

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 234

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE AUDREY KAY T. ZUBIRI**

AN ACT
CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is no stranger from natural disasters. With an average of at least twenty (20) tropical cyclones entering the Philippine Area of Responsibility¹ each year, 8 or 9 of them make landfall and cause varying degrees of destruction in the country.

In fact, the Philippines ranks among the most affected countries by extreme weather events in the world over the last thirty (30) years according to a 2025 Climate Risk Index Report². Owing to its geographic location in the Pacific Ring of Fire and the typhoon belt, the Philippines also ranked 1st globally in terms of disaster risk exposure in the 2024 World Risk Index with a score of 46.9.³

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, from 2010 to 2019, natural disasters caused an estimated ₱463 billion in damages nationwide. In 2021 alone, Typhoon Odette (Rai) caused over ₱47 billion in damages and affected more than 10 million Filipinos across 11 regions, one of which was the Province of Bukidnon. Damaging crops, displacing families, and cutting off road access, Typhoon Odette affected more than 6,900 families and 24,000 individuals in the province in 2021.⁴

¹ <https://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/climate/tropical-cyclone-information>

² <https://www.germanwatch.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/Climate%20Risk%20Index%202025.pdf>

³ <https://cpbrd.congress.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/FF2024-68-World-Risk-Index-2024.pdf>

⁴ https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/4174/SitRep_No._39_for_Typhoon_ODETTE_2022.pdf

These recurring disasters consistently displace families, disrupt education, growth and economic activity, and stretch the capacity of existing government agencies to their limits.

With this proposed measure, we seek to establish a Department of Disaster Resilience (DDR) to serve as the primary government agency responsible for disaster preparedness, risk reduction, emergency response, and recovery efforts. The *DDR* will centralize and strengthen the institutional capacity of the national government, streamline coordination with local government units (LGUs), and promote localized disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies.

A Department of Disaster Resilience will ensure a unified command structure, eliminate jurisdictional overlaps, and allow for a dedicated budget and specialized personnel to implement disaster mitigation, response, and recovery programs. It will also institutionalize risk-informed planning and build the capacity of local communities to anticipate, prepare for, and recover from disasters in the long term.

Finally, this proposal was previously approved on Third Reading during the 18th Congress, co-authored by a multi-party coalition of lawmakers led by Representatives Alan Peter “*Compañero*” Cayetano, Paolo Duterte, Joey Salceda, Jose Christopher Belmonte, among others.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought to safeguard lives, livelihoods, and national development.



AUDREY KAY T. ZUBIRI
Representative, 3rd District of Bukidnon

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

2
3 **ARTICLE I**
4 **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

5
6 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Department of Disaster*
7 *Resilience Act.*"

8
9 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policies and Principles.** - (a) The State shall:

- 10
11 a) Carry out and harmonize the policies on disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and
12 management, environmental management, climate change adaptation, and sustainable
13 development to uphold the welfare of the people especially the vulnerable sectors of society.
14
15 b) Uphold its commitment to the achievement of the sustainable development goals
16 specifically, integrating and implementing policies and plans towards inclusion, resource
17 efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop
18 and implement a holistic disaster risk management at all levels.
19
20 c) Uphold its commitment to the international treaties, conventions and agreement on disaster
21 risk management, climate change, disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management,
22 and climate change adaptation and mitigation, including universal principles and standards
23 for humanitarian assistance. The State shall integrate and accelerate the implementation of
24 the recognized principles, and concepts of climate change, disaster risk and vulnerability
25 reduction contained in the international agreements, treaties, conventions, and frameworks
26 in the various phases of policy formulation, development plans and investments, poverty
27 reduction strategies and other development tools, and techniques by all national and local

1 agencies, institutions and instrumentalities of the government to enhance the country's
2 climate change adaptive capacity.

3
4 d) Uphold the people's constitutional right to life and property by minimizing and mitigating
5 the root causes of vulnerabilities to disasters, strengthening the country's institutional
6 capacity for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management, and building the
7 resilience of local communities to disasters including climate change impacts, and human
8 induced disasters;

9
10 e) Ensure a science-based in a whole-of-society approach and bottom-up participation,
11 representation, and decision-making in climate-disaster risk governance, and adopt a
12 comprehensive, integrated, and proactive approach to lessen the socioeconomic and
13 environmental impacts of disasters and climate change;

14
15 f) Strengthen the capacity of the national government and the local government units, together
16 with development partner stakeholders, build disaster resilient communities, and
17 institutionalize arrangements and measures to reduce disaster risks and projected climate
18 risks, and enhance disaster preparedness and response capabilities at all levels;

19
20 g) Work with international humanitarian and development partners especially those with
21 established presence in the country;

22
23 h) Develop, maintain, and ensure the accessibility of climate and geospatial information and
24 services to the public;

