



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service
Climate Change Service
Financial and Management Service
Administrative Services

All Bureau Directors

FROM : **The Director**
Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON DRAFTED HOUSE BILL, "AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230 SERIES OF 1987 ALSO KNOWN AS THE "REORGANIZATION ACT OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY," AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292 SERIES OF 1987 ALSO KNOWN AS THE "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987," APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

DATE : 23 June 2023

In reference to the electronic mail received on 22 June 2023, The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) request for the Department's comments on House Bill entitled: "Economy and Planning Act." AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230 SERIES OF 1987 ALSO KNOWN AS THE "REORGANIZATION ACT OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY," AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292 SERIES OF 1987 ALSO KNOWN AS THE "ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987," APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The DENR is called upon to initially be part of the following committees:

- Infrastructure Committee (InfraCom) as found in Section 10;
- Tariff and Related Matters Committee (TRMC), Section 13; and
- National Land Use Committee (NLUC), Section 15.

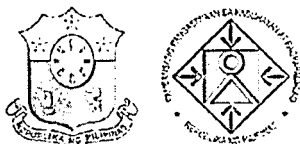
In this regard, may we respectfully request **comments/recommendations** on the above-mentioned House Bill. Kindly submit it **on or before June 28, 2023, at 5**

PM through email at denrlo@denr.gov.ph. Attached herewith are the letter request and a copy of the NEDA Draft House Bill for your reference.

ROMIROSE B. PADIN

cc:

Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs
Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs
Undersecretary for Integrated Environmental Science



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

June 20, 2023

SECRETARY ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

**SUBJECT: Request for comments on the draft bill creating the
Department of Economy, Planning and Development**

Dear **Secretary Loyzaga**:

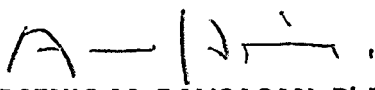
We are writing in reference to the legislative measures which seek to create the Department of Economy, Planning and Development as the lead integrator of economic and development programs of the Philippines, and transferring thereto the existing powers, functions and duties of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

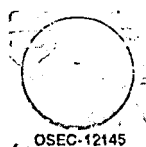
In this regard, we have attached herein the draft bill that NEDA has prepared for the review and comments of the members of the various inter-agency committees under the NEDA Board. Our aim is to build a consensus among the executive departments, and to ensure that the bill is consistent with the policies and standards of the Administration.

We look forward to receiving your comments on or before June 30, 2023. For any questions or clarifications, your office may contact Mr. Lanz Austin P. Jimenea of the NEDA Office of the Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs through telephone no. (632) 8635-9337 or mobile no. 09162587351.

Thank you.

Very yours truly,


ARSENIO M. BALISACAN, PhD
Secretary



OSEC-12145

**AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT, REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230 SERIES OF 1987
ALSO KNOWN AS THE “REORGANIZATION ACT OF THE NATIONAL
ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,” AMENDING EXECUTIVE
ORDER NO. 292 SERIES OF 1987 ALSO KNOWN AS THE “ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE OF 1987,” APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled:*

CHAPTER I

TITLE AND DECLARATION OF POLICY

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Economy and Planning Act.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes that, pursuant to Section 1, Article XII of the Constitution, the goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged.

The State recognizes that, pursuant to Section 9, Article XII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the Congress may establish an independent economic and planning agency headed by the President of the Philippines, which shall, after consultations with the appropriate public agencies, various private sectors, and local government units, recommend to Congress, and implement continuing integrated and coordinated programs and policies for national development.

20 **CHAPTER II**

21 **ECONOMY AND PLANNING COUNCIL**

22
23 SECTION 3. *Economy and Planning Council.* – There shall be established an Economy
24 and Planning Council, headed by the President of the Philippines, hereafter referred to as the
25 EP Council. The EP Council shall serve as the executive collegial body responsible for
26 directing and providing overall policy direction on economic matters to achieve inclusive and
27 sustainable economic growth and development.

