THE DECREES OF PCP II
AS SUBMITTED TO ROME AND AS APPROVED

Pedro S. de Achutegui, S.J.

The following pages contain the corrections introduced by the Congregation for Bishops into the text of the PCP II Resolutions as found in the Acts and Resolutions of the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines and as sent to Rome for review and approval ("recognitio" is the technical term; "decreta . . . recognita fuerint," says Canon 446).

The corrections are of two kinds: "suppressions" and "additions" (or substitutions, with at times reformulated texts). "Suppressions" of words or sentences appear in square parentheses; "Additions"/substitutions/reformulations appear in italics.

To facilitate personal study and the work of comparison between the original and the approved texts, the page and the marginal number of the first line of the article in question as found in the Acts and Resolutions as submitted to Rome is indicated. Thus, for instance, numbers 128/23 under ARTICLE 49 indicate the page (128) and the marginal line (23) in the Acts and Resolutions sent to Rome.


No corrections whatsoever were made in Articles 4, 32, 33, 45, 52, 55, 65, 76, 84, 86, 87, 92, 93, 104, 108, 111, 117, 118, 121, 122, 124.

Although in one way or another some emendations were introduced in most of the articles, the majority of these revisions were minor, with rare exceptions; Article 131 is an example of a "relatively" major change.

ARTICLE 1 (pp. 232-33) 119/38

#1. After the promulgation by publication of the decrees of the Plenary Council, the Church [of] in the Philippines, through . . .

. . . Pastoral Plan. The Plan [will itself] itself will be a process . . .

#2. . . . is aimed (a) at fostering an [inculturated and holistic] integrated Christian spirituality . . .

. . . truly local Church in communion with the Apostolic See.

#3. Christian witness and [preaching] proclamation of the Word . . .

. . . fostered as [the] a main means . . .

#4. . . . suit the different authentic models of the Church . . .

#5. . . . Bishops' Conference of the Philippines [should vigorously employ] will propose to the individual bishops of the Philippines, for implementation in their dioceses, a pastoral management . . .

. . . made [operative] operative at all levels — from the national level all the way . . .

ARTICLE 2 (p. 233) 120/22

#1. . . . parish becomes [the] a center of Church renewal . . .

. . . communities and families.

#2. With due regard for the rights and duties of Bishops and Pastors as set forth in the Code of Canon Law, dioceses and parishes [must] shall be run as [collegial] consultative bodies on the model of Community of Disciples with
all members playing their proper role in shared . . .
. . . and parish become [the] centers of Church renewal . . .

ARTICLE 3 (pp. 233-34) 120/32
. . . in the Church, subject to the diocesan bishop,
. . . prioritized needs [must] shall be adopted . . .
. . . evaluating them [must] shall also be set up.

ARTICLE 5 (p. 234) 120/45
. . . ministers shall be [retrained] trained from a theological,
spiritual and pastoral point of view in the art . . .
. . . more meaningful for the people.

ARTICLE 6 (p. 234) 121/4
. . . A commission, dependent upon the Episcopal Conference, . . .
. . . adapting, according to the mind of Sacrosanctum Concilium,
37-40, a Liturgy that truly [reflect] takes into account the culture . . .
. . . character of Filipinos, [taking into account the norms
that are in vigor] as well as the norms of the Church on the
matter and her universal communion.

ARTICLE 7 (p. 234) 121/11
. . . are young, [greater] great effort should . . .
. . . meaningful and [attractive to the youth] instructive while
at the same time adhering to liturgical norms and provisions
of Canon 838.

ARTICLE 8 (pp. 234-35) 121/15
(very expanded, practically "new") The centrality of the
Eucharist [and the Bible] in Catholic piety shall be given
greater emphasis and, since the Church partakes of the bread
of life and offers it to the faithful from "the one table of
the Word of God and the Body of Christ" (Dei Verbum, 211),
efforts shall be made to show the close relationship that exists
between the Eucharist and the Bible.

