



AUG 05 2021

**DENR MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**No. 2021- 10**

**SUBJECT : ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION, REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE LITTER (NPOA-ML)**

The National Plan of Action for the Prevention, Reduction and Management of Marine Litter (NPOA-ML) is hereby adopted for the information and guidance of all concerned as the national marine litter framework plan with an overarching goal of "*Zero Waste to Philippine Waters by 2040.*"

**SECTION 1. Legal Basis**

1. Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;
2. Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000;
3. Republic Act No. 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004;
4. Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 2018;
5. Republic Act No. 9729 or the Climate Change Act;
6. Republic Act No. 9512 or the National Environmental Awareness and Education Act;
7. Chapters 19 and 20 of the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022;
8. Executive Order No. 553, series of 2006 or the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) policy;
9. Executive Order No. 57, series of 2011 or the National Coast Watch System; and
10. Executive Order No. 192, series of 1987, which mandates the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to be the primary agency responsible for the conservation, management, development, and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources.

**SECTION 2. Basic Policy**

It is the policy of the state to protect and advance the rights of the Filipino people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

**SECTION 3. Objectives**

This Circular aims for the NPOA-ML to provide guidance to enhance the current efforts of the country in resource and waste management and to bring the additional perspective to marine litter issues and the control of additional leakage of waste into bodies of water.

**SECTION 4. Scope and Coverage**

This Circular shall cover the rapidly increasing levels of marine litter in the country's waterways and marine environment through shared responsibility, accountability, and participatory governance.

## **SECTION 5. Implementation of the National Plan of Action for the Prevention, Reduction and Management of Marine Litter**

All activities and targets provided in the NPOA-ML shall be translated into operational plans indicating targets until 2040. All other related plans and frameworks related should be consistent with the NPOA-ML.

All DENR offices are authorized to coordinate with the Development Partners (DPs), i.e. multilateral and bilateral funding institutions, in the implementation and mainstreaming of the NPOA-ML with the plans and programs of the local government units and other government agencies concerned.

## **SECTION 6. Funding**

The DENR, other national government agencies, LGUs, and other development partners shall consider the goals, targets, and objectives of the NPOA-ML in their annual fund allocations.

## **SECTION 7. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting**

The DENR, in coordination with other lead agencies, shall develop a system for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of the implementation of the NPOA-ML. It is also responsible for identifying indicators to measure progress towards achieving the goals and objectives of the NPOA-ML.

## **SECTION 8. Separability Clause**

If any provision of this Circular shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

## **SECTION 9. Repealing Clause**

All Circulars and other similar issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

## **SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause**

This Circular shall take effect immediately.

  
**ROY A. CIMATU**  
Secretary

