977

Dr. Leticia P. de Guzman represented the Philippines in the Experts Group Meeting at the UN Asian and Pacific Center for Women and Development Subject: Basic Needs of Women in Developing Countries which was held in Teheran, Iran.

Research and studies office

NCRFW information center and data bank

The Research and Studies Office has collected and is continuously collecting publications on women and has collated available data and researches on Filipino women undertaken by different government and semigovernment offices, colleges and universities, and nongovernmental organizations.

The goal is the centralization of information on women and related areas in NCRFW to facilitate monitoring of said information.

Comparative study of the status, roles and achievements of women

Printed materials pertinent to this study have been collated and are still continuously being collated by the Research and Studies Office on women in the different countries of the world. Embassies of some countries have contributed a lot on research along this line.

Evaluation study of ongoing development programs of women in the twelve regions of the Philippines

A study of the different aspects of development programs for women in line with the *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* Project of NCRFW has been started and will continuously be evaluated from year to year. The objective is to look into the effectiveness of coordinating existing programs by having both government and private sector work together along development efforts, and determine the role of NCRFW in helping the women of the twelve regions of the Philippines concentrate on priority needs of their respective regions.

Researches

1 Research on: *Rural women's awareness of and attitudes toward selected government projects* has been completed.

The research study was aimed at obtaining a profile of women living in the rural areas and to try to understand the role that they play in their social group. Further, the project was designed to find out how aware rural women are of the various government programs and the common attitudes toward these programs.

Grant 01: Awarded to the Philippine Association of University Women in the amount of P18,800.00

2 Research on: *The image of Filipino women in Philippine mass media*

The findings will be used as a basis for proposed reforms in re-direction of mass media programs and policies.

Grant 02: Joint research of NCRFW Youth Committee, c/o Commissioner Sylvia Muñoz and the National Media Production Center, c/o Dr. Josefina Patron in the amount of P15,000.00.

Projects

1 The pilot project in Region V on Bio-Gas Production to Meet Environmental Needs has been started and is awaiting construction depending on availability of Human Settlements Commission staff. Funding is shouldered by both NCRFW and Human Settlements Commission as this is a joint project.

Data collation

The NCRFW Research and Studies Office has collated the following data:

1) Bibliography on women (foreign and local); 2) cultural minority group studies; 3) statistics and pertinent information on education; 4) statistics and pertinent information on labor; 5) statistics and pertinent information on trade and industry; 6) population and the law; 7) agriculture, science and technology; 8) fishing industry; 9) Bureau of Internal Revenue; 10) factors related to the participation of Maranaw in decision-making; 11) the role of the educated Muslim women; 12) the Muslim Filipinos in government service; 13) a study on discriminatory job practices, etc.; 14) net integral migration to the Philippines; 15) status of women in different countries; 16) comparative study on women—ASIA, Europe, U.S.A.; 17) the Filipino family; 18) responsible parenthood; 19) Philippine situational report on status of women; 20) International Council of Women and other related matters; 21) ASAIHL and studies on women; 22) national inventory of Filipino women's participation in development efforts; 23) premarital counselling manual using the values clarification approach; 24) and many others (studies and statistics on women). Nos. 22 and 23 have been done by the Officer-in-Charge of the Research and Studies Office, Miss Efigenia Aurora D. Lagman.

Total number of books acquired by the library for the year 1977

Geography and history	34 copies
Social sciences.	80 copies
Arts	7 copies
Religion	4 copies
Literature	47 copies
Women	24 copies
Library and information services	8 copies
Encyclopedia and dictionaries	8 copies
Total	212 copies