ARTICLE 9 (p. 235) 121/18
#1. . . of the sacrament of [reconciliation] penance must
be strongly emphasized in the life of the Church, with
general absolution being reserved to those circumstances
for which provision is made in Canon 961.
#2. In accordance with the prescriptions of Canon 890 a dio-
cesan . . .

ARTICLE 10 (p. 235) 121/24
. . . pre-confirmation catechesis; parents should likewise [at-
tend] participate actively in their children's . . .

ARTICLE 11 (p. 235) 121/33
. . . based on the Second Vatican Council, the Second . . .
. . . Directory, and in accord with the text of the Catechism
for the universal Church and the prescriptions of Canon 775.

ARTICLE 12 (p. 236) 121/39
. . . shall be prepared and proposed to the bishops in
accordance with the prescriptions of Canons 775 ## 1-3 and
827 ## 1-3.

ARTICLE 13 (p. 236) 121/42
. . . allocation of personnel and [financial] resources.

ARTICLE 14 (p. 236) 122/1
A catechesis, with a doctrinal and biblical . . .
ARTICLE 15 (p. 236) 122/5

[Value clarification and] Catholic moral formation must be ... 

ARTICLE 16 (p. 236) 122/10

... themselves participating, where possible, in the evangelization ... 

ARTICLE 17 (pp. 236-37) 122/17

#4. ... focusing [more] adequately on Filipino ... 

ARTICLE 18 (p. 237) 122/30

#3. (practically the same, but order was changed) Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints should be Christ-oriented. Catechetical programs must ensure that popular religious practices [becoming] be true expressions ... 

ARTICLE 19 (p. 237) 122/41

... in the Philippines to [other foreign Churches] the Church in foreign countries in dire need ... Mission Society (cf. Canons 783, 790-792).

ARTICLE 20 (p. 238) 123/5

#1. ... between faith and [reality] practice in the area ... 

ARTICLE 21 (pp. 238-39) 123/13

#1. To [prepare them] be prepared to effectively ... 

... social [ministry] action apostolate of the Church ... 

... issues of the day, [bishops,] priests, religious and lay people should [undergo together regular] participate — sometimes together — in ongoing ... 

#2. ... social teaching[s] of the Church, and where appropriate especially ... 

... Word of God (cf. Canons 222 #2, 256 #2, 258, 528 #1 and 747 #2). 

#3. ... Justice and Peace and proposed to the bishops. 

#4. This biblical catechesis should be promoted under the direction of the bishops and given prominence ... 

2. ... expressions of authentic inculturation; 

ARTICLE 22 (p. 239) 123/35

#1. A [holistic] thorough social analysis, ... is to be promoted ... 

... social transformation [be based on] take into account hard social ... 

#2. ... the task of Christian social transformation, ... 

... of creation being [made an ordinary component] related to all other ... 

ARTICLE 23 (pp. 239-40) 123/45

#1. The social [ministry] action apostolate of the Church ... 

... organization of the grassroots ... 

#2. of labor [and labor] and education in accordance with the whole social teaching of the Church. 

#3. ... must actively [campaign] work for an end to ... 

ARTICLE 24 (p. 240) 124/12

#2. ... projects and the conscientization ... 

... by the social [ministry] action apostolate of the Church are ... 

... Gospel and the teaching[s] of the Church ... 

... when necessary in the judgment of the bishops.
ARTICLE 35 (pp. 243-44)  126/14

(new formulation) The pastoral practice of the Church in relation to Freemasons shall be in accord with the Declaration of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued on 26 November 1983 entitled Quaesitum est.

ARTICLE 36 (p. 244)  126/21

... lay faithful (cf. Canons 246 #3, 275 #1, 276 #2 no. 5, 528 #2, 839 #1-2, 909, 938 #2 and 1173).

ARTICLE 37 (p. 244)  126/24

#1. ... element of [a holistic] an integrated [Catholic] Christian ... 

#2. (simplified) A more thoroughgoing dimension of social responsibility should be part of all Church movements.