28
29 SECTION 4. *Composition of the EP Council.* – The EP Council shall be composed of
30 the following:

31 Chairperson: The President

32 Vice-chairperson: Secretary, Department of Economy, Planning and Development,
33 as created under Section [17] of this Act, hereinafter referred to as DEPDEV

34 Members: Executive Secretary

35 Secretary, Department of Budget and Management (DBM)

36 Secretary, Department of Energy (DOE)

37 Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF)

38 Secretary, Department of Human Settlements and Urban
39 Development (DHSUD)

40 Secretary, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

41 Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

42 Secretary, Department of Transportation (DOTr)

43 Chief Minister, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim
44 Mindanao

45

46 The Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas or his or her duly authorized
47 representative shall sit in the meetings of the EP Council as a resource person.

48

49 The President or the EP Council may invite the participation of other heads of
50 departments and agencies as resource persons, as it deems necessary.

51

52 The President may, however, revise the membership of the EP Council whenever the
53 same is deemed necessary for the effective performance of the Council's functions.

54

55 SECTION 5. *Powers and Functions of the EP Council.* – The EP Council shall have
56 the following powers and functions:

57 (a) Direct the formulation and implementation of policies, plans, and programs that
58 promote economic development and address development concerns of national
59 importance;

60 (b) Approve policies, development plans, programs, and projects consistent with the
61 policies set by the President, as may be endorsed by the Committees of the EP
62 Council;

63 (c) Approve proposed cost threshold and other criteria for priority programs and
64 projects, except those provided by laws, rules, and regulations;

65 (d) Approve the level of annual government expenditures, as well as projections,
66 forecast, resource requirement, and the ceiling of government spending; and

67 (e) Issue rules and regulations necessary for the effective discharge of the powers
68 and functions vested on the EP Council.

69

70 SECTION 6. *Committees of the EP Council.* – The EP Council shall have committees
71 that shall act as its primary advisory bodies. These Committees shall be the main coordinating
72 mechanism that ensures that the policy environment is conducive to the promotion of inclusive
73 and sustainable economic growth.

74

75 The following Committees shall assist the EP Council in the performance of its
76 functions:

- 77 (a) Development Budget Coordination Committee;
- 78 (b) Investment Coordination Committee;
- 79 (c) Social Development Committee;
- 80 (d) Infrastructure Committee;
- 81 (e) Tariff and Related Matters Committee;
- 82 (f) Regional Development Committee; and,
- 83 (g) National Land Use Committee.

84

85 The DEPDEV shall serve as the Secretariat to all Committees, unless otherwise provided
86 in this Act.

87

88 The President may revise the membership and reorganize the structures and functions of
89 the Committees, and establish new committees, as deemed necessary.

90

91 The Committees may invite the participation of other heads of departments and agencies,
92 or other resource persons, as necessary.

93

94 The Committees may create their respective subcommittees which will provide technical

95 support on matters within their mandate and which require their appropriate action. The
96 technical subcommittees shall be composed of duly designated representatives of the same
97 member agencies, preferably Undersecretaries or their equivalent. Unless the Committees
98 resolve otherwise, the existing technical committees under the National Economic and
99 Development Authority (NEDA) Board Inter-Agency Committees shall be retained.

100

101 SECTION 7. *Meetings.* – The EP Council shall regularly meet on a quarterly basis,
102 or as frequently as necessary. A special meeting of the EP Council may be convened by
103 the President to address urgent concerns, emergencies, and other extraordinary
104 circumstances. In cases where the President is unable to attend, the Secretary of the
105 DEPDEV shall preside unless the President designates another Council member to preside
106 over such meeting.

107

108 The DEPDEV shall maintain and preserve a complete record of the proceedings and
109 deliberations of the EP Council, including the recording and transcripts, either in their
110 original form, or in any secure format made available by existing technology.

111

112 SECTION 8. *Full Disclosure Rule.* – In addition to the requirements of Republic Act
113 No. 6713, otherwise known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public
114 Officials and Employees, any member of the EP Council with personal and pecuniary
115 interest in any matter in the agenda shall disclose the interest to the Council and shall
116 withdraw from the meeting when the matter will be taken up. The minutes shall reflect the
117 disclosure made and the withdrawal of the member concerned from the subject meeting.

