

Ms. Purificacion C. Valera QUISUMBING

(Nominated by the Government of Philippines)

(Supported by Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, Filipino Alliance Movement Support Group, Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates, Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights, Medical Action Group, Philippine Human Rights Information Center, Tahanang Walang Hagdanan, BALAY Rehabilitation Center, Amnesty International Pilipinas, Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, Philippine NGO Council for Food Security and Fair Trade, Development Action for Women Network, Ateneo Human Rights Center, Families of Involuntary Disappearance, Management and Organizational Development for Empowerment and GABRIELA)

Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines

I. POSITIONS HELD:

A. UNITED NATIONS:

- Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, New York. 1995 – 1997.
- Senior Regional Adviser for External Relations and Social Mobilization for East Asia and the Pacific, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), responsible for Universal Ratification and Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 29 countries of the region. 1991 – 1995.
- Chairperson of the 46th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Geneva, Switzerland. 1990.
- Head of the Philippine Delegation to the UN Commission on Human Rights, 46th Session, 1990; and 47th Session, 1991.
- Member, Philippine Delegation, 45th Session, 1988, 1989.

B. PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT:

- Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines, 2002 – 2008.
- Commissioner, Philippine Commission on Human Rights, 2001 – 2002.
- Professor II and Chairman, International Law and Human Rights Department, Philippine Judicial Academy, Supreme Court, Manila. January 1999 to the present.
- Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Manila 1989 – 1991.
- Member of the Philippine Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, New York. 1989 – 1991.
- Represented the Philippine Government before Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Bodies. 1989 – 1991.

C. ACADEME:

- Director, Academy of ASEAN Law and Jurisprudence, University of the Philippines, 1984 – 1986.
- Professorial Lecturer, College of Law, University of the Philippines, 1977 – 1988.

- Legal Researcher, Law Center, College of Law, University of the Philippines, 1977-1988.
- Acting University Secretary, University of the Philippines, 1986- 1987.
- Head, “Popularizing the Law,” a legal education program for the youth, educators, NGOs and non-lawyers, 1977 – 1988.
- Professor, College of Liberal Arts and College of Law, University of the East, 1966 – 1976.

II. EDUCATION:

- Admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1965.
- Columbia University, New York, USA, Ph.D. in Public Law, 1979; Master of Philosophy, (Mphil), 1975; M.A., 1959.
- Antioch College, Ohio, USA, AB, Major in Government, 1957.
- University of the Philippines, AA (with honors), 1954; LL.B., 1964.
- Certificate, International Institute for Human Rights, Strasbourg, France, 1987.
- National Defense College of the Philippines, Master of National Security Administration (with honors), 1976.

III. MAJOR PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Representative, Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA) Committee on Gender Responsiveness in the Judiciary (CGRJ), 2004
- President, Fellows of the Asia Foundation (FELTAF) Board of Directors, 2004-2005
- President, East-West Center Alumni Association, Philippine Chapter, 1987-1989.
- President, U.P. Women Lawyers Circle (WILOCI), 1991-1992.
- Chairperson and Co-founder of Fairchild (NGO concerned with Children’s Rights), 1993.
- Head of the United Nations Technical Cooperation Team to assess the Philippine Government’s needs to reform the Justice System in compliance with the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, 1996.
- President and Founder, National Union of Professors and Teachers (NUPT), 1974-1976.
- President, National Alliance of Teachers and Allied Workers (NATAW), 1976-1977.
- President, University of the East Faculty Association, 1974-1976.
- Member, Integrated Bar of the Philippines since 1965.
- Member, International Advisory Board, International Health Awareness Network (IHAN), a New York-based NGO * for Women’s Rights, 1998 to present.
- Speaker / Paper Presenter / Participant in numerous national and international conferences, including the Beijing World Conference on Women, 1994.
- Author of articles and books on subjects encompassing Human Rights, Government, ASEAN Law and Jurisprudence, Labor Law, International Law, International Relations and Teaching Human Rights Manual for Elementary and High School.
- Speaker and resource person in various Human Rights forum, domestic and international.
- Various Human Rights advocacy activities especially Children’s Rights and Women’s Rights.

- Member, Peace Negotiation Panel for Autonomous Regions of Mindanao and the Cordilleras.
- Member, ASEAN Law Association, 1982 to present.
- Member, Philippine Fulbright Association.

IV. AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS:

- Awardee, National Council of Women of the Philippines Outstanding Woman in Human Rights, 2004.
- Outstanding Alumna, East West Center Alumni Association Phil. Chapter, 2003.
- 1999, Awardee “Ulirang Ina” (Outstanding Mother).
- Cited for Human Rights, IHAN, UN-NGO, New York City, 1998.
- Outstanding Alumna for Community Service, Columbia University School of General Studies, New York City 1998.
- 1997 Award for work in Indigenous Rights, International Indigenous Peoples Association, UN-NGO, New York City.
- Awardee, 100 First Filipinos, cited for achievements in International Relations.
- Outstanding Fulbright Alumni Fellow, 1989.
- International Institute for Human Rights, Strasbourg, France, 1987.
- Hague Academy of International Law, External Session, Japan, 1986.
- Asia Foundation Grantee, 1985.
- East-West Center Fellowship, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1979-1981.
- USAID Visitors Program Participant, 1975.
- Senior Fulbright Research Grant to Cornell University, 1968-1970.
- Columbia University Scholarship, 1958-1959.
- International Education Scholarship to Antioch College, Ohio, 1954.
- Winner of the New York Herald Tribune High School Forum Essay Contest, 1952.

V. PERSONAL:

- Born in Aparri, Cagayan, Philippines
- Spouse: Hon. Leonardo A. Quisumbing, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines
- Children: Josefa Lourdes (Jay) V. Quisumbing (artist, writer), Married to Grant M. Dawson (lawyer) and Cecilia Rachel (Coco) V. Quisumbing (Executive Director of the Presidential Human Rights Committee; Manila, Philippines)