Total number of newspapers, magazines and newsletters

Newspapers.	7
Magazines	15
Newsletters	50
Total	72

NCRFW board of commissioners

Chairman

Imelda Romualdez Marcos

Members

Carlos P. Romulo
Foreign Affairs

Blas F. Ople
Labor

Estefania Aldaba-Lim
Social Welfare

Jose A. Roño
*Local Government and
Community Development*

Vicente T. Paterno
Economics/Industries

Cecilia Muñoz Palma
*Nongovernmental
Organizations / Law*

Leticia Ramos Shahani
*UN Commission on the
Status of Women*

Rosario Gonzalez Manalo
International Affairs

Helena Z. Benitez
Human Environment

Adelina Santos Rodriguez
Socio-Civic Work

Dr. Gloria T. Aragon
Science

Irene S. Cortes
Law

Fred J. Elizalde
Youth/Industry

Dr. Belen Enrile Gutierrez
Youth and Finance

Natividad Ignacio Bustos
Youth

Dr. Lucrecia R. Kasilag
Arts and Culture

Dr. Minerva Guysayko Laudico
*Nongovernmental Organizations/
Education*

Sylvia Muñoz
Youth

Carmen Guerrero Nakpil
History/Media

Nora Zeta Petines
*Pambansang Katipunan ng
mga Barangay*

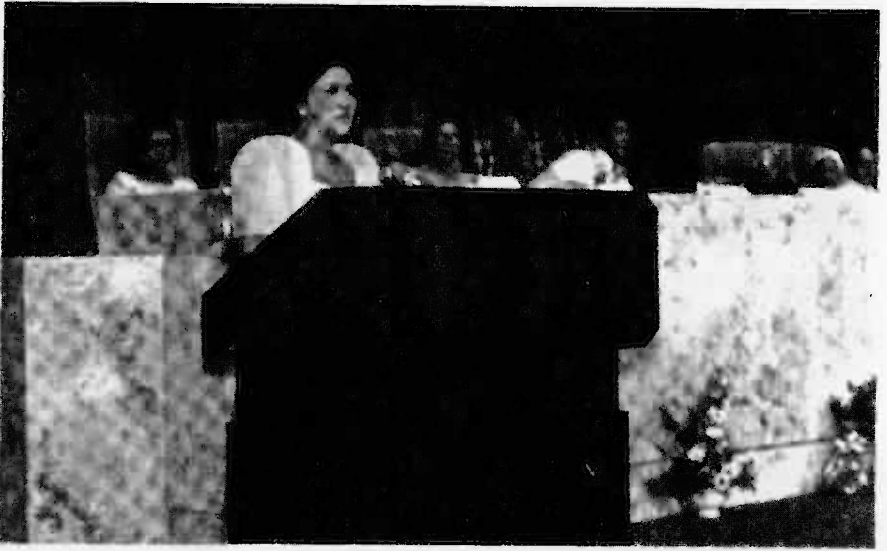
Hadji Fatima Matabay Plang
Muslim and other Cultural Groups

Jovito Rivera
International Trade

Dr. Mona Dumlao Valisno
Education

Executive Director

Dr. Leticia Perez de Guzman



Above, First Lady and Metro Manila Governor Imelda R. Marcos welcomes delegates to the nationwide launching of the Balikatan sa Kaunlaran project. Below, President Ferdinand E. Marcos signs P.P. No. 1609, declaring every January 6th as Araw Balikatan and enjoining all Filipinos to participate in or conduct Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong wherever they live.







The Balikatan sa Kaunlaran project won support from Filipinos in all walks of life all over the country. Far left, Cagayan Province Governor Teresa Dupaya urges women in her province (top center) to take even more active roles in national development. Proclaiming much the same message elsewhere in the country was Sister Rosalina Enciso of the Order of Saint Paul at a seminar/workshop in Masbate Province (top right), and Governor Vicente Magsaysay of Zambales at a leadership training seminar in Iba (immediate left).



Young or old, rich or poor, Christian or Muslim, Filipino women—and their sisters and brothers in the Third World—can and must join together to improve their lives, to promote national development, and to everywhere make the ideals of Balikatan sa Kaunlaran a living reality.

By the President of the Philippines Proclamation No. 1609

DECLARING EVERY JANUARY 6TH "ARAW BALIKATAN."