118

119 SECTION 9. *Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC)*. – The DBCC shall
120 initially be composed of the Secretaries of the DBM, DEPDEV, DOF, the Executive Secretary,
121 and the Governor of BSP. The Secretaries of the DBM and DEPDEV shall serve as the
122 chairperson and vice-chairperson of the DBCC, respectively.

123

124 The DBCC shall recommend for final approval of the President

- 125 (a) The level of annual government expenditures and the ceiling of government
126 spending for economic and social development, national defense, and
127 government debt service;
- 128 (b) The budget to be allocated for current operating expenditures and capital outlays
129 of government programs and projects;
- 130 (c) A strategic multi-year fiscal program which supports the long-term and medium-
131 term development objectives of the country; and
- 132 (d) A domestic and foreign borrowing program for general financing and
133 development purposes.

134

135 The DBM shall serve as the Secretariat for the DBCC.

136

137 SECTION 10. *Infrastructure Committee (InfraCom)*. – The InfraCom shall initially
138 be composed of the Secretaries of the DEPDEV, DOF, DA, DPWH, DBM, DOE, DTI,
139 DOTr, DENR, DILG, Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Information and
140 Communications Technology (DICT), and the Executive Secretary. The Secretaries of the
141 DEPDEV and DPWH shall serve as co-chairpersons of the InfraCom.

142

143 The InfraCom shall have the following functions:

- 144 (a) Recommend to the President a national infrastructure development strategy, and
145 necessary government policies, programs and projects concerning infrastructure
146 development consistent with national development objectives and priorities;
147 (b) Advise the President and the EP Council on all matters concerning infrastructure
148 development; and
149 (c) Coordinate the activities of agencies, including government-owned and
150 controlled corporations involved in infrastructure development.

151

152 SECTION 11. *Investment Coordination Committee (ICC)*. – The ICC shall initially
153 be composed of the Secretaries of the DOF, DEPDEV, DBM, DOE, DTI, the Executive
154 Secretary, and the Governor of BSP. The Secretaries of the DOF and DEPDEV shall serve
155 as the co-chairpersons of the ICC.

156

157 The ICC shall have the following functions:

- 158 (a) Ensure the efficient and effective evaluation of major capital programs and
159 projects of the country by determining levels of acceptability and viability
160 relative to overall economic and fiscal conditions of the country;
161 (b) Recommend for the final approval by the President or the EP Council, as the case
162 may be:
163 i. The timetable of the implementation of major capital programs and projects
164 on a regular basis;
165 ii. Public-private partnerships, privatization, and other funding options to
166 augment government's financing capacity;

167 iii. Modalities of development financing and capital market development in
168 support of long-term programs and projects for both national and local
169 government, and GOCCs; and

170 iv. Specific major programs and projects found viable in terms of economic and
171 social benefits, and viability.

172 (c) Submit to the President a status of the fiscal, monetary and balance of payment
173 (BOP) implications of major capital and infrastructure programs and projects.

174 (d) Advise the President on matters related to the domestic and foreign borrowings
175 program in relation to major capital and infrastructure projects requiring
176 approval by the ICC.

177

178 SECTION 12. *Social Development Committee (SDC)*. – The SDC shall initially be
179 composed of the Secretaries of the DEPDEV, DA, DOLE, DHSUD, DBM, DILG,
180 Department of Education (DEPED), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Migrant
181 Workers (DMW), and Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),
182 Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Director-General of the
183 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the Executive
184 Secretary. The Secretaries of the DOLE and DEPDEV shall serve as the co-chairpersons of
185 the SDC.

186

187 The SDC shall have the following functions:

188 (a) Recommend for final approval of the EP Council appropriate policies, programs,
189 and projects on social development, including education, human resources, health
190 and nutrition, population and family planning, social protection, housing, human
191 settlements, Overseas Filipino Workers, and other vulnerable sectors;

192 (b) Coordinates the activities of government agencies concerned with social
193 development; and,

194 (b) Advise the President and EP Council on matters concerning social development
195 and delivery of social services.

