

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES  
PLENARY SESSION, 7/31

This is the report from the Committee on Organization and Procedures.

We are doing pretty well on the schedule and I want to commend the delegates again for the tremendous effort that they are putting into this Convention. We will finish Article 6 and Article 12 hopefully today. Then tomorrow we will take up the Schedule on Transitional Matters and start work on the Analysis. Once we get the Schedule and the Analysis done, we will be ready for signing. Under our current plan, our last day is Thursday, August 3.

The Style Committee should decide about how the Constitution is going to be printed and signed.

The Convention Secretary did an excellent job of getting the Chamorro version of the Constitution ready so that it could be published. Due to some delays with the newspapers, it won't come out until today. Now he needs to get back to his computer and put in the changes on second reading, so we can have a Chamorro version when we finish. We haven't made too many changes so hopefully Delegate Gonzales can have the Chamorro version ready for us on Wednesday.

If you have suggestions for the Analysis, see Deanne or Howard or Bernie or Grace. I think we can get all the delegate suggestions incorporated today so we can look at a cleaned up version tomorrow. The Analysis that was passed out on Saturday still had some reports from first reading in it, and some of the changes we agreed to on the floor had not yet been added. The legal team is putting all of those into today's version. When we get done with Article 6 and Article 12, we are going to get the final version of the Analysis put together as quickly as we can.

We have not resolved the question of the date of the election to approve the amendments to the Constitution that this Convention has been working on. The legislature is due to get together today to see if they can agree on a February date. If they cannot agree, then we will have to ask our legal counsel to look into our options.

We have not resolved the question of the legislature's initiative that is currently on the ballot for November. Their initiative sets a budget ceiling of \$8 million and gives them great leeway in how to spend it. Our amendment sets a budget ceiling of \$4.5 million and gives them relatively little leeway in how to spend it. We have asked them to withdraw it, but they haven't acted yet. If they don't agree to withdraw it, we will have to ask our legal counsel whether we can deal with it in our schedule on transitional matters.

And finally, we have not resolved what happens if the legislature's initiative and our amendments both go on the ballot in November. The legislature's initiative conflicts with our amendments, so we have to give some thought as to what will happen if they are both approved. Again, our legal counsel may be able to deal with that in the Schedule on Transitional Matters.

So, I welcome the input of any of the delegates on how we should handle these matters. We have only a few days left in which to decide on what we want to do.

Thank you.