ARTICLE 38 (p. 244)  126/31

#1. ... form of the apostolate ... 

... adherence to the laws and guidelines ... 

#2. (simplified) Service should complement worship in sanctifying Sunday as the Lord's day.
ARTICLE 39 (pp. 244-45) 126/41

... work of Christ (cf. Canons 209 #1, 369 and 383-387).

ARTICLE 40 (p. 245) 127/1

#1. . . . service in the name of Christ, and that of the members’ (responsible) responsibility, obedience and respect (cf. Canons 212 #1-3, 213).

ARTICLE 41 (p. 245) 127/11

#1. (new version) The proper role of the laity in the Church and the world should be continually promoted on the basis of the Church’s teachings, particularly as found in the Second Vatican Council, Canons 224-231 of the Code of Canon Law and the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Christifideles Laici.

#2. . . . and to provide, where appropriate, full-time . . .

ARTICLE 42 (pp. 245-46) 127/18

#1. . . . particularly by [bishops and priests] the clergy, to help . . .

#2. . . . precisely as lay faithful in the common . . .

#3. . . . Gospel values (cf. Canon 225 #2).

#4. . . . To this effect, a [specific] special injunction . . .

ARTICLE 43 (p. 246) 127/32

... between clergy and laity. [to avoid arbitrary decision-making on the part of the former.]

ARTICLE 44 (p. 246) 127/36

#1. . . . It should be [holistic and existential, i.e., founded in one’s life situation] integrated, related to one’s life situation and based on the teachings of the Church.

#3. . . . faith to others (cf. Canons 225 #1, 226 #2, 229 #1, 231 #1).

ARTICLE 46 (p. 247) 128/5

#1. . . . Filipino families in accordance with Catechesi Tradendae and Familiaris Consortio, should be undertaken . . . programs (cf. Canons 528 #2, 529 #1, 768 #2, 851 no. 2, and 1063 nos. 1-4).

ARTICLE 47 (p. 247) 128/15

... homes and families, adhering to the norms outlined in Familiaris Consortio, 83 and 84.

ARTICLE 48 (pp. 247-48) 128/18

... fostering of BECs (cf. Lumen Gentium, 11).

ARTICLE 49 (p. 248) 128/23

#1. . . . cooperation for [value] formation in Christian values should . . .

#2. . . . and families (cf. Canon 796 #2).


#4. . . . the formation of [values] Filipino family in Christian values and the strengthening of [spiritual] those values; it should also include pastoral care after marriage as outlined in Christifideles Laici, 69.

#3. (taken from Art. 54 #3 and amplified) Problems affecting homosexual individuals and behavior should be given due attention in accord with the pastoral norms of Homosexualitatis Problema of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued on 1 October 1986.

ARTICLE 50 (pp. 248-49) 128/31

#1. . . . the Kingdom [will depend on] implies a laity fully . . .
#2. ... should be assured [of the] fullest attention ... by all in the Church (cf. Canons 528 #1, 776, 795, 799 and 1036 no. 1).

ARTICLE 51 (p. 249) 128/39

#2. Every diocese [must] is strongly urged to establish ... logistical support (cf. Canon 813).

#3. Under the direction of the bishop, the Diocesan Youth Center [shall] will be tasked ...

3. ... political action for Christian social transformation ...

ARTICLE 53 (p. 250) 129/17

#1. ... role of women in the Church, [and society, and with] especially 

... Special attention should be given to the domestic helpers.

ARTICLE 54 (p. 250) 129/28

#3. (transferred and reformulated, to no. 49 #3)

#4. (now: #3) Special pastoral concern ...

ARTICLE 56 (p. 251) 130/3

#2. ... and Tourism [must set up] shall promote a special [ministry] apostolate ... Christian vocation (cf. Canons 529 #1 and 568).

#3. ... for the [ministry] apostolate to overseas ...

ARTICLE 57 (p. 251) 130/15

(new redaction) As part of their formation married lay evangelizers are to be invited to participate in family life seminars which include a treatment of Familiaris Consortio.