25
26 i) Ensure that disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation measures
27 are disability and vulnerable sensitive, and culturally sensitive, recognizing indigenous
28 knowledge systems and practices, and respecting human rights;

29
30 j) Mainstream disaster risk and vulnerability reduction in government by ensuring risk-
31 informed planning, programming, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, and the use
32 of quality management, accountability, and performance systems in measuring and
33 improving the effectiveness and efficiency of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction
34 management processes across all government levels, including those offices which manage
35 peace processes and conflict-resolution approaches, so as to minimize loss of lives and
36 damage to properties and ensure that communities in conflict zones can immediately resume
37 their normal lives at the conclusion of episodes of intermittent conflicts;

- k) Adopt risk sharing and risk transfer mechanisms to ensure the appropriate, efficient, and timely recovery of disaster-stricken communities, especially for the poorest and most vulnerable;
- l) Recognize and respond to the differentiated concerns and needs of vulnerable groups such as women and girls, children and youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, urban poor, and indigenous peoples with respect to disaster risk reduction and management, at the same time, recognizing their inherent capacities to contribute to resilience;
- m) Create an enabling environment for substantial and sustainable participation of civil society organizations, private organizations, non-government organizations, private sector, volunteers and communities, and recognize their contributions to the disaster risk reduction and management efforts of government;
- n) Ensure the use of advanced science and the most up-to-date technologies in climate change adaptation, disaster risk, and vulnerability reduction and management;
- o) Ensure transparency and accountability in climate-disaster risk governance, by facilitating access to financial records of public funds and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management data, and ensure the transparency of humanitarian assistance from all sources; and
- p) Recognize families as the most basic unit of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management and climate change adaptation by developing the capacity of local institutions and providing technical assistance and financial support to the most vulnerable communities.

SEC. 3. Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders. - The commitment, goodwill, knowledge, experience, and resources of relevant stakeholders are critical to realize a safer, adaptive, resilient and inclusive Filipino community. Citizens shall have the shared vision and duty to provide support to the State in the implementation of policies and programs particularly the Disaster Resilience Framework and Plan at the national, regional and local levels.

- (1) Civil society, non-governmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations, private sector, practitioners of climate and disaster mitigation, organized voluntary work organizations and community based organizations shall participate, in collaboration with public institutions, to, *inter alia*, provide specific knowledge and pragmatic guidance in the context of the development and implementation of normative frameworks, standards and plans for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction; engage in the implementation of local, national, regional, and global plans and strategies; contribute to and

- 1 support public awareness, a culture of protection, prevention and conservation, and
2 education on disaster risk; and advocate for resilient communities and an inclusive and whole
3 of society, risk reduction and management which shall strengthen the synergies across
4 groups, as appropriate;
- 5 (2) Women and girls shall contribute to and participate in effectively managing disaster risk and
6 designing, resourcing, and leading implementation of gender sensitive disaster risk and
7 vulnerability reduction and management policies, plans, and programs;
- 8 (3) Children and the youth as agents of change shall endeavor to actively contribute to disaster
9 risk and vulnerability reduction, in accordance with legislation, national practice, and
10 educational curricula; disaster risk reduction and management at all levels and processes of
11 disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and anticipatory adaptation, including data
12 gathering, planning, programming, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- 13 (4) For citizens having years of knowledge, skills on climate change adaptation and disaster risk
14 reduction and wisdom, are invaluable assets to reducing disaster risk, and shall therefore
15 participate in the design of policies, plans and mechanisms, including those for early
16 warning;
- 17 (5) Persons with disabilities, through their existing network or organizations, shall participate in
18 activities related to assessment, programming, and the designs of policies, plans, and
19 mechanisms;
- 20 (6) Migrants shall contribute to the resilience of communities and societies using their
21 knowledge, skills and capacities in the design and implementation of disaster risk and
22 vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation;
- 23 (7) Indigenous peoples and Muslim Filipinos, through their practical experience and traditional
24 knowledge, shall contribute to the development and implementation of policies, plans and
25 mechanisms, including those for early warning;
- 26 (8) Urban and rural poor shall contribute to resilience building as well as in the promotion of a
27 more inclusive and transformative resettlement for informal settler families in reducing their
28 vulnerability to threats of disaster and climate risks through state and non-state programs;
- 29 (9) Farmers and fisherfolk shall contribute to the promotion and protection of the environmental
30 resource management that will secure food and nutrition resilience through the integration
31 of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction into sustainable development policies and
32 planning;
- 33 (10) Emergency responders, community practitioners, and organized volunteer organizations
34 shall contribute to resilience by providing timely and efficient emergency response and
35 providing training on basic life support, first aid, and search and rescue, in accordance with
36 the standards provided by the Research, Education, and Training Institute of the Department;
- 37 (11) Academia and scientific and research entities and networks are encouraged to focus their
38 research efforts on disaster risk factors and scenarios, including emerging disaster risks, in
39 the medium and long term; partner with government and increase research for regional,

