

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9352



Introduced by Hon. YASSER ALONTO BALINDONG and Hon. ZIAUR-RAHMAN
"ZIA" ALONTO ADIONG

AN ACT
CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill was filed in relation to the proposed House Bills (HBs) that seek to institutionalize the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) into a Department of Economics and Development Authority (DEDP). Of the versions recently filed, the Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) was not included as a member of the DEDP Council or NEDA Board, contrary to Section 7 of RA 9996 otherwise known as the "MinDA Law".

The inclusion of MinDA in the proposed DEDP Council and the regular planning process is vital, as it will enable us to push for the inclusion and funding of Mindanao priorities in the national planning and budgeting. This shall improve the island-region's productivity and enable it to contribute further to the country's growth and development. MinDA has the unique function to address a coordinated and integrated approach in the formulation and implementation of Mindanao-wide, inter-regional development plans, programs and projects aligned for national development. Also, MinDA acts as the lead coordinating agency of the government for the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) with primary function to advocate the adoption/approval of policies, initiatives, and strategies, including plans, program and projects that will enhance the country's participation in the aforementioned cooperation.

In view of the foregoing, the inclusion of MinDA to the DEDP bill is earnestly requested and sought.


Hon. ZIAUR-RAHMAN "ZIA" ALONTO ADIONG


Hon. YASSER ALONTO
BALINDONG

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**AN ACT
CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

CHAPTER 1

ARTICLE I

TITLE AND POLICY

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the “Department of Economics and Development Planning Act.”

SEC. 2. - Declaration of Policies and Principles. - The State shall adopt and implement continuing, integrated, and coordinated policies, plans, and programs towards equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; ensure a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and expand productivity to raise the quality of life for all.

It is therefore vital that major programs and projects of different government agencies must be properly reviewed by and coordinated by a national government agency to ensure their consistency with established national and subnational priorities; that the linkage between development planning, programming, and budgeting shall be of highest priority in identifying programs, activities, and projects; and that the public and private sectors at the national and subnational levels participate in the process of formulating, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating policies, plans, and programs.

- 1 (f) Project appraisal;
- 2 (g) Monitoring and assessment;
- 3 (h) Evaluation;
- 4 (i) Independent review;
- 5 (j) Research;
- 6 (k) Knowledge management and communication;
- 7 (l) Transparency and accountability reports;
- 8 (m) Capacity building of development planning;
- 9 (n) Economic and financial literacy;
- 10 (o) Innovation and futures thinking, or the creative processing, exploration,
- 11 and management of change as a component of strategy and policy
- 12 development; and
- 13 (p) Secretariat support to the Economics and Development Planning Council.

14 **SEC. 6. - Stakeholder Engagement.** - In the discharge of these functions, the
15 DEDP shall undertake consultations with appropriate public agencies, civil society
16 organizations, non-government organizations, people's organizations, academe, private sector,
17 and LGUs to incorporate their respective priority needs in the formulation of policies, plans,
18 programs, and projects.

19 **SEC. 7. - Organization of the DEDP.** - The DEDP shall consist of the Office of
20 the Secretary, the offices of the undersecretaries and assistant secretaries, technical and
21 sectoral staff, operations support staff, and regional offices.

22 **SEC. 8. - The Secretary of Economics and Development Planning.** - The
23 DEDP shall be headed by the Secretary who shall be appointed by the President of the
24 Philippines, subject to the confirmation by the Commission on Appointments, and shall
25 hereinafter be referred to as the Secretary.

26 The Secretary, who shall serve as the country's Chief Economist, shall have the
27 following minimum qualifications: a natural-born citizen and resident of the Philippines: of
28 good moral character; of recognized probity, competence, and independence; must be

1 professionally distinguished in public, civic, or academic service in the field of economics; must
2 have been in active professional practice for at least ten years; and must not have been a candidate
3 for any elective national or local office in the immediately preceding elections, whether regular
4 or special.

5 **SEC. 9. - Powers and Functions of the Secretary of Economics and**
6 **Development Planning.** - The Secretary shall have the following powers and functions:

7 (a) Advise the President of the Philippines on the promulgation of executive or
8 administrative orders and other issuances, and on the formulation of regulatory and
9 legislative proposals, pertaining to matters of national economic and social
10 development;

11 (b) Render a report on the status of implementation of national and subnational
12 plans as inputs to the State of the Nation Address by the President of the
13 Philippines;

14 (c) Serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Economics and Development Planning
15 Council, created under Section 43 of this Act;

16 (d) Lead the discourse on futures thinking in the public sector, and pursuant thereto,
17 consider the latest trends, strategic issues, and key developments in the country in
18 order to assist government agencies better anticipate and address their
19 implications;

20 (e) Direct the conduct of research on development matters, examine evaluation
21 results, and gather current information and data for evidence-based formulation of
22 broad policies, plans and relevant programs;

23 (f) Exercise executive direction, control, and supervision over the entire operations
24 of the DEDP, and its agencies, bureaus, officers, and personnel;

25 (g) Establish policies and standards for the effective, efficient, and economical
26 operations of the DEDP, in accordance with the programs of the government;

27 (h) Promulgate rules and regulations, and exercise other powers as may be required
28 to implement the objectives of this Act; and

29 (i) Perform other functions as may be provided by law or as may be assigned by
30 the President of the Philippines.

1 **SEC. 10. - The Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries.-** The Office of
2 the Secretary of Economics and Development Planning shall be composed of at least four (4)
3 undersecretaries and eight (8) assistant secretaries.

4 The undersecretaries and assistant secretaries shall be appointed by the President
5 of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the Secretary, subject to the rules and
6 regulations promulgated by the Career Executive Service Board. The Secretary shall have the
7 flexibility to determine the respective assignments of the Undersecretaries and Assistant
8 Secretaries and to reorganize the DEDP, depending on the DEDP's strategic directions and
9 on emerging development trends affecting the country's economy. As the duties and
10 responsibilities of the DEDP are expanded, the number of Undersecretaries and Assistant
11 Secretaries may be increased as deemed necessary.