ARTICLE 58 (pp. 251-52) 130/20

... consecrated to God [through] by baptism ...

... rest of the Church, in accordance with the charisms of their respective institutes and the law of the Church (cf. Canons 574 #1-2, 576, 578, 586 #1-2, 590 #1-2, 592 #1-2, 602, 618, 675 #3, 677 #1, 678 #1-3 and 680-683).

ARTICLE 59 (p. 252) 130/29

#1. ... encourage and, where possible, financially ...

#2. Religious congregations, to the extent possible and in accordance with their particular charisms, must collaborate ... benefit of dioceses.

... manner and perspective (cf. Christus Dominus, 33).

ARTICLE 60 (p. 252) 130/37

#1. (new version but substantially the same) (Apostolate) In discerning and deciding on the organization of the works of the apostolate of religious, bishops and major religious superiors will proceed after consultation with each other (cf. Canon 678 #3).

#2. (substantially the same, but different order in content) In accordance with their pastoral priorities dioceses should support religious congregations in their evangelical commitment to works of social justice and the empowerment of the poor.

ARTICLE 61 (p. 253) 131/1

... the country, giving [priority] particular attention to the needs of the poorer dioceses ...

ARTICLE 62 (p. 253) 131/7

#1. ... Mechanisms [from] on the national [to] and the diocese ...

... regular dialogue [among religious themselves and] between ...
#2. . . . in each diocese with an aim to promote and assist religious life and to further . . . bishops (cf. Mutuae Relationes, 54 and Canons 391 #2, 478 ##1-2 and 479).

ARTICLE 63 (pp. 253-54) 131/18

#2. 1. . . . nature of the diocesan or parish apostolate . . . (after 4, new) These policies and guidelines must be formulated so as to observe the respective competencies of bishops and religious superiors in entering those written agreements required by Church law (cf. Canons 520 #2 and 681).

ARTICLE 64 (p. 254) 131/35

#1. . . . local Church but with [freedom] the right and obligation to live their proper charism in the way legitimately prescribed (cf. Canons 576-578).

ARTICLE 66 (p. 255) 131/45

. . . resources for the authentic advancement . . .

ARTICLE 67 (p. 255) 132/4

#1. (practically new) . . . melodies that are worthy of the divine praise and that adequately reflect the soul of our people. In this, everything should be done in accord with the norms of the Church (cf. Canons 663 ##1-5 and 664).

ARTICLE 68 (pp. 255-56) 132/11

#1. . . . apostolates of religious (cf. Canons 222 #2).

#2. Religious are to [constantly] prayerfully study and reflect . . .

. . . . . in such acts actions consistent . . . with their own vocation . . .

#3. (new formulation of same) Religious must evaluate their work in terms of the Church’s love of preference for the poor and show this love also in the schools which they operate.

#4. (former #4 suppressed; new) Religious are reminded of the obligation to observe faithfully and completely the evangelical counsels and to live their lives in accordance with the proper rule of their institutes, so as to pursue the perfection of their state (cf. Canons 598-601).

ARTICLE 69 (p. 256) 132/26

#2. The study of media [must be included] is strongly recommended for inclusion in the formation . . .

ARTICLE 70 (p. 256) 132/33

. . . coordinated [vocations] recruitment . . .

ARTICLE 71 (p. 256) 132/38

. . . learning the [local] language . . . of the place before initiating active recruiting of candidates . . .

ARTICLE 72 (p. 257) 132/43

#2. . . . and brothers, to [stress and develop] distinguish clearly aspects . . .

. . . . . aspects of ordination (cf. Canons 655 #1 and 740).

ARTICLE 73 (p. 257) 133/10

#1. . . . to promote priestly [and religious] vocations, . . .

. . . [monitor] show interest in the seminarians’ progress . . .

. . . their vocation (cf. Canon 233 #1).

#2. . . . directors of vocations, [must put up] shall propose for approval by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines a common . . .

covering [recruitment] recruiting, formation . . .