- 1 national and local application; support action by local communities and authorities; and
2 support the interface between policy and science for decision-making;
- 3 (12) Businesses, private sector financial institutions, professional associations, as well as
4 philanthropic foundations together with financial regulators shall be encouraged to integrate
5 disaster risk management, including business continuity, into business models and core
6 business values and practices via disaster risk-informed investments, especially in micro,
7 small and medium-sized enterprises; engage in awareness-raising and training for their
8 employees and customers; engage in and support research and innovation as well as
9 technological development for disaster risk management; share and disseminate knowledge,
10 practices and data; and actively participate, as appropriate and under the guidance of the
11 public sector, in the development of normative frameworks and technical standards that
12 incorporate disaster risk management; and
- 13 (13) The media shall take an active and inclusive role at the local, regional, and national levels in
14 contributing to the raising of public awareness and understanding, and disseminate accurate
15 disaster risk, hazard and disaster information, including on small-scale disasters, in a simple,
16 transparent, easy to understand and accessible manner, in close cooperation with national
17 and local authorities; adopt specific disaster risk and vulnerability reduction communication
18 policies; support, as appropriate, early warning systems and life-saving protective measures;
19 and stimulate a culture of prevention and strong community involvement in sustained public
20 education campaigns and public consultations at all levels of society, in accordance with
21 national practices.

22
23 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** — As used in this Act:
24

- 25 a) **Adaptation** refers to the adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or
26 expected climactic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial
27 opportunities.
- 28 b) **Assisting Domestic Entity** refers to any not-for-profit entity established under domestic laws,
29 which is responding to a disaster in the country.
- 30 c) **Assisting International Entity** refers to any foreign state, organization, entity or individual
31 responding to a disaster within or transiting through the country to respond to a disaster in
32 another country.
- 33 d) **Capacity** refers to the combination of all strengths, attributes and resources available within
34 a community, society or organization that can reduce the level of risk, or impacts of a
35 disaster. Capacity may include infrastructure and physical means, institutions, societal
36 coping abilities, as well as human knowledge, skills and collective attributes such as social
37 relationships, leadership and management. Capacity may also be described as capability.
- 38 e) **Civil Society Organizations** refer to non-state actors whose aims are neither to generate
39 profits nor to seek governing power, but to unite people to advance shared goals and interests.

1 They have a presence in public life, expressing the interests and values of their members or
2 others, based on ethical, cultural, scientific, religious or philanthropic considerations. Civil
3 society organizations include non-government organizations, professional associations,
4 foundations, independent research institutes, community-based organizations, faith-based
5 organizations, people's organizations, social movements, and labor unions.

6 f) **Climate Change Adaptation** refers to the adjustment in natural or human systems in
7 response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or
8 exploits beneficial opportunities.

9 g) **Climate Finance** refers to finance that aims at reducing emissions, and enhancing sinks of
10 greenhouse gases and aims at reducing vulnerability of, and maintaining, and increasing the
11 resilience of, human and ecological systems to negative climate change impacts.

12 h) **Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (CBDRRM)** refers to a
13 process of disaster risk reduction and management in which at risk communities are actively
14 engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks
15 in order to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their capacities, and where the people are
16 at the heart of decision-making and implementation of disaster risk reduction and
17 management activities.

18 i) **Complex Emergency** refers to a form of human-induced emergency in which the cause of
19 the emergency as well as the assistance to the afflicted is complicated by intense level of
20 political considerations.

21 j) **Disaster** refers to a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society
22 involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts,
23 which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own
24 resources.

25 k) **Disaster Mitigation** refers to the lessening or limitation of the adverse impacts of hazards
26 and related disasters. Mitigation measures encompass engineering techniques and hazard-
27 resistant construction as well as improved environmental policies and public awareness, land
28 use planning, and climate change.

29 l) **Disaster Preparedness** refers to the knowledge and capacities developed by governments,
30 professional response and recovery organizations, communities and individuals to
31 effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from, the impacts of likely, imminent or
32 current hazard events or conditions. It includes preparedness for response such as
33 contingency planning, stockpiling of equipment and supplies, the development of
34 arrangements for coordination, evacuation, and public information, and preparedness for
35 recovery such as procurement of land for resettlement sites.

36 m) **Disaster Prevention** refers to the outright avoidance of adverse impacts of hazards. It
37 expresses the concept and intention to completely avoid potential adverse impacts through
38 action taken in advance such as construction of dams or embankments that eliminate flood
39 risks, land-use regulations that do not permit any settlement in high-risk zones, and seismic

1 engineering designs that ensure the survival and function of a critical building in any likely
2 earthquake.