12 **SEC. 11. - Offices and Staff.-** The DEDP shall be composed of the following
13 technical and sectoral staff, administrative and support staff, and regional offices for the
14 following offices:

- 15 (a) Macroeconomics;
- 16 (b) Trade, services, and industry;
- 17 (c) Agriculture, natural resources, and environment;
- 18 (d) Governance;
- 19 (e) Social development;
- 20 (f) Strategic foresight and futures;
- 21 (g) Innovation;
- 22 (h) Public investment;
- 23 (i) Social infrastructure;
- 24 (j) Connectivity infrastructure;
- 25 (k) Spatial planning and regional development;
- 26 (l) Program evaluation;
- 27 (m) Project monitoring;
- 28 (n) Knowledge management and communication;
- 29 (o) Development planning training;
- 30 (p) Administrative;
- 31 (q) Human resource development;
- 32 (r) Financial planning and management;

- 1 (s) Information and communications technology
- 2 (t) Legal;
- 3 (u) Internal audit service;
- 4 (v) Legislative liaison office; and
- 5 (w) Regional offices.

6 The Secretary shall recommend to the Department of Budget and Management
7 (DBM) for approval, the creation of additional offices, positions, or staffing modifications as
8 may be necessary.

9 The DEDP's organizational structure and staffing requirements shall be submitted
10 to the DBM for review and approval. It shall adopt a position classification and
11 compensation structure consistent with the existing policies, rules and regulations.

12 **SEC. 12. - DEDP Regional Offices.** - The DEDP Regional Offices, hereinafter
13 referred to as DROs, shall have the following functions:

- 14 (a) Ensure that regional and local development priorities are integrated in
15 the national and subnational plans;
- 16 (b) Ensure the alignment of the provincial development and physical
17 framework and the comprehensive development plans of highly
18 urbanized cities and independent component cities with the national and
19 regional development plans;
- 20 (c) Oversee the integration of plans and programs of regional agencies,
21 state universities and colleges (SUCs), special development bodies, and
22 local government units (LGUs) into the regional and national plans. The
23 DROs shall provide assistance to regional line agencies, LGUs, SUCs and
24 special development bodies in identifying and developing programs and
25 projects;
- 26 (d) Evaluate and review proposed policies, land use plans, programs, and
27 projects in the region;
- 28 (e) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of plans, policies, programs,
29 and projects;

1 (f) Provide technical and secretariat support to their respective Regional
2 Development Councils (RDCs);

3 (g) Undertake research and ensure knowledge utilization for regional
4 development and productivity;

5 (h) Provide technical assistance to development partners in the region in
6 accordance with the functions of the DEDP; **and**

7 **(i) Bring the regional development agenda to the Mindanao**
8 **Development Authority (MinDA) Board, which shall in turn integrate**
9 **these into the overall development agenda for Mindanao.**

10 **SEC. 13. - Attached Agencies.** - The agencies currently attached to the National
11 Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) shall hereinafter be attached to the DEDP and
12 shall continue to operate and function in accordance with their respective charters, laws, or
13 orders creating them, except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Administrative Code of
14 1987, and subsequent laws.

15 The following agencies shall be attached to the DEDP for policy and program
16 coordination purposes:

17 (a) Commission on Population and Development, created pursuant to
18 Republic Act No. 6365, otherwise known as the "Population Act of 1971, as
19 Amended."

20 (b) Philippine Institute for Development Studies, created pursuant to
21 Presidential Decree 1201 dated September 26, 1977;

22 (c) Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency, created
23 pursuant Executive Order 635, series of 1980;

24 (d) Philippine Statistics Authority, created pursuant to Republic Act No.
25 10625, otherwise known as the "Philippine Statistical Act of 2013"; and

26 (e) Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute created pursuant
27 to Republic Act No. 10625.

28 The following agencies shall be attached to the DEDP for administrative purposes
29 only:

1 (a) Public-Private Partnership Center of the Philippines, created
2 pursuant Executive Order No. 8, series of 2010 as amended by Executive
3 Order No. 136, series of 2013; and

4 (b) Tariff Commission (TC), created pursuant to Republic Act No. 10863,
5 otherwise known as the “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)”.

6 **SEC. 14. - Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council.** - The DEDP
7 shall serve as the principal secretariat of the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory
8 Council (LEDAC), pursuant to Republic Act No. 7640, otherwise known as “An Act
9 Constituting the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council”. As principal
10 secretariat, the DEDP shall oversee and coordinate the provision of overall technical and
11 administrative support to the LEDAC, and shall have the following duties and
12 responsibilities, consistent with Article III, Section 2 of the rules and regulations issued to
13 implement Republic Act No. 7640:

14 (a) Provide technical and administrative support to the LEDAC and its
15 sub-committees, if any;

16 (b) Determine and prepare the agenda of the LEDAC meetings, and prepare
17 the minutes of each meeting;

18 (c) Serve as venue for the initial processing and discussion of the work of
19 the LEDAC;

20 (d) Receive and prepare communications pertinent to the work of the
21 LEDAC;

22 (e) Manage and maintain the official records of the LEDAC;

23 (f) Prepare the annual budget of the LEDAC;

24 (g) Prepare reports as required by the LEDAC; and

25 (h) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the LEDAC.

26 **ARTICLE III**

27 **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF DEDP**

28 **I. Visioning and Plan Formulation**

1 **SEC. 15. - Visioning.-** The DEDP shall formulate a long-term vision,
2 hereinafter referred to as the Vision, which embodies the long-term aspirations of all Filipinos.
3 It shall be data-driven and evidence-based, encompassing all dimensions of economic, social,
4 and environmental development. The Vision shall undergo a review every ten (10) years in
5 consideration of changing aspirations and preferences.

6 **SEC. 16. - Long-term Development Framework. -** The DEDP shall formulate
7 the country's long-term development framework, hereinafter referred to as the Framework.

