



National Council of Churches in Australia

26 April 2018

H.E. Minda Calaguian-Cruz
Philippine Ambassador to Australia
The Philippine Embassy in Canberra
1 Moonah Place
Yarralumla, ACT 2600

Dear Ambassador Calaguian-Cruz

RE: Australian Missionary nun, Patricia Fox

I write to express regret upon hearing that the Philippines' immigration bureau has revoked the missionary visa of Australian nun, Patricia Fox (SR Pat). Sr. Pat is known as a consistent and untiring advocate of the rights of farmworkers and indigenous peoples, upholding the dignity of the poorest people. She has been doing this wonderful work in the Philippines since the 1990's.

The National Council of Churches in Australia values the work of missionaries such as Sr Pat. Missionaries serve the poor in many rural communities in the Philippines, people who would be otherwise overlooked. Missionaries bring hope and dignity, often by advocating for reform and defending basic human rights, things which you and I hold dear but often take for granted in our safe and secure lifestyle. We believe that the invaluable work of these missions should be allowed to proceed without interference.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth (Liz) Stone,
Interim General Secretary, on behalf of
Bishop Philip Huggins
President NCCA

Anglican Church

Antiochian
Orthodox Church

Armenian
Apostolic Church

Assyrian Church
of the East

Chinese Methodist
Church

Churches of Christ

Congregational
Federation

Coptic
Orthodox Church

Greek
Orthodox Church

Indian
Orthodox Church

Lutheran Church

Mar Thoma Church

Religious Society
of Friends (Quakers)

Roman Catholic Church

Romanian
Orthodox Church

Syrian
Orthodox Church

The Salvation Army

Uniting Church

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