3 n) **Disaster Response** refers to the provision of emergency services and public assistance during
4 or immediately after a disaster in order to secure and save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure
5 public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected. Disaster response
6 includes disaster relief focused on immediate and short-term needs of the victims and the
7 vulnerable.

8 o) **Disaster Risk** refers to the potential disaster losses in lives, health status, livelihoods, assets
9 and services that could occur to a particular community or society in the future, and is
10 determined by a combination of the vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets,
11 hazard characteristics and the environment.

12 p) **Disaster Risk Governance** refers to the way in which the public authorities, civil servants,
13 media, private sector, and civil society coordinate at community, national and regional levels
14 in order to manage disaster and climate related risks. This means ensuring that sufficient
15 levels of capacity and resources are made available to prevent, prepare for, manage, and
16 recover from disasters. It also entails mechanisms, institutions, and processes for citizens to
17 articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights and obligations, and mediate their
18 differences.

19 q) **Disaster Risk Management** refers to the systematic process of using administrative
20 directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement strategies,
21 policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards
22 and the possibility of disaster.

23 r) **Disaster Risk Reduction** refers to the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through
24 systematic efforts to analyze and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through
25 reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise
26 management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events.

27 s) **Disaster Risk and Vulnerability Reduction** refers to the concept and practice of reducing
28 potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets or disrupted which could occur
29 to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically
30 and conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or
31 processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or system
32 to the impacts of hazards through systematic efforts to analyze and reduce the causal factors
33 of disasters all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the
34 achievement of sustainable development.

35 t) **Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Information System** refers to a specialized
36 database which contains, among others, information on disasters and their human, material,
37 economic, and environmental impact, risk assessment and mapping, and vulnerable and
38 marginalized groups.

- 1 u) **Early Warning System** refers to the set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate
2 timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities and
3 organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient
4 time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss. A people-centered early warning system
5 necessarily comprises four (4) key elements: knowledge of the risks; monitoring, analysis
6 and forecasting of the hazards; communication or dissemination of alerts and warnings; and
7 local capabilities to respond to the warnings received. The concept of “end-to-end warning
8 system” emphasizes that warning systems need to span all steps from hazard detection to
9 community response. Early warning systems include systems developed at the level of
10 communities or based on indigenous knowledge.
- 11 v) **Ecosystem Management and Restoration** refers to an integrated process to conserve,
12 improve and restore the health of the ecosystem that sustains ecosystem services for human
13 well-being.
- 14 w) **Eligible Assisting Entity** refers to any assisting actor that has been determined to be eligible
15 to receive legal facilities as provided in this Act and its implementing rules and regulations.
- 16 x) **Emergency** refers to unforeseen or sudden occurrence, especially danger, demanding
17 immediate action.
- 18 y) **Emergency Management** refers to the organization and management of resources and
19 responsibilities for addressing all aspects of emergencies, in particular preparedness,
20 response and initial recovery steps.
- 21 z) **Exposure** refers to the degree to which the elements at risk are likely to experience hazard
22 events of different magnitudes.
- 23 aa) **Geographic Information System (GIS)** refers to a system used to capture, store, manipulate,
24 manage and display all types of spatial or geographical data.
- 25 bb) **Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Area (GIDA)** refers to areas with a
26 marginalized population which is physically and socio economically separated from the
27 mainstream society and characterized by physical factors, and isolated due to distance,
28 weather conditions and transportation difficulties in island, upland lowland, landlocked, hard
29 to reach and underserved communities; and/or socio-economic factors such as high poverty
30 incidence, presence of vulnerable sectors, communities in or recovering from situation of
31 crisis or armed conflict.
- 32 cc) **Hazard** refers to a dangerous phenomenon, either natural or human induced, that may cause
33 loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihood and services,
34 social and economic disruption, or environmental damage.
- 35 dd) **Human-induced Hazard** refers to an event caused by humans and occurs in or close to
36 human settlements or a particular environmental area. This can include environmental
37 degradation, technological or industrial conditions, pollution, accidents such as high-density
38 events, industrial and transport accidents, complex emergencies, armed conflict, situations
39 of generalized or organized violence, and violation of human rights.