8 The Framework is a high-level and broad strategy spanning twenty-five (25)
9 years that shall guide the nation towards sustainable growth and development and the
10 attainment of the vision. It shall serve as a tool to coordinate, guide, and inform the
11 preparation and consideration of future, more detailed national and subnational development
12 plans, national and subnational public investment programs, and sectoral and inter-sectoral
13 plans and programs. It shall embody the development goals and milestones to serve as basis
14 for the overall direction of government policies programs, and projects across political
15 administrations.

16 **SEC. 17. Physical Planning Framework. -** The DEDP shall formulate the
17 National Framework for Physical Planning (NFPP), which shall provide policies and
18 principles to achieve efficient settlement, production, service delivery systems, and
19 sustainable use of land and other physical resources in the country. At the regional level,
20 the DEDP Regional Offices, in consultation with their respective RDCs, shall formulate the
21 regional spatial and physical framework (RSPF) which shall encompass an implementation
22 period of twenty-five (25) years. The RSPF shall define the objectives and indicative uses of
23 land and the physical resources in the region.

24 **At the subnational level, the DEDP Regional Offices in Mindanao shall**
25 **coordinate and work closely with MinDA in the formulation of the Mindanao**
26 **Development Framework that is aligned with the national development framework and**
27 **consistent with the provisions of RA9996. The Mindanao Development Framework shall**
28 **then be integrated to the national development framework.**

29 The NFPP and RSPF shall serve as the main reference documents in the preparation
30 of the provincial development and physical framework plans and land use plans of cities and
31 municipalities.

1 The NFPP and RSPF shall undergo a review every ten (10) years in consideration
2 of physical changes, economic and demographic trends, as well as climate projections.

3 **SEC. 18. - Planning Call. -** The DEDP shall issue a Planning Call to
4 government agencies and shall provide the standards and guidelines for preparing the
5 national and subnational development plans and public investment programs. Within one (1)
6 month from the approval of the Philippine Development Plan by the Economics and
7 Development Planning Council, national government agencies shall submit to the DEDP their
8 respective short-term development plans and investment programs.

9 **SEC. 19. Philippine Development Plan and Regional Development Plans. -**
10 The DEDP, in consultation with public agencies, civil society organizations, non-government
11 organizations, people's organizations, academe, private sector, and LGUs, shall formulate
12 within six (6) months from the assumption of office of the President of the Philippines a
13 national economic and development blueprint, known as the Philippine Development Plan,
14 hereinafter referred to as the PDP, which shall be anchored on the Framework. The PDP shall
15 establish a set of measurable goals and objectives with corresponding strategies, in terms of
16 policies, programs, and projects that shall be the basis for each political administration's
17 pursuit of its economic and development agenda. At the subnational level, this shall be known
18 as the Regional Development Plan, hereinafter referred to as the RDP, which shall be
19 formulated by the DEDP Regional Offices within six (6) months from the assumption of
20 office of the President of the Philippines, in consultation with public agencies, civil
21 society organizations, non-government organizations, people's organizations, the
22 academe, the private sector, and local government units. The RDP shall be aligned with the
23 PDP in defining the region's development direction, **provided that the RDP for Mindanao**
24 **shall be closely coordinated with MinDA. During the development planning for**
25 **Mindanao, the DEDP Secretariat shall coordinate and work closely with MinDA in the**
26 **crafting of the development plan for Mindanao which shall be integrated to the PDP.**

27 The PDP and the RDPs shall undergo a midterm review and updating in
28 consideration of accomplishments, and emerging trends and developments.

29 **SEC. 20. - Coordination with Autonomous and Administrative Regions. -**
30 The DEDP shall ensure effective coordination with autonomous and administrative regions that
31 have separate planning offices in the formulation of the PDP and in the conduct of other
32 relevant planning activities affecting said region

1 **SEC. 21. Coordination with sub-national agencies with planning mandates**
2 **- The DEDP shall ensure timely and effective coordination with the Mindanao**
3 **Development Authority (MinDA) in the conduct of relevant planning activities,**
4 **investment programming, review and recommendation of priority programs and**
5 **projects affecting the Mindanao region as well as in the conduct of monitoring and**
6 **evaluating programs and projects.**

7 **II. Harmonization of Plans**

8 **SEC. 22. - Harmonization of Plans.** - The DEDP shall direct the government's
9 planning cycle to ensure the harmonization and coherence of national, subnational,
10 sectoral, and spatial plans and programs by prescribing standards, guidelines, compliance, and
11 accountability mechanisms. Moreover, the DEDP shall review the short-term development
12 plans submitted by the agencies as stipulated in Section 18 of this Act in order to recommend
13 appropriate action.

14 **III. Investment Programming**

15 **SEC. 23. Investment Programming.-** The DEDP shall direct and oversee the
16 government's investment programming process to ensure that the plans are translated into
17 programs and projects by prescribing standards and guidelines, as well as compliance and
18 accountability mechanisms, especially considering the results of relevant evaluation
19 studies, and their conformity to the NFPP and RSPF which are the main reference
20 references for land use and physical framework plans as mandated under Section 17 of this
21 Act.

22 **SEC. 24. - Public Investment Program and Regional Development**
23 **Investment Program.** - The DEDP, in consultation with public agencies, shall formulate
24 the Public Investment Program, hereinafter referred to as the PIP, which shall identify the
25 priority programs, activities, and projects (PAPs) that are responsive to the sectoral goals
26 and outcomes of the PDP, for implementation through national government funds or the
27 General Appropriations Act (GAA), Official Development Assistance (ODA), Public
28 Private Partnership (PPP), joint ventures, and other viable implementation and financing
29 options. At the subnational level, this shall be known as the Regional Development
30 Investment Program, hereinafter referred to as the RDIP, which shall be formulated by the
31 DROs in consultation with their respective RDCs **and in consultation with MinDA in the**
32 **case of Mindanao.**

IV. Linkage of Planning with Budgeting

SEC. 25. - Linkage of Planning with Budgeting. - The DEDP shall recommend to the Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) the priorities for budget expenditure policies including sectoral and regional allocations. Together with the DBM and other relevant government oversight agencies, the DEDP shall ensure that the annual and multi-year appropriations for programs and projects are aligned with the development strategies in the PDP and RDPs.