Whereas, the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women recognizing the need for concerted efforts of all men and women from the government and private sectors, has launched the *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* for the year 1977;

Whereas, a *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran '77 Pulong-Pulong* will be held on January 6, 1977, at the Philippine International Convention Center to discuss ways and means through which all sectors of society may work shoulder to shoulder from the planning to the implementing stages in the great task of nation-building; and

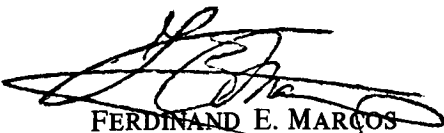
Whereas, it is necessary to call the attention of the public on the importance of *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran* in attaining the developmental goals of the New Society;

Now, therefore, I, Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare every January 6th as *Araw Balikatan* under the auspices of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women and other involved organizations or agencies.

I hereby enjoin all government officials and employees and all civic, charitable and other private organizations and all citizens and residents of this country to participate in or conduct *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong* in their respective localities.

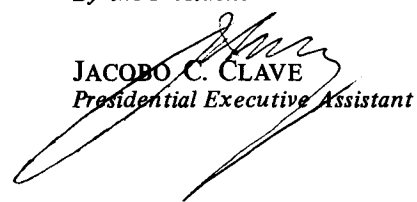
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this 5th day of January, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven.



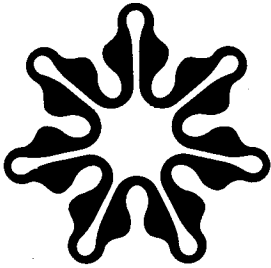
FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President
Republic of the Philippines

By the President:



JACOBO C. CLAVE
Presidential Executive Assistant

Balikatan sa Kaunlaran



Rationale

Balikatan is a nationwide project, conceived and launched by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW) in observance of its second anniversary on January 6, 1977 and in pursuit of a major NCRFW objective—the “full integration of women for economic, social and cultural development at national, regional and international levels.”

Balikatan literally means working together shoulder to shoulder. It is a tradition that has been woven into the Filipino way of life. The NCRFW *Balikatan* projects aim at a more effective integration of women through coordination of government and organized private sector efforts to accelerate national development and maximize its benefits for all the people.

Balikatan does not intend to establish a new entity—a superstructure to direct and supervise the work of others. It aims to promote the *Balikatan* spirit among existing government and private agencies and encourage among women a self-reliance that reaches out with compassion and commitment to unity for national progress.

Major areas of concern

To accomplish its goal the *Balikatan* program will focus on five major areas of concern, each having a specific set of objectives. These are:

*Conservation: **

To bring about awareness of wise energy use and oil conservation as one of the main concerns to effect national development through *Balikatan*; to learn the proper and conscientious use of all forms of energy; to review Filipino values and way of life and conserve those that are basic to national identity and strength.

*Care of children: ***

To focus attention on the basic needs of children and to optimize community resources so as to meet these needs—physical, mental, social, etc. for the total and wholesome development of each child as a person and as member of the family and the community.

Concern for environment:

To work out a system whereby environmental management may be effected along with technological advancement through dissemination of information and the development of action programs involving individuals, the households and communities.

Consumer protection:

To reorient the consumer's mind on proper planning, budgeting, purchasing and consumption; to maximize the utilization of resources and the benefits that accrue to the consumer.

Commitment to justice:

To bring justice to those who can't "afford" it by keeping them aware of their rights; to facilitate a more speedy machinery of justice to all those who hunger for it regardless of economic/social status.

*Conservation is not possible without production hence the tie-up is essential.

**1977-1987 has been declared the Decade of the Filipino Child. 1979 has been declared by the United Nations as International Children's Year.