- 1 ee) ***Imminent Danger*** refers to a situation where, on the basis of official forecasts, that a disaster
2 will or is expected to occur in a particular geographical area and within an estimated period
3 of time, and where necessary preparedness actions or financing are required.
- 4 ff) ***International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Period*** refers to the period which
5 commences upon the issuance of a request for international disaster assistance or upon
6 acceptance of an offer, and shall continue until terminated pursuant to guidelines set in the
7 implementing rules and regulations.
- 8 gg) ***Internally Displaced Persons*** refer to persons or groups of persons who have been forced or
9 obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence within national borders,
10 in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of
11 generalized and/or organized violence, violations of human rights, implementation of
12 development projects, or natural or human-induced disasters.
- 13 hh) ***International Personnel*** refers to the staff and volunteers of any assisting actor providing
14 disaster relief or initial recovery assistance, being persons who are neither citizens of, nor
15 domiciled in the Philippines prior to their recruitment by the international assisting actor.
- 16 ii) ***Land Use Planning*** refers to the process undertaken by public authorities to identify,
17 evaluate and decide on different options the use of land, including consideration of long-
18 term economic, social and environmental objectives and the implications for different
19 communities and interest groups, and the subsequent formulation and promulgation of plans
20 that describe the permitted or acceptable uses.
- 21 jj) ***Legal Facilities*** refer to special entitlements and exemptions that are made available to
22 eligible assisting actors under this Act.
- 23 kk) ***Mitigation*** refers to effort to reduce or limit greenhouse gas emissions or enhance
24 greenhouse gas sequestration.
- 25 ll) ***National Continuity Policy*** refers to a policy aimed at the development of an organizational
26 culture that has the ability to provide a minimum level of service during interruptions,
27 emergencies, and disasters, and return to full operations quickly.
- 28 mm) ***National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework*** refers to the
29 comprehensive, all hazards, multi-sectoral, inter-agency and community-based approach to
30 disaster risk reduction and management.
- 31 nn) ***National Disaster Resilience Plan (NDRP)*** refers to the document to be formulated by the
32 NDRC and implemented by the Authority that sets out goals and specific objectives for
33 reducing disaster risks together with related actions to accomplish these objectives. The
34 NDRP shall provide for the identification of hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks to be managed
35 at the national level; disaster risk reduction and management approaches and strategies to be
36 applied in managing said hazards and risks; agency roles, responsibilities and lines of
37 authority at all government levels; and vertical and horizontal coordination of disaster risk
38 reduction and management in the pre-disaster and post-disaster phases. It shall be in
39 conformity with the national disaster risk reduction and management framework.

- oo) **Natural Hazard** refers to naturally occurring physical phenomena caused either by rapid or slow onset events which can be geological such as earthquakes ground rupture, liquefaction, landslides, tsunamis, sinkholes, and volcanic activity; hydrological and meteorological such as floods, severe winds, typhoons, storm surges, climatological variability such as extreme temperatures, *El Niño*, *La Niña*, forest fires, or biological such as disease, epidemics and insect/animal plagues.
- pp) **Open Data** refer to facts and statistics that can be freely used, shared and built-on by anyone, anywhere, for any purpose. These must be available in bulk, should be available free of charge, or at least at no more than a reasonable reproduction cost. The information should be digital, preferably available by downloading through the internet, and easily processed by a computer. These must permit people to use, re-use, and redistribute, intermix with other data providers. These do not allow conditions to be placed on how people can use Open Data, but permit a data provider to require that data users credit them in some appropriate way, clarify if the data have been changed, or that new datasets created using their data are also shared as open data.
- qq) **Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment** refers to a process to evaluate a hazard's level of risk given the degree of exposure and vulnerability in a specific area likely to be affected by an imminent hazard. It presents the possible impacts on the population and provides a basis to determine the appropriate level of response actions of government agencies from the national to the local levels. It is hazard-specific, area focused and time-bound.
- rr) **Post-Disaster Recovery** refers to the restoration and improvement, where appropriate, of facilities, livelihood, and living conditions of disaster-affected communities, including efforts to reduce disaster risk factors, in accordance with the principle of "build forward better."
- ss) **Private Sector** refers to private corporations, households, non-profit institutions serving households, and other economic enterprises outside of government.
- tt) **Recovery** refers to rehabilitation measures that ensure the ability of affected communities or areas to restore their normal level of functioning by restoring livelihoods and services, reconstructing damaged infrastructures and increasing the communities' organizational capacity.
- uu) **Resilience** refers to the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, adapt to, transform, accommodate, and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management in such ways as to enhance their capacities to withstand current and future risk.
- vv) **Response** refers to any effort to provide assistance or intervention during or immediately after a disaster to meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of affected people and in the restoration of essential public activities and facilities.