V. Policy Advisory

SEC. 26. Policy Advisory. - The DEDP shall undertake policy reviews to provide objective, evidence-based, critical analyses of development issues and policy alternatives and report findings and recommendations to the President of the Philippines, the Congress of the Philippines, or the Economics and Development Planning Council, created under SEC. 43 of this Act, as appropriate.

VI. Project Appraisal

SEC. 27. - Project appraisal.- The DEDP shall appraise proposed programs and projects as provided by existing laws and regulations, and as may be determined by the Economics and Development Planning Council in terms of economic and societal benefits and viability. The DEDP shall adopt and implement appropriate evaluation measures and criteria to determine the viability of programs and projects. Only programs and projects that have been found viable by the DEDP shall be endorsed to the Economics and Development Planning Council through the appropriate inter-agency committee.

VII. Monitoring and Assessment

SEC. 28. - Monitoring and Assessment.- The DEDP shall monitor and assess the progress of implementation of priority national and subnational programs and projects, as defined by the Economics and Development Planning Council, with respect to physical and financial performance, among others. The DEDP shall also identify implementation bottlenecks and facilitate resolution of problems. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall complement the monitoring, reporting, and facilitation of programs and projects at the sub-regional level. Moreover, the DEDP shall determine the continued viability of national programs or projects and recommend corresponding measures to the Economics and Development Planning Council.

SEC. 29. - Philippine Development Report and Regional Development Reports. - The DEDP and its Regional Offices shall formulate annually the Philippine Development Report (PDR) and Regional Development Reports (RDRs). The PDR and RDRs shall serve as monitoring reports on the implementation of the PDP and RDPs, respectively. The results from such monitoring activities shall serve as inputs to policy and decision makers in the formulation of policies, budgeting, and implementation of programs and projects. To this end, the PDRs and RDRs shall contain the latest data and information pertaining to the goals, policies, and strategies, as specified in the PDP.

SEC. 30. - Official Development Assistance Portfolio Review.- The DEDP shall review the status of all projects funded by ODA pursuant to Republic Act No. 8182, otherwise known as the “Official Development Assistance Act of 1996”.

VIII. Evaluation

SEC. 31. - Evaluation. - The DEDP shall formulate a medium-term national evaluation agenda to assess the impact and outcomes of programs and projects. It shall oversee the conduct of evaluation studies consistent with the agenda, in support of good governance, transparency, accountability, and evidence-based decision-making.

IX. Independent Review

SEC. 32. - Independent Review. - In the course of its monitoring and assessment of programs and projects, the DEDP may independently review and evaluate facts and circumstances as a means of determining whether sufficient cause exists to initiate appropriate legal action, in which case, a report shall be prepared and referred to the proper agency or body.

X. Development Research

SEC. 33. - Research. - The DEDP shall conduct research, special surveys, and related studies as inputs to the formulation of policies and plans, and the design of programs and projects. The DEDP shall establish a Development Research Program so that broad policies, plans, and relevant programs can be formulated based on a sound analysis of data and evidence.

XI. Knowledge Management and Communication

SEC. 34. - Knowledge Management and Communication. - The DEDP shall develop and maintain knowledge management systems, applications, and tools for

1 timely and effective dissemination, accessibility, and comprehensibility of information
2 and knowledge on economics and development planning issues. It shall develop and
3 sustain communication and stakeholder engagement platforms towards well-informed and
4 cost-effective public and private sector participation in the development process.

5

6 **XII. Transparency and Accountability Reports**

7 **SEC. 35. - Transparency and Accountability Reports.** - Within the first quarter
8 of every year, the DEDP shall submit a report to the President of the Philippines, Cabinet,
9 Congress, and the Filipino people through the mass media, on the economic performance of
10 the country. The report shall include the status and the directions of the fiscal and monetary
11 policies of the government in coordination with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the Department
12 of Finance (DOF) and the DBM; macroeconomic outlook and labor market prospects; and
13 other relevant information that may be requested, for purposes of transparency and
14 accountability.

15 **SEC. 36. - Inter-generational Report.** - The DEDP shall submit an Inter-
16 Generational Report (IGR) to the President of the Philippines and Congress every six (6)
17 years. The IGR shall be an assessment of the long-term sustainability of existing
18 government policies over the next 25 years, taking into account projected demographic,
19 environmental and other changes.

20 **XIII. Capacity Building of Development Planners**

21 **SEC. 37. - Capacity Building of Development Planners.** - The DEDP, in
22 coordination with appropriate institutions including state universities and colleges, subject to
23 accreditation procedures, shall establish and implement a capacity building program on
24 development planning for national and local planners to build, strengthen, and continually
25 update the technical competencies of development planners in the country. The capacity
26 building program shall also serve as a platform for wider dissemination of the country's
27 vision, development plans, policies, and programs.

28 **SEC. 38. - Technical Assistance to Development Planners** - The DEDP shall
29 provide technical assistance to the LGUs on how to localize national development
30 strategies, particularly in planning and investment programming to ensure alignment of local
31 development plans and strategies with the PDP and RDP.

1 **XIV. Economic and Financial Literacy**

2 **SEC. 39. - Economic and Financial Literacy.** - The DEDP shall lead the
3 participation of government agencies and instrumentalities, including LGUs, government
4 owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) and educational institutions, in the conduct of
5 knowledge-expanding activities on economic and financial literacy, pursuant to
6 Republic Act No. 10922, otherwise known as the “Economic and Financial Literacy Act”.

