

AKBAYAN condemns Satur's arrest

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KBAYAN Party-list, an ideological rival of Bayan Muna, condemned today the arrest of Rep. Satur Ocampo, saying that his arrest and the continued persecution of anti-GMA party-list organizations put into question the integrity of the 2007 polls.

"We denounce Malacanang's legal tactics to harass Leftist party-list organizations. It betrays the desperation of the GMA administration to eradicate anti-GMA party-list groups," AKBAYAN Rep. Hontiveros said.

She added that despite AKBAYAN's fundamental differences with Bayan Muna, "AKBAYAN has always stood for plurality and fair play in the electoral process."

"In the same breadth that we condemn the abuses committed by the NPAs, AKBAYAN also denounces the government's persecution of legitimate party-list groups," Rep. Hontiveros added.

"Malacanang should cease and desist from harassing anti-GMA forces and just let the electorate decide. This blatant disregard for the sovereign right of the electorate to choose their leaders betrays anew the GMA administration's propensity to resort to illegitimate and authoritarian actions to ensure its political survival," Rep. Hontiveros said.

The solon added that the continuing harassment of leftist party-list groups would backfire. "It means that the opposition will win in the congressional elections. It's the government's cheating machinery that would block our victory," Rep. Hontiveros said.