196

197 SECTION 13. *Tariff and Related Matters Committee (TRMC)*. – The TRMC shall be
198 composed of the Secretaries of the DEPDEV, DOF, DA, DBM, DENR, DFA, DICT,
199 DOLE, and DTI, the Executive Secretary, the Governor of the BSP, and the Chairperson
200 of the Tariff Commission. The Secretaries of the DTI and DEPDEV shall serve as the co-
201 chairpersons of the TRMC.

202

203 The TRMC shall discharge the following functions:

204 (a) Recommend to the President a continuous rationalization policy and program for
205 the country's tariff structure;

206 (b) Advise the President and EP Council on tariff and non-tariff matters as well
207 various international developments and its effect on the country; and

208 (c) Coordinate government agency positions and recommend national positions for
209 international economic negotiations.

210

211 SECTION 14. *Regional Development Committee (RDCom)*. – The RDCom shall
212 initially be composed of the Secretaries of the DEPDEV, DILG, DBM, three (3) Regional
213 Development Council Chairpersons representing Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, one (1)
214 representative from the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), and three
215 (3) regional development experts from the private sector or academe representing Luzon,

216 Visayas, and Mindanao. The Secretary of the DEPDEV shall serve as the chairperson of the
217 RDCom.

218

219 The RDCom shall discharge the following functions:

220 (a) Formulate and monitor the implementation of policies that reduce regional
221 development disparities;

222 (b) Promote equitable allocation of resources among regions by providing
223 recommendations to the DBCC on the guidelines for the regional allocation of
224 budgetary resources; and

225 (c) Periodically review the viability of the regional configuration of the country, and
226 recommend to the EP Council the re-delineation of regions, as may be necessary.

227

228 SECTION 15. *National Land Use Committee (NLUC)*. –The NLUC shall initially be
229 composed of the Secretaries of the DENR, DA, DAR, DHSUD, DILG, DPWH, and, one
230 representative of the ULAP. The Secretary of the DEPDEV shall serve as the chairperson of
231 the NLUC.

232

233 The NLUC shall discharge the following functions:

234 (a) Advise the President and EP Council on matters concerning land use and physical
235 planning;

236 (b) Integrate and harmonize guidelines and policies relevant to land use and spatial
237 planning;

238 (c) Recommend for final approval of the EP Council the national and sub-national
239 framework for physical planning;

240 (d) Resolve disputes concerning land use and spatial planning;

- 241 (e) Formulate a national framework for physical planning (NFPP), shepherd the
242 preparation of sub-national spatial development and physical frameworks and
243 come up with other inter-sectoral policies and programs that guide the rational
244 use and management of the country's land and other physical resources. The
245 NFPP shall have a timeframe of thirty (30) years with regular review and
246 updating every ten (10) years;
- 247 (f) Promote the integration of land use and spatial planning policies, plans and
248 programs, including disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, into
249 national and sub-national socio-economic plans and programs;
- 250 (g) Coordinate the establishment of an up-to-date, interoperable and accessible
251 national database system which would identify and classify the present and
252 possible uses of specific land resources;
- 253 (h) Assess periodically the impacts or effects of land use policies which have been
254 adopted and implemented; and,
- 255 (i) Ensure the integration of land use and physical planning, including disaster risk
256 management, into national and sub-national socio-economic and development
257 policies, plans and programs.

258

259 SECTION 16. Regional Development Council (RDC). - Regional Development
260 Councils shall remain to be the regional counterparts of the EP Council. Except as otherwise
261 provided in this Act, the provisions of Executive Order No. 325, series of 1996 shall continue
262 to apply in respect of the composition and functions of the RDCs, and qualifications for
263 appointments thereto.

264

265

CHAPTER III

266 **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

267 SECTION 17. *Creation of the Department of Economy, Planning and Development.* –

268 There is hereby created a Department of Economy, Planning and Development.

269

270 SECTION 18. *Mandate.* – The DEPDEV shall be the policy, planning, coordinating, and

271 administrative entity of the Executive Branch of government on the national economy. It shall

272 formulate the country’s continuing, integrated, and coordinated policies, plans, and programs

273 for national development for approval by the EP Council; ensure the vertical and horizontal

274 alignment and coherence of national and sub-national policies, plans, and programs towards

275 optimal use of financial resources; and, oversee the country’s public investment program.

