



OCT 25 2021

**SPECIAL ORDER**  
**No. 2021 - 575**

**Subject: CREATION TASK FORCE WATER HYACINTH**

In the interest of service, and in an effort to mitigate the proliferation of water hyacinth in Laguna Lake, Manila Bay, and in its river systems, Task Force Water Hyacinth is hereby created, with the following composition:

- Chair : General Manager Jaime C. Medina, LLDA
- Co-chairs : Assistant Secretary Joan A. Lagunda  
OIC Executive Director, PRCMO  
: Regional Director Jacqueline A. Caanacan, DENR - NCR  
: Regional Director Nilo B. Tamoria, DENR - Region IVA
- Members : Department of Public Works and Highways - Bureau of Equipment  
: Manila Bay Coordinating Office  
: Metropolitan Manila Development Authority  
: River Basin Control Office

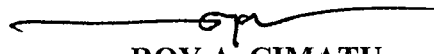
The Office of the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs will supervise the Task Force.

The Task Force shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Coordinate with all concerned agencies, offices, and local governments in harvesting, trapping, and disposing water hyacinth present in the aforementioned waterways;
- Spearhead the undertaking of remedial measures using engineering and technological interventions to control the overproduction of water hyacinth and/or to counter its effects;
- Conduct study on effective disposal, reusable forms, and general behavior of water hyacinth, and to lead information drive among farmers and local residents regarding the proper farming practices in order to mitigate the excessive proliferation of the said aquatic plant;
- Strictly monitor the enforcement of Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, on the conduct of containment, clean-up, and disposal of compostable materials, and to enforce all necessary provisions under Republic Act 9275 or the Clean Water Act, on all aspects of water quality management in Laguna Lake, Manila Bay, and the connecting river systems through standard setting, regular monitoring, and determination of strategic areas; and
- Prepare a master plan for water hyacinth management and utilization that is in line with the provisions under Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act and Republic Act 9275 or the Clean Water Act.

All expenses to be incurred shall be charged against their respective office funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rule and regulations.

This Order takes effect immediately.



**ROY A. CIMATU**  
Secretary



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



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