7
8 **XV. Innovation and Futures Thinking**

9 **SEC. 40. - Innovation.** - The DEDP shall provide secretariat support, and prepare
10 and recommend priorities, policies, programs, projects, strategies, and other outputs to the
11 National Innovation Council to realize the country’s strategic vision for innovation,
12 pursuant to Republic Act No. 11293, or the “Philippine Innovation Act”.

13 **SEC. 41. - Futures Thinking.** - The DEDP shall continually undertake scenario
14 planning exercises, anticipating future trends or discontinuities, and recommend responsive
15 measures to the President of the Philippines and the Congress, as appropriate.

16 **SEC. 42. - Foresight Tools.** - The DEDP shall employ or develop, as circumstances
17 warrant, foresight tools to deal with emergent trends, understand plausible future states, craft
18 corresponding strategies, and monitor relevant indicators of anticipated futures.

19 **XVI. Technical and Secretariat Support**

20 **SEC. 43. – Technical and Secretariat Support.** – The DEDP shall serve as
21 the Secretariat to the Economics and Development Planning Council and its Committees, the
22 RDCs, and the National Innovation Council. In this capacity, the DEDP shall ensure that all
23 policies, programs, and projects approved by these bodies are strictly aligned with the PDP
24 and RDP. As secretariat support, it shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 25 (a) Provide technical and administrative support;
26 (b) Determine and prepare the agenda;
27 (c) Prepare the minutes of the meeting;
28 (d) Manage and maintain the official records; and
29 (e) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the said bodies.

Furthermore, the DEDP shall provide technical inputs, review, appraisal, or evaluation as applicable, for all programs and projects as defined by existing and subsequent laws, or those which may be defined by the Economics and Development Planning Council prior to the endorsement of such programs and projects to the Council for approval. At the subnational level, the DEDP Regional Offices shall provide prior technical inputs, review, appraisal, or evaluation for endorsement of programs and projects to RDCs for approval.

The DEDP shall also provide advisory services to these bodies.

CHAPTER 2

ARTICLE I

THE ECONOMICS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COUNCIL

SEC. 44. - The Economics and Development Planning Council. - The Economics and Development Planning Council is hereby established, hereinafter referred to as the Council. The Council shall be headed by the President of the Philippines, shall be an executive collegial body responsible for directing and providing overall policy direction on economic, financial, social, and environmental matters to achieve inclusive and sustained economic growth.

SEC. 45. Composition of the Council. - The Council shall be composed of the following:

- (a) President of the Philippines as Chairperson;
- (b) Executive Secretary;
- (c) Secretary of Economics and Development Planning as Vice-Chairperson;
- (d) Principals of the agencies chairing the Committees of the Council;
- (e) National of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines;
- (f) **Chairperson of Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA)**; and
- (g) Governor of the BSP, as a resource institution

The President of the Philippines may, however, revise the membership of the Council whenever the same is deemed necessary for the effective performance of the Council's function.

1 All members of the Council, except the Governor of the BSP, are voting members.
2 The presence of a majority of all members of the Council shall constitute a quorum. The
3 Council may request inputs from the private sector.

4 **SEC. 46. - Powers and Functions of the Council. -** The Council shall have
5 the following powers and functions:

6 (a) Direct the formulation and implementation of policies, plans, and
7 programs that would promote economic development and address
8 development concerns of national importance;

9 (b) Approve the PDP, PIP, and their respective midterm updates;

10 (c) Approve the level of annual government expenditures, as well as
11 projections, forecast, resource requirement, and the ceiling of government
12 spending for social and economic development, national defense,
13 government debt service, and the proper allocation of expenditures for
14 each development activity between current operating expenditures and
15 capital outlay;

16 (d) Approve the level of expenditure program of national government
17 agencies by region, in accordance with the approved RDPs and RDIPs;

18 (e) Define cost threshold and other criteria for priority programs and projects
19 that shall require Council approval, unless already provided by existing laws,
20 rules, and regulations;

21 (f) Approve projects, programs, and plans, as endorsed by the DEDP, as
22 required under existing laws, orders, rules, and regulations, and other
23 issuances;

24 (g) Initiate the formulation of proposals for the enactment of laws that may
25 be necessary for the integration and implementation of economic and
26 development policies, plans and programs or any of their component parts;

27 (h) Issue rules and regulations necessary for the effective discharge of the
28 powers and functions vested on the Council; and

1 (i) Direct the reorganization, or establishment of Committees of the
2 Council, including the modification of their respective membership,
3 structures, powers, and functions.

4 **SEC. 47. - Meetings.** - The Council shall meet at least once every quarter. A
5 special meeting of the Council may be convened by the President of the Philippines to address
6 urgent concerns, or emergencies, such as natural disasters, calamities, or other
7 extraordinary circumstances which would affect the economy or and national development.

8 The DEDP shall maintain and preserve a complete record of the proceedings and
9 deliberations of the Council, including the recordings and transcripts thereof, either in their
10 original form, or in any secured format made available by existing technology, such as digital
11 formatting.

12 **SEC. 48. - Full Disclosure Rule.** - In addition to the requirements of Republic
13 Act No. 6713, otherwise known as the “Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public
14 Officials and Employees”, any member of the Economics and Development Council with
15 personal and pecuniary interest in any matter in the agenda of the Council shall disclose the
16 interest to the Economics and Development Council and shall withdraw from the meeting
17 when the matter is taken up. The decision taken on the matter shall be made public.

18 The minutes shall reflect the disclosure made and the retirement of the member
19 concerned from the meeting.

20 **ARTICLE II**

21 **COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

22 **SEC. 49. - Committees of the Economics and Development Council.** –
23 The Economics and Development Council shall have committees that shall act as its primary
24 advisory bodies. These Committees shall be the main coordinating mechanism that ensures that
25 the policy environment is conducive to the promotion of rapid, inclusive, and sustained
26 economic growth that raises the quality of life for all.