ARTICLE 74 (p. 257) 133/20

. . . more effectively addressed [by the bishops].
ARTICLE 75 (pp. 257-58) 133/27
(new formulation of same) The Episcopal Commission on Seminaries shall propose for the approval of the Bishops’ Conference an updated Philippine Program for Priestly Formation based on the Ratio Fundamentalis, the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Pastores Dabo Vobis and emphasizing a deep and sound spiritual formation (cf. Canon 242 ## 1-2).

ARTICLE 77 (p. 258) 133/33
#2. Without detriment to spiritual, theological and pastoral formation, practical and experiential pastoral [formation] training . . . communities. Such [formation should be based on a] training requires solid knowledge . . .

ARTICLE 78 (p. 258) 133/43
. . . and laity in the bishop’s evaluation . . .

ARTICLE 79 (pp. 258-59) 134/1
. . . subjects and be invited by the respective bishops to teach in . . .

ARTICLE 80 (pp. 259-60) 134/7
#2. . . . specific time in the ministry.
1. Depending on their needs, the needs of the people and the exigencies of the local Church, [Diocesan bishops and] priests should be given . . . leave of [at least] one . . . and [or] further formation. Subsequent requests for sabbatical leave will also be judged by the local Ordinary.

2. . . . reluctance of some individuals . . .

3. Priests [and bishops] should under go receive periodic . . .

5. The CBCP will set up submit to the bishops programs at . . .
. . . and renewal of priests.


ARTICLE 81 (p. 260) 134/28
Priests should [help in the enabling of] assist the laity . . .
. . . in the Church, thus [effecting] helping to effect a coor dination . . .

ARTICLE 82 (p. 260) 134/31
#5. . . . poor and [the] needy (cf. Canons 244-248).

ARTICLE 83 (p. 260) 134/40
Priests [and bishops] should be adequately . . .
. . . in team ministry (cf. Canon 256 #1).

ARTICLE 85 (p. 261) 135/5
#1. . . . especially which [is] are clearly . . .
. . . and integrate [in a holistic way] ministry and prayer.

#2. The [commission should] bishops intend to take the leadership . . .
. . . experience for all priests [and bishops] in the Philippines, . . .
. . . will be able, [to undergo] if possible to have this updating [and credibly call for collaboration in bringing about the Church of the future].

#3. [It should] Through the Commission on the Clergy of the CBCP, the bishops intend to spearhead the center . . .
. . . and give the highest priority . . .

ARTICLE 88 (pp. 261-62) 135/28
. . . among them and [impacting] promoting a sense of belonging . . .

ARTICLE 89 (p. 262) 135/35
#1. ... together with the [Mixed] Commission on Mutual
... 
#2. ... integrate themselves [more] as effectively as possible
into the ...

ARTICLE 90 (p. 262) 136/1
... should set up [various] exchange programs ...
... diocesan priests with the agreement of the bishops con-
cerned could have ...

ARTICLE 91 (p. 262) 136/5
[Bishops and] Priests ... into their respective jurisdictions] 
parishes lay movements ... and thrusts and that have 
the approval of the local Ordinary.

ARTICLE 94 (p. 263) 136/18
#1. Respecting Canons 1274 and 281, every diocese ...

ARTICLE 95 (p. 263) 136/27
... should set up [both] a national ...
... areas, subject to the local Ordinaries, which can help ...

ARTICLE 96 (p. 263) 136/34
... be managed justly in accordance with the laws of the 
Church and in a spirit ... openness, proper accountability 
... being the norm (cf. Canons 1254-1310).

ARTICLE 97 (pp. 263-64) 136/37
... sessions between [bishops, priests,] the clergy and the 
laity to promote ...

ARTICLE 98 (p. 264) 136/42
In accordance with the prescription of Canon 384, bishops should 
[be more affirming of] affirm their priests ...

... and talents and [providing] by helping to provide 
them with ...
... for service [of church and country] to the Church;
by visiting ...
... treating them [equally] fraternally, seeing them as ...