- ww) **Assessment** refers to a methodology which includes risk assessment with mapping to determine the nature and extent of risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihood and the environment on which they depend.
- xx) **Probabilistic Risk Assessment** refers to the simulation of those future disasters that, based on scientific evidence, are likely to occur. As a result, these risk assessments resolve the problem posed by the limits of historical data. Probabilistic models "complete" historical records by reproducing the physics of the phenomena and recreating the intensity of a large number of synthetic events. Probabilistic Risk Assessment considers all possible scenarios, their likelihood, and associated impacts. It is characterized by inherent uncertainties partly related to the natural randomness of hazards, and partly because of incomplete understanding and measurement of the hazards, exposure, and vulnerability.
- yy) **Deterministic Risk Assessment** refers to an assessment that considers the possible disaster impacts of a single scenario. This is in contrast to probabilistic risk assessment, which considers all possible scenarios, their likelihood, and associated impacts.
- zz) **Risk Transfer** refers to the process of formally or informally shifting the financial consequences of particular risks from one party to another whereby a household, community, enterprise, or state authority will obtain resources from the other party after a disaster occurs, in exchange for ongoing or compensatory social or financial benefits provided to that other party.
- aaa) **State of Calamity** refers to a condition involving mass casualty and/or major damage to property, disruption of means of livelihoods, roads, and normal way of life of people in the affected areas as a result of the occurrence of natural or human-induced hazard.
- bbb) **Sustainable Development** refers to development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- ccc) **Vital Facility Items** refers to government risk reduction and preparedness equipment, accessories and other items such as radars, weather forecasting equipment, flood monitoring instruments, seismographs, tsunami warning systems, and automated weather systems.
- ddd) **Vulnerability** refers to the characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard. Vulnerability may arise from various physical, social, economic, and environmental factors.
- eee) **Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups** refer to those who are at risk due to poverty and other underlying risk factors including women, children, the elderly, differently-abled people, and ethnic minorities.
- fff) **Whole-of-Society Approach** refers to the meaningful participation and synergy of stakeholders that represent different interests in all aspects of climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction and management across all levels.
- ggg) **Whole of Government Approach** refers to an approach that integrates the collaborative efforts of the government departments and agencies to achieve unity of effort toward a shared

goal to broaden the government's options, and increases efficiency to maximize all available resources in a collaborative effort.

hhh) **Whole of Nation Approach** refers to an approach that seeks to bring about a concerted effort towards national peace and security by creating consensus and understanding of security that is shared not just among core security forces and oversight government institutions, but also by civil society and all the nation's communities.

ARTICLE II
DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE

SEC. 5. *Creation of the Department of Disaster Resilience.* - There is hereby created a Department of Disaster Resilience, herein after referred to as the Department. The Department shall be the primary government agency responsible for leading, organizing, and managing the national effort to reduce disaster risk, prepare for and respond to disasters, recover and rehabilitate, and build forward better after the occurrence of disasters.

The Department shall oversee and coordinate the preparation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of disaster and climate resilience plans, programs, projects, and activities, provide leadership in the continuous development of strategic and systematic approaches to disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, to anticipatory adaptation strategies, measures, techniques and options.

The Department shall augment the capacity of local governments units in collaboration with relevant national government agencies and other stakeholders to implement disaster risk reduction and management and climate change action plans, programs, projects, and activities.

SEC. 6. *Powers and Functions of the Department.* — The Department shall exercise and perform the following powers and functions:

(a) **Risk Reduction**

1. Oversee, direct, and undertake programs and projects to identify, assess, prioritize and localize hazards and risks in the country, in consultation with national government agencies, local governments units, communities, and stakeholders that shall be involved in disaster risk reduction efforts.
2. Monitor and ensure the integration of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management and climate change adaptation policies into national development plans.
3. Design and implement an incentive system for greater private and public investment, both local and national, in disaster risk reduction.

4. Oversee and ensure the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in development planning, including disaster-proofing and climate-proofing of land use plans and the preparation of contingency plans.
5. Create an enabling environment for the design of relevant and appropriate risk-sharing and risk-transfer instruments.
6. Create an enabling environment that shall promote broader multi-stakeholder participation and integrate climate change mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction.
7. Coordinate directly with local government units and private entities to address climate vulnerabilities and disaster risk assessment (CVDRA) of regions and provinces at the meso-scale, cities and municipalities at the micro-scale, and barangays at the meta-scale.
8. Establish and monitor local and national capacity for disaster risk financing and insurance and other risk transfer strategies in coordination with the Department of Finance (DOF), the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP).
9. Formulate the National Disaster Resilience Framework, National Disaster Resilience Plan, and the National Continuity Policy.
10. Oversee and direct the comprehensive implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, plans, and programs, as embodied in the Disaster Resilience Framework and Disaster Resilience Plan;
11. Coordinate directly with local government units and private entities to address Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) of regions and provinces at the meso-scale, cities and municipalities at the micro-scale, and barangays at the meta-scale.
12. Review and evaluate local disaster resilience plans and other local plans to ensure their consistency with the Climate-Disaster Resilience Framework and Plan;

(b) Disaster Preparedness and Response

1. Oversee and maintain a national early-warning and emergency alert system that shall provide accurate, timely, and accessible information to national and local emergency response organizations and the general public.
2. Coordinate information-sharing and other risk reduction protocols following the principle of interoperability among national government agencies and local government units.
3. Establish and maintain a national humanitarian logistics system with a network of warehouses, transport, and resources, including response assets and disaster relief items, such as food and non-food items.
4. Exercise command and control over relevant government agencies, including government-owned and controlled corporations, the Philippine National Police and other

1 law enforcement agencies, during an imminent or actual disaster. Such command and
2 control shall include the authority to utilize available services, assets, equipment,
3 personnel, facilities, and other resources.