27 The President of the Philippines shall designate the respective Chairpersons of the
28 Committees. The DEDP shall serve as the Secretariat for all Committees, unless otherwise
29 provided in this Act. The Council may create new committees, modify, or abolish existing ones
30 with respect to their structures, composition, powers, and functions. It may also create sub-
31 committees, whenever appropriate, for the purpose of dispensing with any of their respective

1 functions. To avoid duplication and ensure policy coherence, no other inter- agency body
2 with the same or similar mandates to the Council's Committees shall be created.

3 Members of Congress may, upon invitation of the President of the Philippines,
4 serve as resource persons in any of the Committees.

5 **SEC. 50. - Development Budget Coordination Committee (BudgetCom). -**

6 The Development Budget Coordination Committee (BudgetCom) shall be composed of the
7 Secretaries of the DBM, the DEDP, the DOF, the Executive Secretary, and the Governor of
8 the BSP.

9 A technical committee of the BudgetCom, composed of duly designated
10 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, **and the Executive Director of MinDA**, is
11 hereby established to conduct a technical review of matters that require appropriate action by
12 BudgetCom.

13 The BudgetCom shall discharge the following functions:

14 (a) Endorse for final approval of the Council:

15 (1) The level of annual government expenditures and the ceiling of
16 government spending for economic and social development, national
17 defense, and government debt service;

18 (2) The budget to be allocated for current operating expenditures
19 and capital outlays of government programs and projects;

20 (3) A strategic multi-year fiscal program which supports the long-
21 term and medium-term development objectives of the country; and

22 (4) A domestic and foreign borrowing program.

23 (b) Assess the overall economic situation of the country, which includes
24 economic growth, monetary, fiscal, and possible economic risks which
25 may require policy reforms;

26 (c) Ensure that the regional allocations are responsive to poverty,
27 development gaps, and economic opportunities; and

28 (d) Conduct periodic review of fiscal and macroeconomic targets, and the
29 revenue and expenditure projections of the government, including general

1 examination of costs, accomplishments and performance standards
2 applied in undertaking development projects; and

3 (e) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
4 mandates of the BudgetCom.

5 The DBM shall serve as the Secretariat to the BudgetCom.

6 **SEC. 51. – Investment Coordination Committee(InvestmentCom). -**

7 The Investment Coordination Committee (InvestmentCom) shall be composed of the
8 Secretaries of the DOF, the DEDP, the DBM, the DILG, the DTI, the Executive Secretary, the
9 Chairperson of MinDA and the Governor of BSP.

10 A technical committee of the InvestmentCom, composed of duly designated
11 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical
12 review of matters that require appropriate action by InvestmentCom.

13 The InvestmentCom shall discharge the following functions:

14 (a) Ensure the efficient and effective evaluation of major capital programs
15 and projects of the country by determining levels of acceptability and
16 viability relative to overall economic and fiscal conditions of the country;

17 (b) Endorse the following to the Council for its approval:

18 (1) Timetable of the implementation of major capital programs and
19 projects on a regular basis;

20 (2) Public-private partnerships, privatization, and other funding
21 options to augment government's financing capacity;

22 (3) Modalities of development financing and capital market
23 development in support of long-term programs and projects for
24 both national and local government, and GOCCs;

25 (4) Specific major programs and projects with respect to technical,
26 financial, economic, social, environmental, legal, institutional,
27 feasibility, and viability as well as from the context of sectoral
28 plans and geographical strategies, as may be required by law,
29 orders, and other legal issuances; and

1 (5) Major capital projects based on a cost threshold or other criteria
2 as may be set by the Council.

3 (c) Submit to the President of the Philippines a status of the fiscal, monetary
4 and balance of payment (BOP) implications of major capital programs and
5 projects; and

6 (d) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
7 mandates of the InvestmentCom.

8 **SEC. 52. - Economic Development Committee (EconDevCom).** - The

9 Economic Development Committee (EconDevCom) shall be composed of the Secretaries of
10 the DEDP, the DOF, the DTI, the DBM, the Department of Public Works and Highways
11 (DPWH), the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the Department of Information and
12 Communications Technology (DICT), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of
13 Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Tourism (DOT), the Department of
14 Agriculture (DA), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the DILG, the
15 Governor of BSP, **the Chairperson of MinDA** and the Executive Secretary.

16 A technical committee of the EconDevCom, composed of duly designated
17 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical
18 review of matters that require appropriate action by EconDevCom.

19 The EconDevCom shall endorse for approval of the Council:

20 (a) Policies that would ensure equitable and sustainable distribution of
21 economic opportunities and benefits to Filipinos;

22 (b) Policies towards the development of agriculture, industry, and services
23 which are vital to achieving food security and more equitable and sustainable
24 growth;

25 (c) Policies for the improvement of national productivity, competition and
26 competitiveness of domestic products and services;

27 (d) Policies and measures to promote an environment conducive to the
28 growth and competitiveness of private enterprises and the creation of

1 jobs that will empower people and provide them with opportunities to rise
2 above poverty to improve the quality of their lives; and

3 (e) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
4 mandates of the EconDevCom.

5 **SEC. 53. - Infrastructure Committee (InfraCom).** - The Infrastructure
6 Committee (InfraCom) shall be composed of the Secretaries of the DPWH, the DEDP, the
7 DBM, the DOF, the DICT, the DOTr, the DTI, the DOE, the DA, the DOT, **the**
8 **Chairperson of MinDA** and the Executive Secretary.

9 A technical committee of InfraCom, composed of duly designated Undersecretaries
10 of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical review of
11 matters that require appropriate action by InfraCom.

12 The InfraCom shall discharge the following functions:

13 (a) Endorse for Council approval a national infrastructure development
14 strategy that will coordinate, integrate, and accelerate the development
15 initiatives across all infrastructure subsectors in the country;

16 (b) Advise the Council on all matters concerning infrastructure
17 development, including roads, highways, and bridges; airports,
18 seaports, offshore infrastructure and shore protection; railways and
19 subways; power generation, transmission and distribution; ICT,
20 telecommunications; irrigation, flood control and drainage; water supply,
21 sewerage, and sanitation; national buildings for government offices;
22 hospitals and related buildings; state colleges and universities, elementary
23 and secondary school buildings; reclamation; and other public works,
24 whether procured or financed through traditional means, public-private
25 partnerships, or any other method;

26 (c) Coordinate the activities of agencies, including GOCCS involved
27 in infrastructure development; and

28 (d) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
29 mandates of the InfraCom.