Table of Balikatan provinces

(Organized as of December 31, 1977)

Region	Province/City	Region	Province/City
I	Baguio City (Benguet)*	VII	Bohol Cebu Siquijor
II	Cagayan Valley Nueva Vizcaya		
III	Bataan Pampanga Zambales	VIII	Leyte (Tacloban City)**
IV-A	Batangas Cavite Laguna Quezon Mindoro Oriental	IX-B	Zamboanga del Sur (Zamboanga City)
		X	Agusan del Norte Misamis Occidental (Ozamis City)
V	Albay Catanduanes Camarines Sur Masbate	XI	Davao (Davao City) Davao del Sur Davao Oriental Davao del Norte South Cotabato (Cotabato City) Surigao del Sur
VI	Antique Capiz Iloilo	XII	Lanao del Sur (Marawi City) Maguindanao North Cotabato Sultan Kudarat

*NOTE: Only the City of Baguio has an organized chapter; the rest of the province has none but have been reached.

**Organized-unofficially

Status of Balikatan organizations

As of December 31, 1977

Region	Province	President/Chairman	Overall status
I	Baguio City (Benguet)	Judge Heila Mallare Philipps	Organized; first seminar-workshop, December 3, 1977.
	Abra		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Ilocos Norte		Initiated.
	Ilocos Sur		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Mt. Province		Uninitiated; unorganized.
II	Pangasinan		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Apayao-Kalinga		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Batanes Island		Initiated, but no feedback as of this date.
	Cagayan	Mrs. Balbina Fermin	Officially organized on July 28, 1977.
	Nueva Vizcaya	Mrs. Concepcion Cadiente	Organized; provincial leadership training and seminar held on December 1, 1977.
III	Isabela		Initiated; unorganized.
	Ifugao		Initiated, but no feedback as of this date.
	Quirino		Initiated; unorganized
	Bataan	Mrs. Pagasa Pascual	Initiated; organized. Launched with seminar/workshop on October 4, 1977.
	Bulacan		Initiated; still no feedback as of this date.
IV	Nueva Ecija		Initiated; still no feedback as of this date.
	Pampanga	Mrs. Rosario D. Silva	Organized, first seminar/workshop held on June 17-18, 1977.
	Tarlac		Initiated; unorganized.
	Zambales	Mrs. Roslynn Magsaysay	Organized.
IV-A	Metro Manila		Initiated; unorganized.
IV-A	Aurora		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Batangas	Mrs. Cecilia Barretto	Organized; seminar/workshop held last October 20-21, 1977.

Region	Province	President/Chairman	Overall status
IV-A (cont'd)	Cavite	Mrs. Corea Camerino	Organized; provincial seminar/workshop held on August 19-21, 1977 at Silang.
	Laguna		Organized, but complete data not available.
	Quezon	Mrs. Pacencia Daleon	Organized; first seminar/workshop held last September 15-16, 1977.
	Marinduque		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Mindoro		Initiated.
	Occidental Mindoro		
	Oriental Mindoro	Gov. Alfonso Umali	Organized; launching and seminar/workshop held last November 25, 1977.
	Palawan	Mrs. Veronica Rafols	Organized.
	Rizal		Organized; official launching and orientation seminar held last June 23, 1977; the Rizal Federation of Women's Club and the Philippine Association of University Women are actively involved.
V	Albay	Mrs. Ramona Reneses	Organized.
	Camarines Norte*		Organized.
	Camarines Sur*	Mrs. Victoria Enojado	Organized.
	Catanduanes*	Dr. Gloria de Vera	Organized.
	Sorsogon*		Organized.
	Masbate	Atty. Lily Pujol	Organized; initial seminar/launching, August 29-30, 1977.
VI	Aklan		Unorganized.
	Antique	Mrs. Precious Javier	Organized; official launching held last August 17, 1977.
	Capiz	Mrs. Matilde Belo	Organized; seminar/launching held last October 15, 1977.
	Guimaras		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Iloilo	Dr. Cecilia Robles-Palma	Organized; initial seminar/launching held on September 23, 1977.