276

277 SECTION 19. *Powers and Functions of the DEPDEV.* – The DEPDEV shall have the

278 following powers and functions:

279 (a) Policy and planning

280 i. Formulate the long-term vision and development framework as the basis

281 for overall direction of government policies, programs, and projects;

282 ii. Formulate the national and regional framework for physical and spatial

283 planning to ensure the sustainable use of land and other physical resources;

284 iii. Formulate national and sub-national development plans that set forth

285 measurable goals, strategies, proposed policies, programs, and projects;

286 iv. Ensure consistency of national and sub-national, sectoral, and spatial plans

287 and programs and monitor their respective implementations;

288 v. Recommend the priorities for budget expenditure policies including

289 sectoral and regional allocations;

290 vi. Propose and review policies, plans and programs, for consideration of the

291 appropriate EP Council Committee and/ or approval of the EP Council, as
292 the case may be, to ensure these:

293 a. foster equitable and sustainable distribution of economic opportunities and
294 benefits to Filipinos;

295 b. support the development of agriculture, industry, and services that achieve
296 economic development goals and foster innovation, and are vital to
297 equitable and sustainable growth;

298 c. advance national productivity, competition and competitiveness.

299 d. promote transparency, accountability, participatory governance, and
300 strengthening of national and subnational public institutions; and,

301 e. improve policy and regulatory environment to reduce cost of doing
302 business and improve ease of doing business;

303 vii. Conduct research and related studies for the formulation of policies, plans,
304 programs, and projects; and

305 viii. Coordinate with autonomous and administrative regions in the conduct of
306 planning activities affecting their respective regions.

307

308 (b) Investment programming

309 i. Ensure that development plans are translated into programs, activities, and
310 projects;

311 ii. Formulate and review the national and regional public investment program
312 that identifies priority programs, activities, and projects;

313 iii. Appraise and recommend programs and projects that are found viable in
314 terms of economic and societal benefits; and

315 iv. Adopt and implement appropriate evaluation measures and criteria to

316 determine viability of programs and projects.

317

318 (c) Monitoring and evaluation

319 i. Formulate annual reports that monitor the implementation of national and
320 sub-national development plans;

321 ii. Monitor and assess the progress of implementation of priority programs
322 and projects; and

323 iii. Assess the impacts and outcomes of priority programs and projects.

324

325 (d) Establish and implement a capacity building program on development planning for
326 national, regional, and local planners;

327 (e) Undertake scenario planning exercises, anticipating future trends or
328 discontinuities, and recommend responsive measures to the President and the
329 Congress, as may be appropriate; and,

330 (f) The DEPDEV shall provide technical and secretariat support to the EP Council and
331 its Committees, as may be provided in this Act. Furthermore, the DEPDEV shall
332 serve as Secretariat to the RDCs pursuant to Executive Order No. 325, series of 1996,
333 National Innovation Council pursuant to Republic Act No. 11293, Legislative-
334 Executive Development Advisory Council pursuant to Republic Act No. 7640, and
335 such other inter-agency committees, boards or councils, as may be provided by law.

336

337 SECTION 20. Visioning. – The DEPDEV shall formulate a long-term vision, hereinafter
338 referred to as the Vision, which embodies the long-term aspirations of all Filipinos. It shall be
339 data-driven and evidence-based, encompassing all dimensions of economic, social, and
340 environmental development. The Vision shall undergo a periodic review in consideration of

341 changing aspirations and preferences.

342

343 SECTION 21. Long-term Development Framework. – The DEVDEP shall formulate the
344 country’s long-term development framework, hereinafter referred to as the Framework.

345

346 The Framework is a high-level and broad strategy spanning twenty-five (25) years that
347 shall guide the nation towards sustainable growth and development and the attainment of the
348 Vision. It shall serve as a tool to coordinate, guide, and inform the preparation and
349 consideration of future, more detailed national and subnational development plans, national
350 and subnational public investment programs, and sectoral and inter-sectoral plans and
351 programs. It shall embody the development goals and milestones to serve as basis for the
352 overall direction of government policies, programs, and projects across political
353 administrations.

