

# Most Pinoys don't believe GMA will step down

Forty-three percent of Filipino voters do not believe that President Arroyo intends to step down in 2010, a recent survey by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) revealed yesterday.

The SWS February 2009 survey found 43 percent of voting-age Filipinos disagreeing, and only 31 percent agreeing, with the statement, "*Tapat si Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo sa*

*kanyang balak na pagbaba sa proes-to sa 2010* (President sincerely intends to step down in 2010)."

Twenty-six percent of Filipinos are undecided about this matter.

SWS said this is more skeptical than in the Sept. 29 to Oct. 4, 2008 SWS survey, which found that 39 percent disagreed and 33 percent agreed with the

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plus or minus six percentage points for area percentages were applied in the survey.

- Helen Flores

same test statement.

Twenty-seven percent were undecided.

Disagreement about the President's sincerity rose by 11 points in Mindanao, from 30 percent in October 2008 to 41 percent in February 2009, and by five points in the Visayas, from 32 percent to 37 percent.

It barely changed in other areas: it went from 52 percent to 51 percent in Metro Manila, and from 43 percent to 44 percent in balance Luzon.

It eased by 13 points in class ABC, from 53 percent to 40 percent, while it rose by five points in class D or the "masa," from 38 percent to 43 percent, and by three points in class E, from 38 percent to 41 percent.

The First Quarter 2009 Social Weather Survey, fielded over Feb. 20 to 23, used face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults in Metro Manila, the balance of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

Sampling error

margins of plus or minus three percentage points for national percentages and