1 **SEC. 54. - Social Development Committee (SocialDevCom).** - The Social
2 Development Committee (SocialDevCom) shall be composed of the Secretaries of the
3 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the DEDP, the DBM, the
4 Department of Education (DepEd), the Department of Agrarian Reform, the DA, the
5 Department of Health, the DILG, the DOLE, **the Chairperson of MinDA** and the Executive
6 Secretary.

7 A technical committee of SocialDevCom, composed of duly designated
8 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical
9 review of matters that require appropriate action by SocialDevCom.

10 The SocialDevCom shall discharge the following functions:

11 (a) Endorse for approval of the Council policies and programs that enhance
12 the welfare and reduce risks of Overseas Filipino Workers, older
13 persons, differently-abled persons, children, women, indigenous peoples,
14 marginalized farmers and fisher folk, and informal urban and upland settlers;

15 (b) Advise the Council on matters concerning social development,
16 including education, skills development, health and nutrition, population,
17 and family planning, housing, human settlements, social protection, and
18 the delivery of other social services; and

19 (c) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
20 mandates of the SocialDevCom.

21 **SEC. 55. - Committee on Trade and Related Matters (TradeCom).** - The
22 Committee on Trade and Related Matters (TradeCom) shall be composed of the
23 Secretaries of the DTI, DEDP, DA, DBM, the Department of Environment and Natural
24 Resources (DENR), DOF, Department of Foreign Affairs, DICT, DOTr, the Executive
25 Secretary, the Governor of BSP, **the Chairperson of MinDA**, and the Tariff Commission.

26 A technical committee of TradeCom, composed of duly designated
27 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical
28 review of matters that require appropriate action by TradeCom.

29 The TradeCom shall discharge the following functions:

- 1 (a) Endorse for approval of the Council a continuous rationalization policy
2 and program for the country's tariff structure;
- 3 (b) Advise the Council on trade and related matters, as well as the effects of
4 various international developments on the country;
- 5 (c) Coordinate government agency positions and recommend national
6 positions for international economic negotiations; and
- 7 (d) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
8 mandates of the TradeCom.

9 **SEC. 56. - Regional Development Committee (RDCom).** - The Regional
10 Development Committee (RDCom) shall be composed of the Secretaries of the DEDP,
11 DILG, DBM, DTI, **the Chairperson of MinDA**, one (1) representative from the Union
12 of Local Authorities of the Philippines, and three (3) RDC Chairpersons representing
13 Luzon Visayas and Mindanao. **In the case of Mindanao, the MinDA Board of Directors**
14 **shall elect its representative to the RDCom from among its RDC members.**

15 A technical committee of RDCom, composed of duly designated Undersecretaries
16 of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical review of
17 matters that require appropriate action by RDCom.

18 The RDCom shall discharge the following functions:

- 19 (a) Formulate and monitor the implementation of policies that reduce
20 regional development disparities;
- 21 (b) Promote equitable allocation of resources among regions by
22 providing recommendations to the DBCC on the guidelines for the regional
23 allocation of budgetary resources;
- 24 (c) Periodically review the viability of the regional configuration of the
25 country, and recommend to the Council the re-delineation of regions, as
26 may be necessary; and
- 27 (d) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
28 mandates of the RDCom.

29 **SEC. 57. - Marine Resource and Land Use Committee (MaRLUCom).** -
30 The Marine Resource and Land Use Committee (MaRLUCom) shall be composed of the

1 Secretaries of the DEDP, the DAR, the DA, the DOE, the DENR, the DILG, the DOST, the
2 DOT, and the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, the
3 Chairperson of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, the Chairperson of the
4 National Coast Watch Council, and the presidents of the League of Provinces, the League of
5 Municipalities, and the League of Cities.

6 A technical committee of MaRLUCom, composed of duly designated
7 Undersecretaries of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical
8 review of matters that require appropriate action by MaRLUCom.

9 The MaRLUCom shall discharge the following functions:

10 (a) Advise the Council on matters concerning Marine Resource Use
11 Planning and Land Use Physical Planning;

12 (b) Endorse for approval of the Council the NFPP as provided in Section 17
13 of this Act that guides the rational utilization and management of the
14 country's marine resources, land resources, and other physical resources,
15 and the preparation of sub-national physical framework plans;

16 (c) Endorse for approval of the Council resolutions concerning marine
17 resource use and land use policy conflicts among agencies of the national
18 government;

19 (d) Ensure the integration of marine resource use, land use and physical
20 planning policies, plans, and programs, including disaster risk management,
21 into national socioeconomic plans and programs; and

22 (e) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
23 mandates of the MaRLUCom.

24 **SEC. 58. - Governance Committee (GovCom).** - The Governance
25 Committee (GovCom) shall be composed of the Secretaries of the DBM, the DEDP, the
26 DILG, the DOF, the DTI, the Executive Secretary, the Department of Justice, the Chairperson
27 of the Commission on Audit, the Director General of the Anti-Red Tape Authority, and the
28 Chairperson of the Governance Commission for GOCCs.

1 A technical committee of GovCom, composed of duly designated Undersecretaries
2 of the same member agencies, is hereby established to conduct a technical review of
3 matters that require appropriate action by GovCom.

4 The GovCom shall endorse for approval of the Council:

5 (a) Policies that promote transparency, accountability, and
6 participatory governance;

7 (b) Policies that strengthen public institutions to effectively and
8 efficiently implement their respective mandates;

9 (c) Policies, plans, and programs that improve policy and regulatory
10 environment to reduce cost of doing business and promote market
11 competition; and

12 (d) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
13 mandates of the GovCom.