354

355 SECTION 22. Philippine Development Plan and Regional Development Plans. – The
356 DEPDEV, in consultation with public agencies, civil society organizations, non-government
357 organizations, people’s organizations, academe, private sector, and LGUs, shall formulate
358 within six (6) months from the assumption of office of the President of the Philippines, a
359 national economic and development blueprint, known as the Philippine Development Plan,
360 hereinafter referred to as the PDP, which shall be anchored on the Framework. The PDP shall
361 establish a set of measurable goals and objectives with corresponding strategies, in terms of
362 policies, programs, and projects, that shall be the basis for each political administration’s
363 pursuit of its economic and development agenda.

364 At the subnational level, this shall be known as the Regional Development Plan,
365 hereinafter referred to as the RDP, which shall be formulated by the DEVDEP Regional

366 Offices within reasonable period after formulation of the PDP and in consultation with public
367 agencies, civil society organizations, non-government organizations, people's organizations,
368 the academe, the private sector, and local government units. The RDP shall be aligned with
369 the PDP, defining the region's development direction. The PDP and the RDPs shall undergo a
370 midterm review and updating in consideration of accomplishments, and emerging trends and
371 developments.

372

373 SECTION. 23. Public Investment Program and Regional Development Investment
374 Program. – The DEVDEP, in consultation with public agencies, shall formulate the Public
375 Investment Program, hereinafter referred to as the PIP, which shall identify the priority
376 programs, activities, and projects (PAPs) that are responsive to the sectoral goals and outcomes
377 of the PDP, for implementation through national government funds or the General
378 Appropriations Act (GAA), Official Development Assistance (ODA), Public- Private
379 Partnership (PPP), joint ventures (JV), and other viable implementation and financing options.
380 At the subnational level, this shall be known as the Regional Development Investment
381 Program, hereinafter referred to as the RDIP, which shall be formulated by the DEPDEV
382 Regional Offices in consultation with their respective RDCs.

383

384 SECTION 24. Philippine Development Report and Regional Development Reports. –
385 The DEPDEV and its Regional Offices shall formulate annually the Philippine Development
386 Report (PDR) and Regional Development Reports (RDRs), respectively. The PDR and RDRs
387 shall serve as monitoring reports on the implementation of the PDP and RDPs, respectively.
388 The results from such monitoring activities shall serve as inputs to policy and decision makers
389 in the formulation of policies, budgeting, and implementation of programs and projects. To
390 this end, the PDRs and RDRs shall contain the latest data and information pertaining to the

391 goals, policies, and strategies, as specified in the PDP.

392

393 SECTION 25. *Stakeholder Engagement.* – In the discharge of these powers and
394 functions, the DEPDEV shall undertake consultations with but not limited to appropriate
395 government agencies, civil society organizations, non-government organizations, people’s
396 organizations, academe, private sector, and local government units to incorporate their
397 priority needs in the formulation of policies, plans, programs and projects.

398

399 SECTION 26. *Composition of the DEPDEV.* – The DEPDEV shall be headed by a
400 Secretary. It shall be composed of the Office of the Secretary, the Offices of the
401 Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries, technical and sectoral staff, operations support
402 staff, and Regional Offices.

403

404 SECTION 27. *Secretary.* – The Secretary shall be appointed by the President, subject to
405 the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments.

406

407 The Secretary shall have the following minimum qualifications: a natural-born citizen
408 and resident of the Philippines; of good moral character; of recognized probity and
409 independence; must have distinguished himself/herself professionally in public, civic, or
410 academic service in the field of and preferably must have a Ph.D. in economics; must have
411 been in the active practice of his/her profession for at least ten (10) years; and must not have
412 been a candidate for any elective national or local office in the immediately preceding
413 elections, whether regular or special.