ARTICLE 99 (p. 264) 137/1
... evaluation is [to be adopted by bishops to encourage] 
recommended whereby those priests who are doing well may 
be encouraged and [assist] those who have difficulties may 
be helped.

ARTICLE 100 (p. 264) 137/5
... another diocese [without permission from their diocese 
of origin] except in accordance with the provisions of Canon 
271.

ARTICLE 101 (p. 264) 137/8
#1. Without prejudice to the pastoral role of individual 
diocesan bishops (cf. Canons 1395, 1740-1742), the CBCP 
should [study the issue of celibacy and how it is lived 
and take practical steps] do what it can to rectify ...

ARTICLE 102 (pp. 264-65) 137/18
In accordance with its possibilities, every diocese ...
... by allocating, where possible, more resources ...
... Gospel values (cf. Canons 822-823).

ARTICLE 103 (p. 265) 137/24
... in seminaries. [and houses of formation.]

ARTICLE 105 (p. 265) 137/37
... [imbue them] ... formation that will help them to be 
imbued with ...
ARTICLE 106 (pp. 265-66) 137/43

1. . . . include adult [catechism] catechesis in their outreach . . .

3. . . . to become agents [of] for Christian social transformation.

ARTICLE 107 (p. 266) 138/9

Catholic universities, "through reflection in the light of the Catholic Faith" (Ex Corde Ecclesiae, 13) . . .

. . . educative task of preparing witnesses to Christ in the world by imparting an integral formation in the values of the Gospel, shall serve society . . .

ARTICLE 109 (p. 267) 138/21

. . . non-violence will be [the] a guiding principle . . .

ARTICLE 110 (p. 267) 138/27

#1. . . . nature and function as recognized by the Church, making it . . .

#2. . . . for the [reorientating] proper orienting of priests . . .

. . . shall be made [a] part of . . .

ARTICLE 112 (p. 267) 138/40

#1. . . . as [both] a means [and an end] of evangelization.

#2. . . . and to ensure that [ideologies be always] the principles and activities of various groups shall always be guided by Gospel . . .

ARTICLE 113 (p. 268) 139/3

. . . or region under the authority of the local Ordinary.

ARTICLE 114 (p. 268) 139/6

. . . established under the authority of the Military Ordinary for the benefit . . .

ARTICLE 115 (p. 268) 139/12

#1. . . . Church, should be [reoriented and] guided according . . .

#2. To this effect, [guidelines should be prepared for] recognized . . .

. . . to national groupings, [so that] must see to it that

1. . . . not contrary to [those of diocesan and parish pastoral councils] the laws of the Church;

2. . . . [they take their direction from, or are] their work is in harmony with diocesan . . .

4. they [undergo] utilize such leadership . . .

ARTICLE 116 (pp. 268-69) 139/26

#1. (reformulated and shortened) With respect for Canons 298, 299 and 321, the members of all Church organizations, both lay and clerical, should be imbued with a deeper sense of evangelical service to the wider community of which they are part.

[1. should be imbued with a deeper sense of evangelical service to the wider community of which they are part; and]

2. should be restructured and reoriented to function according to a more participatory mode of Church.]

#2. . . . integrated into [the orientation and functioning of] parish . . .

. . . as well as into [the ongoing formation of] both diocesan . . .

ARTICLE 119 (p. 269) 140/1

. . . strictly observed by [bishops,] priests, religious . . .
ARTICLE 120 (p. 269) 140/5
The finance committees mentioned in the [new] Code of Canon Law . . .

ARTICLE 123 (p. 270) 140/23
. . . big cities especially, is [still] adequate . . .

ARTICLE 125 (p. 270) 140/30
(revised) Diocesan pastoral councils are to be established and
and to function in dioceses in accordance with Canons 511 and
512. Parish pastoral councils are to be governed according to
Canon 536.

ARTICLE 126 (p. 270) 140/33
#1. . . . Councils shall [be expanded to include groups like
labor, business, government, education, professionals,
civic clubs, communicators and BEC leaders] include,
where possible, representatives of various local groups.