Region	Province	President / Chairman	Overall status
	Negros Occidental		Organized; seminar/workshop held on December 5, 1977.
	Negros Oriental		Organized.
	Bohol	Mrs. Teodula Chatto	Organized; initial launching held last June 11, 1977.
	Cebu	Mrs. Gloria Escano	Organized; seminar/workshop held on June 10-11, 1977.
	Siquijor Island	Mrs. Margarita Asok	Organized; initial organizational meeting held last November 7, 1977.
VIII	Leyte		Initiated on December 11, 1977.
	Tacloban City	Mayor Obdulia Cinco	Organized unofficially.
	Southern Leyte		Initiated.
	Samar		Initiated; unorganized.
	Northern Samar		Initiated; unorganized.
IX-A	Basilan		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Jolo		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Tawi-Tawi		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Tapul		Uninitiated; unorganized.
IX-B	Zamboanga del Norte		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Zamboanga City (Zamboanga del Sur)	Mrs. Juanita Enriquez	Organized as of formal launching held on September 10, 1977
X	Butuan City	Mrs. Charito Plaza	Organized August 1, 1977 with induction of officers.
	Agusan del Norte	Mrs. Basilisa Kittilstvadt	Organized; launching held on August 20, 1977 with independent chapters in Butuan City and Cabadbaran.
	Agusan del Sur		Uninitiated; unorganized.
	Bukidnon		Initiated on December 8, 1977
	Misamis Occidental	Eva Regalado	Organized; launched on November 28, 1977 with independent city chapters in Ozamis and Cagayan de Oro.
	Misamis Oriental		Uninitiated; unorganized.

Region	Province	President / Chairman	Overall status
XI	Surigao del Norte	Miss Candida	Organized as of September 1977.
	Davao del Sur	Mrs. Bienvenida Saceda	
	Davao City	Atty. Felicidad Santos	Organized; indirect reports being gathered from Digos Times.
	Davao del Norte		Organized.
	Davao Oriental		Organized; regional seminar held on March 18-19, 1977.
	Surigao del Sur	Atty. Antonia Buenaflor	Organized; regional seminar held on March 18-19, 1977.
XII	South Cotabato	M.s. Josefina Punla	Organized as of December 1977.
	North Cotabato	Mrs. Aurora Masbad	Organized as of October, 1977.
	Maguindanao	Bai Noria Baraguir	
	Cotabato City	Mrs. Candida Ortuoste	
	Gen. Santos City		
	Lanao del Norte		
	Lanao del Sur		
Sultan Kudarat	Mrs. Josefina Bucungco	Organized; seminar/workshop held on September 30-October 2, 1977.	
	Marawi City	Mrs. Emily Marohamsar	Organized; launching and seminar/workshop held on October 6-7, 1977.

Office of the President
Republic of the Philippines
Malacañang, Manila

Memorandum Circular No. 971

ENJOINING ALL CONCERNED TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL COMMITTEES OR COUNCILS WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS TO PURSUE THE OBJECTIVES OF *BALIKATAN SA KAUNLARAN* ENVISIONED IN PROCLAMATION NO. 1609.

UNDER Proclamation No. 1609 dated January 5, 1977, copy attached, the President declared every January 6th as *Araw Balikatan* under the auspices of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women and other involved organizations and agencies. The *Balikatan* project involves the concerted efforts of all men and women from the government and private sectors in attaining the development goals of the New Society.

According to the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, which has launched the “Balikatan sa Kaunlaran” for the year 1977, the organized private sector groups have expressed willingness to implement *Balikatan* in coordination with the appropriate agencies of the government.

In view thereof, all heads of departments, bureaus and offices of the national government, including government-owned and/or controlled corporations and local governments, are hereby enjoined to encourage and facilitate the organization of local committees or councils to enable all citizens and residents of the country to participate in or conduct *Balikatan sa Kaunlaran Pulong-Pulong* in their respective localities.

By authority of the President:


JUAN C. TUVERA
Presidential Assistant



National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women

1145 J. P. Laurel St., San Miguel Metro Manila, Philippines