- 4 5. Call on the reserve force, as defined in Republic Act No. 7077, otherwise known as the
5 "*Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act*," to assist in relief and rescue
6 operations during disasters.
- 7 6. Work with the private sector and civil society organizations for assistance with regard to
8 the use of facilities and resources for the protection and preservation of life and property.
- 9 7. Implement pre-disaster risk assessments, to include deployment of rapid assessment
10 teams to gather information for precise actions as a basis for emergency preparedness
11 and humanitarian response.
- 12 8. Organize, train, equip, and maintain a system of response capacity for search, rescue,
13 and retrieval, and the delivery and distribution of relief goods.
- 14 9. Monitor and support local government units in the management of evacuation centers
15 and ensure the welfare and dignity of internally-displaced persons.
- 16 10. Procure goods and services during emergencies, in accordance with existing emergency
17 procurement rules and regulations.
- 18 11. Issue special procurement rules and regulations for preparedness, response, and recovery
19 activities, including those prompted by a declaration of a state of calamity or of an
20 imminent disaster.
- 21 12. Assist in mobilizing the necessary resources to increase the overall capacity of local
22 government units, specifically those with low income and situated in high-risk areas.

23 24 ***(c) Rehabilitation and Recovery***

- 25
26 1. Prepare, organize, lead, implement, and manage post-disaster assessment and recovery and
27 rehabilitation programs, in coordination with the affected local government units, national
28 government agencies, and other stakeholders.
- 29 2. Implement the cluster approach to expedite reconstruction efforts and orchestrate and serve
30 as the clearinghouse for the participation of assisting actors in such efforts.
- 31 3. Ensure that the principle of Building Forward Better is applied to rehabilitation and recovery
32 efforts.

33 34 ***(d) Other Powers and Functions***

- 35
36 1. Provide or designate a secretariat to the Climate Change Commission.
- 37 2. Establish and monitor local and national capacity for climate-disaster risk financing and
38 insurance and other risk transfer strategies in coordination with the Department of Finance

(DOF), the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Land Bank of The Philippines (LBP).

3. Coordinate information-sharing and other disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation protocols following the principle of interoperability among national government agencies and local government units before, during, and after a disaster. Administer, oversee, and monitor the utilization of National Disaster Resilience Fund (NDRF), the Disaster Resilience Support Fund (DRSF) for third (3rd) to sixth (6th) class provinces and municipalities, and other grants and donations for disaster risk reduction and management and climate change adaptation, unless otherwise specified.
4. Receive, administer, mobilize, and monitor and oversee the utilization of the national disaster resilience fund, the Prevention, Mitigation, and Preparedness Fund for 3rd to 6th Class Provinces and Municipalities, and donations for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management and climate change adaptation, unless otherwise specified.
5. Use of advanced science and technologies in disaster risk reduction and management by engaging, consulting with, employing and regularly funding the academe or higher education and research institutions such as the University of the Philippines Resilience Institute and the University of the Philippines Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards Center or other institutions that have a recognized and credible track record, as well as the capacity to conceptualize and implement the science and engineering requirements necessary for effective climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
6. Establish a Disaster resilience information system to facilitate the creation of an integrated risk assessment platform that is built from the inputs of government and private scientific and academic institutions, national government agencies and local government units, local communities and other stakeholders, and is able to provide readily accessible and actionable information for purposes of risk governance and humanitarian action.
7. Develop the criteria and procedure for the enlistment of accredited community disaster resilience volunteers and institutions.
8. Create and continuously update, in consultation with stakeholders, a manual of operations for accredited community disaster resilience volunteers and institutions.
9. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

ARTICLE III

GENERAL WELFARE AND EMERGENCY MEASURES

SEC. 7. General Welfare. — The Department shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare, such as the implementation of emergency measures including preemptive and forced

1 evacuation, in anticipation of, during, and in the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters
2 and only when there is imminent danger of loss of lives and/or damage to property.

3
4 **SEC. 8. *Emergency Measures at the National Level.*** - The Department may require the
5 assistance of law enforcement agencies and the uniformed services, such as the PNP and the AFP,
6 as well as emergency responders, to assist in the implementation of emergency measures.

