

April 29, 2009

Dear Friends,

Amidst indications of a resurgence of human rights abuses in the Philippines and in anticipation of increased violence with the 2010 Philippine elections on the horizon, we come to you to ask for your presence at the "Emergency Human Rights Summit on the Philippines."

***The one day "Summit" is set to take place on June 6, 2009 at the Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Ave., in Washington, DC. Arrivals should be planned for June 5.***

The "Summit" seeks to build upon the strong but relatively dispersed response of US-based communities of faith, human rights and labor advocates, and members of the Filipino community to the human rights crisis in the Philippines. It aims to convene institutions, organizations, networks, individuals and initiatives to share their work and analysis on human rights in the Philippines. The hope is that participants will be able to identify ways to better coordinate and mutually support each other's efforts to increase pressure on the Philippine government and create more impact.

Attached you will find a concept paper that outlines in further detail the need for the summit and the goals.

If you are interested in participating in the "Summit" or if you have any questions, please contact Katrina Abarcar, Coordinator of Katarungan: Center for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights in the Philippines. She can be reached by e-mail at [katarungan@comcast.net](mailto:katarungan@comcast.net) or by phone at 443-794-8836.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully Yours,

Katrina Abarcar



Coordinator  
Katarungan

Initiator of Summit

Rev. Alex Vergara



President  
National Association of Filipino  
American United Methodists  
Co-Sponsor of Summit