414

415 SECTION 281. *Functions of the Secretary.* – The Secretary shall have the following
416 functions:

417

- 418 (a) Advise the President on matters of national economic and social development;
- 419 (b) Lead public discourse on the latest trends, strategic issues, futures thinking, and key
420 developments and their relevant implications for the country;
- 421 (c) Provide executive direction and supervision over, and establish policies and
422 standards for the efficient and effective operations of the DEPDEV;
- 423 (d) Exercise disciplinary powers over officers and employees of the DEPDEV in
424 accordance with law, including their investigation and the designation of a
425 committee or officer to conduct such investigation;
- 426 (e) Promulgate such rules and regulations, and exercise such other powers as may
427 be required to implement the objectives of this Act and to implement the
428 DEPDEV’s mandate, objectives, and policies; and
- 429 (f) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law or as may be assigned
430 by the President.

431

432 SECTION 29. *Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries.* – The Secretary shall be
433 assisted by at least five Undersecretaries and at least six Assistant Secretaries, who shall be
434 appointed by the President upon recommendation of the Secretary.

435

436 The Secretary shall have the flexibility to determine the respective assignments of the
437 Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries depending on the DEPDEV’s strategic directions
438 and/or on emerging development trends affecting the country’s economy. As the role, duties,
439 and responsibilities of the DEPDEV are expanded, the number of Undersecretaries and

440 Assistant Secretaries may be increased, as deemed necessary, subject to the approval of the
441 President.

442

443 SECTION 30. *Organizational Structure and Staffing.* – The organizational structure and
444 staffing shall be determined by the DEPDEV, and shall be submitted to DBM for approval as
445 necessary. As such, the Secretary of the DEPDEV may reorganize and/ or create different
446 groups within the DEPDEV and appoint staff to carry out its mandate. Unless a new
447 organizational structure and staffing plan is submitted to and approved by the DBM, the
448 DEPDEV shall retain the existing organizational structure of the NEDA.

449

450 The DEPDEV shall adopt a position classification and compensation structure based on
451 job evaluation studies, talent retention strategies, and wage surveys.

452

453 SECTION 31. *DEPDEV Regional Offices.* – The DEPDEV shall establish, operate, and
454 maintain a regional office in all the different regions of the country. Each regional office shall
455 be headed by a Regional Director, who shall be assisted by an Assistant Director. The
456 DEPDEV Regional Offices shall discharge the functions of the DEPDEV, as applicable, at the
457 regional level.

458

459 In addition to the functions as specified in other sections of this Act, the DEPDEV
460 Regional Offices shall have the following functions:

461 (a) Ensure that regional and local development priorities are aligned with the national
462 plans;

463 (b) Oversee the integration of plans and programs of regional agencies, state universities
464 and colleges (SUCs), special development bodies, and local government units

- 465 (LGUs) into the regional and national plans. The DECON Regional Offices shall
466 provide assistance to regional line agencies, LGUs, SUCs and special development
467 bodies in identifying and developing programs and projects;
- 468 (c) Evaluate and review proposed policies, land use plans, programs and projects in the
469 region;
- 470 (d) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of plans, policies, programs and projects;
- 471 (e) Provide technical and secretariat support to their respective RDC;
- 472 (f) Undertake research and ensure knowledge utilization for regional development and
473 productivity; and
- 474 (g) Provide technical assistance to development partners in the region in accordance
475 with the DEPDEV's functions.

476

477 SECTION 32. *Attached Agencies.* – The agencies currently attached to NEDA shall
478 hereafter be attached to the DEPDEV and shall continue to operate and function in accordance
479 with their respective charters, laws, rules and regulations, or orders creating them, except as
480 otherwise provided in this Act, the Administrative Code of 1987, and subsequent laws.

481

482 The following agencies shall be attached to the DEPDEV for purposes of supervision:

- 483 (a) Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) created pursuant to Presidential
484 Decree 1201 dated September 26, 1977;
- 485 (b) Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) created
486 pursuant Executive Order No. 635, series of 1980; and
- 487 (c) Tariff Commission (TC) created pursuant to Republic Act No. 10863.