ARTICLE 127 (p. 270) 140/39
(enlarged) Guidelines, which are in accord with the prescriptions
of Canons 528-529, 532, 536 #1-2 and 537, authorized
by the local Ordinary, on the relationship between the Parish
Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Council and the Parish
Priest [must] shall be formulated and disseminated.

ARTICLE 128 (p. 271) 140/42
#1. (reformulated and enlarged) Guidelines for Diocesan and
Parish Pastoral Councils should be prepared by the
Episcopal Commission on Lay Apostolate and proposed
before the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

#2. (reformulated and enlarged) Subject to the prescriptions
of Canon 511, provisions should be made for ongoing
dialogue and feedback in Diocesan Pastoral Councils.
Similar provisions should be made in Parish Pastoral
Councils subject to the prescriptions of Canon 536.

#3. . . . developed and renewed [in line with the emerging
re-evangelization thrust of the Church towards active non-
violece, social transformation and BECs] according to
the norms of the Code of Canon Law and appropriate
diocesan norms.

ARTICLE 129 (p. 271) 141/6
. . . socio-economic problems. [more effectively.]

ARTICLE 130 (p. 271) 141/12
. . . Commission should [organize a national commission of]
call upon researchers, writers, . . .

ARTICLE 131 (p. 271) 141/18
(original Article 131 was explicitly disapproved by the Congre-
gation of Bishops. In its stead the following article was
formulated.) The Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philip-
pines will draw up a National Pastoral Plan in accordance with
Article 1 #1 and #5. A temporary committee, consisting of
members drawn from the various sectors of the Church and
chosen for their exemplary Christian life and their expertise,
will be set up to assist the Bishops in a consultative capacity
in drawing up the National Pastoral Plan.

ARTICLE 132 (pp. 271-72) 141/24
. . . tasked to oversee, under the authority of the local Ordin-
ary, the implementation of the [resolutions of the] Second
Plenary . . .

* * * * *

The list of the decrees of the Plenary Council remained,
substantially and for the most part, that which was submitted
to the Holy See although, in some instances, additions and
deletions were made.

References to the Code of Canon Law and papal documents
were augmented throughout the revised text. This placed the
Council's decrees more explicitly within the context of the ecclesiastical discipline of the universal Church.

A reference was added to Pastores Dabo Vobis which was published after the close of the Council (Art. 75). Where allusion was made to papal documents, the Congregation included an explicit reference.

Reference to the term "bishops" was deleted in most instances. This was made in order to emphasize more strongly that it is the bishops themselves who are legislators, and that it is for the local Ordinary to implement the provisions of the Plenary Council.

Concerning the "Order of the Mass for the Philippines/Misa ng Bayang Filipino" and the "Filipino Eucharistic Prayer for Marriage" mentioned in Article 6 #2, the Congregation found it juridically impossible to include these references in the approved text of the decrees since the requirements of Canon 838 #2 and 3 have not yet been completed, and awaiting their completion would have necessitated delay in promulgating the other decrees of the Plenary Council.

Three decrees of the Council were objects of special attention: Article 29, on responsible Christian parenthood, in order to place it explicitly within the general context of the teaching of the Church on Christian marriage; Article 35, dealing with the discipline of the Church in the matter of Freemasonry that required explicit reference to the letter Quasitum est of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith (26 Nov. 1983); and Article 131, which deals with the establishment of a National Pastoral Council to draw up a National Pastoral Plan. Reference to the National Pastoral Council was deleted because the present general law of the Church does not provide for the establishment of Pastoral Councils at a national level. But the Holy See accepts the establishment of a temporary committee of a technical and consultative nature to assist the Conference of Bishops in drawing up a National Pastoral Plan.

Briefly:

1. Important modifications were made in Articles 6 #2, 29, 35, 64 #4, 131.

2. Secondary changes and precisions were introduced in Articles 1 #5, 2 #2, 8, 9 #1, 11, 12, 37 #2, 38 #2, 41 #1, 46 #1,