14 **SEC. 59. - Regional Development Council.** - The Regional Development
15 Councils (RDCs) are the regional counterparts of the Council. Each RDC shall be composed
16 of the provincial governors, the city mayors, the mayors of the municipalities designated as
17 provincial capitals, the presidents of the provincial league of mayors, the mayors of
18 municipalities designated as regional centers, the regional directors of the agencies
19 represented in the Council, the regional directors of the DepEd, the DSWD, the DOT, and the
20 heads of the Area Management Office (AMO) of MinDA, private sector representatives who
21 shall comprise one-fourth (1/4) of the members of the fully constituted RDC.

22 The President of the Philippines shall appoint the Chairperson and Vice-
23 Chairperson of the RDC. The DROs shall serve as secretariat of the RDCs.

24 **CHAPTER 3**

25 **TRANSITORY AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

26 **SEC. 60. - Transitory Provision.** - The National Economic and Development
27 Authority (NEDA) is hereby abolished. The powers and functions, applicable funds and
28 appropriations, records, files, equipment, facilities, supplies, property, and personnel of the
29 NEDA are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the DEDP. All current officials and
30 employees of the NEDA shall be retained under the DEDP. Any reference to the NEDA, or

1 to the Director General of the NEDA or the Secretary of Socio-economic Planning in any
2 existing law, Executive Order, Administrative Order, or Presidential Proclamation, rules and
3 regulations, and other issuances with respect to any duty or function assumed by the DEDP
4 created in this Act, shall be deemed hereinafter to be referenced to the DEDP or to the
5 Secretary of Economics and Development Planning, respectively.

6 Within six (6) months upon effectivity of this Act, the DEDP shall prepare the 25-
7 year Framework. For this purpose, the amount necessary to carry out the necessary
8 preparation of the Framework shall be provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

9 All programs and projects submitted to the NEDA for appraisal and those endorsed
10 by the current Investment Coordination Committee for the approval of the NEDA Board prior
11 to the effectivity of this Act shall be processed by the DEDP and the Economics and
12 Development Council, respectively, subject to the prevailing laws, rules and regulations,
13 guidelines, and issuances at the time of submission or endorsement.

14 **SEC. 61. - Transfer of Rights and Obligations.** - The DEDP shall, by virtue of
15 this Act, be subrogated to all the rights and assume all the obligations of the NEDA, and all its
16 liabilities that pertain to its pertinent funds and appropriations, records, files, equipment,
17 facilities, supplies, property, and personnel, including unexpended portions of its members'
18 respective salaries.

19 **SEC. 62. - Separation and Retirement from Service.** - The NEDA employees
20 who are separated from service as a result of the consolidation and reorganization under the
21 provisions of this Act, shall be entitled to the following applicable separation incentives:

22 (a) One half (1/2) of the actual monthly basic salary for every year of
23 service, for those who have rendered less than eleven (11) years of service;

24 (b) Three-fourths (3/4) of the actual monthly basic salary for every year of
25 service, computed starting from the first year, for those who have rendered
26 eleven (11) to less than twenty-one (21) years of service;

27 (c) The actual monthly basic salary for every year of service, computed
28 starting from the first year, for those who have rendered twenty-one (21) to
29 less than thirty-one (31) years of service; and

1 (d) One and one-fourth (1¼) of the actual monthly basic salary for every
2 year of service, computed starting from the first year, for those who have
3 rendered thirty-one (31) years of service and above.

4 The NEDA employees who opt to retire under existing retirement laws shall also
5 be entitled to the above incentives in addition to the retirement benefits to which they may be
6 entitled under applicable laws and issuances: Provided, That personnel who avails of the
7 separation incentives under this Act shall not be re-employed in any agency of the executive
8 branch for a period of five (5) years, except as a teaching or medical staff in educational
9 institutions and hospitals, respectively: Provided, further, That retired or separated
10 personnel who are re-employed within the prohibited period shall refund the separation
11 incentives received on a pro-rated basis.

12 For purposes of the additional separation incentives, the actual monthly basic salary
13 shall refer to the salary of the affected personnel as of the date of approval of the
14 department's organizational structure and staffing pattern by the DBM.

15 **SEC. 63. - Other Benefits of Retired and Separated Personnel.-** The
16 affected personnel who shall retire or are separated from the service shall, in addition to
17 the applicable benefits abovementioned, be entitled to the following:

18 (a) Refund of Pag-IBIG contributions, both personal and government,
19 pursuant to existing rules and regulations of the home development mutual
20 fund; and

21 (b) Commutation of unused vacation and sick leave credits of the
22 affected personnel in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

23 **SEC. 64. - Appropriations. -** The amount necessary to cover the initial
24 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the
25 NEDA. Thereinafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued and effective
26 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual GAA.

27 Such sums as may be necessary to implement the Capacity Building Program of the
28 DEDP, DEDP Research Program and DEDP Evaluation Program shall also be included in the
29 annual GAA.

1 **SEC. 65. - Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within ninety days (90)
2 days after the effectivity of this Act, the DEDP shall promulgate the rules and regulations, as
3 well as the necessary issuances required for the proper implementation of the provisions of this
4 Act.

5 **SEC. 66. - Separability Clause.** - If any provision or portion of this Act is
6 declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not thereby affected
7 shall remain in full force and effect.

8 **SEC. 67. - Repealing Clause.** - Executive Order No. 230, Series of 1987, entitled
9 “Reorganizing the National Economic and Development Authority,” and Book V, Title II,
10 Subtitle C, entitled “The National Economic and Development Authority” of Executive
11 Order No. 292, Series of 1987, otherwise known as the “Administrative Code of 1987,” are
12 hereby repealed. All other laws, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations, and other
13 issuances, or parts thereof, which are contrary or inconsistent with any provision of this
14 Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

15 **SEC. 68. - Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
16 its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

17

18

19 **Approved,**