488

489 The following agencies shall be attached to the DEPDEV for purposes of policy
490 coordination:

491 (a) Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) created pursuant to Republic Act No. 10625;

492 and

493 (b) Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute (PSRTI) created pursuant to
494 Republic Act No. 10625.

495

496 The Commission on Population and Development (CPD), created pursuant to Republic
497 Act No. 6365 dated August 15, 1971, shall be attached to the DEPDEV for purposes of policy
498 and program coordination.

499

500 The Public-Private Partnership Center of the Philippines (PPPC), created pursuant
501 Executive Order No. 8, series of 2010, as amended by Executive Order No. 136, series of 2013,
502 shall be attached to the DEPDEV for budgetary purposes and administrative supervision.

503

504

505

CHAPTER IV

506

TRANSITORY AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

507

508 SECTION 33. *Transitory Provision.* – The NEDA is hereby abolished. The DEPDEV
509 shall, by virtue of this Act, be subrogated to all the rights and assume all the liabilities of
510 NEDA, and all of its funds, records, property, assets, equipment, and such personnel as
511 necessary, including unexpended appropriations and/or allocations. All contracts and liabilities
512 of NEDA are hereby transferred to and assumed by the DEPDEV and shall be acted upon in
513 accordance with the Auditing Code and other pertinent laws, rules, and regulations. Subject to

514 the succeeding section, all current officials and employees of NEDA shall be retained under
515 and absorbed by the DEPDEV.

516

517 Any reference to NEDA or to the Director-General or Secretary of NEDA and the
518 NEDA Board in any existing law, Executive Order, Administrative Order, or Presidential
519 Proclamation, rules and regulations, and other issuances with respect to any duty or
520 function assumed by the DEPDEV as created in this Act, shall be deemed hereafter to be
521 referenced to the DEPDEV or to the Secretary of Economy, Planning and Development,
522 and EP Council, respectively.

523

524 The procedure under prevailing laws, rules and regulations, guidelines, and issuances
525 at the time of submission or endorsement to the DEPDEV and EP Council, respectively,
526 shall apply to all programs and projects submitted to NEDA for appraisal and/or those
527 endorsed by the current ICC for NEDA Board approval prior the effectivity of this Act. .

528

529 SECTION 34. *Absorption or Separation from Service of Employees of NEDA.* – The
530 existing employees of NEDA shall enjoy security of tenure and shall be absorbed by the
531 DEPDEV, in accordance with the staffing pattern and the selection process as prescribed under
532 Republic Act No. 6656, otherwise known as the “Government Reorganization Law.”

533

534 Employees opting to be separated from the service as a consequence of the creation of
535 the DEPDEV under the provisions of this Act shall, within one (1) month from their separation
536 or phase out of their service, receive separation benefits in accordance with applicable laws. In
537 addition, those who are qualified to retire shall be allowed to retire and be entitled to all benefits
538 provided under applicable retirement laws.

539

540 SECTION 35. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to cover the initial
541 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of
542 NEDA. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the effective and continuous
543 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

544

545 SECTION 36. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within one hundred twenty
546 (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DEPDEV shall promulgate the rules and
547 regulations, necessary for the proper implementation of the provisions of this Act. The
548 implementing rules and regulations shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion
549 of its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. Within three (3) days from
550 its effectivity date, three (3) certified copies of the published implementing rules and
551 regulations shall be furnished to the University of the Philippines Office of the Law Center
552 pursuant to Book VII, Chapter 2, Section 3 of the Administrative Code of 1987.

553 The delay in the promulgation or publication of the implementing rules and
554 regulations shall not defer the effectivity and implementation of this Act.

555

556 SECTION 37. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or portion of this Act is declared
557 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not thereby affected shall
558 remain in full force and effect.

559

560 SECTION 38. *Repealing Clause.* – Executive Order No. 230, series of 1987, and
561 Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4, Subtitle C, Title II, Book V of Executive Order No. 292, Series of
562 1987, •Executive Order No. 257, series of 2003; and Executive Orders No. 770 and 770-
563 A, series of 2008 are hereby repealed. All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances,

564 rules, regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any
565 provision of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, and/ or modified accordingly.

566

567 SECTION39. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
568 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.