7
8 **SEC. 9. *Emergency Measures at the Local Level.*** -

9
10 (a) Local government units shall enact an ordinance on and implement through the LDRRMO
11 which shall be renamed as Local Disaster Resilience Office (LDRO) the necessary and
12 appropriate emergency measures, including preemptive and forced evacuation, in
13 anticipation of, during, and in the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters, and only
14 when there is imminent danger of loss of lives and/or damage to property.

15 (b) Emergency measures, including preemptive and forced evacuation, shall be carried out in a
16 manner that is humane, respectful of the dignity and culture of persons, without using
17 disproportionate force, without discrimination, and with conscious attention to the needs of
18 vulnerable and marginalized groups.

19 (c) All measures shall be taken to inform the population, in a manner and language that they can
20 understand, of the need for emergency measures and evacuation for their safety, as well as
21 the location where they will be taken and for how long they are going to stay there. Adequate
22 evacuation centers and transportation to and from the affected area shall be provided by the
23 local government.

24
25 **SEC. 10. *Hierarchy of Evacuation Measures.*** -

26
27 (a) Preemptive evacuation shall be the preferred and primary mode of evacuation of people that
28 will be affected by emergencies, hazards and disasters.

29
30 (b) Forced evacuation shall be considered as an emergency measure of last resort that may be
31 undertaken in anticipation of, during or after an emergency, hazard or disaster and be carried out by
32 the affected local government in accordance with a duly issued order by the local chief executive:
33 Provided, That in case of the failure of the local government to appropriately issue such order, the
34 forced evacuation shall be implemented by the Department, which may direct and compel the
35 assistance of law enforcement and other relevant national agencies to implement said emergency
36 measure.

37 During such forced evacuation, government officials may direct and compel the population
38 to be affected or is currently affected by an emergency, hazard or disaster to relocate to safer
39 locations for their own safety.

1
2 **SEC. 11. *Release from Liability in Case of Refusal to Evacuate.*** –
3

4 (a) Any person who willfully and deliberately disregards or opposes the order of forced
5 evacuation issued by the local chief executive or the Department, releases the local government or
6 the Department from any liability for injury, death, damage to or loss of property attributed to said
7 disobedience.
8

9 (b) During evacuation, priority assistance shall be given to the vulnerable groups and persons
10 who willfully comply with the order of forced evacuation.
11

12 **SEC. 12. *Inspection and Implementation Powers.*** - The Department shall have inspection,
13 visitorial and examining authority over government and non-governmental entities to ensure that all
14 funds and assets allocated for disaster resilience are actually used for said purposes. The Department
15 shall likewise have the power to inspect and examine the status of projects and programs being
16 undertaken in furtherance of disaster resilience efforts.
17

18 Whenever it becomes necessary, the Department may assume responsibility over the
19 implementation of and directly implement any program or project in anticipation of, during, and in
20 the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters.
21

22 **SEC. 13. *Utilization of Private Property for Public Purpose.*** - The Department shall have
23 the power to utilize any private property for urgent public purpose in anticipation of, during, and in
24 the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters and only when there is imminent danger of loss
25 of lives and/or damage to property, subject to payment of just compensation in appropriate cases.
26

27 **SEC. 14. *Emergency Powers.*** - Whenever it becomes necessary, the Department, subject to
28 the approval of the President, may call on the AFP or the PNP, in coordination with the Secretary
29 of National Defense and the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, to prevent or suppress
30 lawless violence and ensure the protection and preservation of life or property in anticipation of,
31 during, and in the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters.
32

33 Whenever warranted by circumstances, the Department may call upon other agencies and
34 instrumentalities of the government, as well as non-government and for the protection and
35 preservation of life and/or property in anticipation of, during, and in the aftermath of emergencies,
36 hazards and disasters. Private organizations, for assistance in the use of their facilities and resources.
37

38 **SEC. 15. *Emergency Arrangements.*** — The Department shall have the power to negotiate,
39 enter into, institutionalize and coordinate arrangements with any private person or juridical entity

1 for the purpose of ensuring the adequate and prompt availability of all goods and services necessary
2 in anticipation of, during, and in the aftermath of emergencies, hazards and disasters and only when
3 there is imminent danger of loss of lives and/or damage to property.

4
5 **ARTICLE IV**
6 **ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**
7

8 **SEC. 16.** *The Secretary.* - The Department shall be headed by a Secretary who shall be
9 appointed by the President.

10
11 **SEC. 17.** *Powers and Functions of the Secretary.* - The Secretary of the Department shall
12 exercise the following powers and functions:

- 13
- 14 a) Establish and promulgate policies, rules, and regulations for the effective and efficient
15 operation of the Department.
 - 16 b) Exercise executive direction over the operations of the Department and administrative
17 supervision over its attached agencies.
 - 18 c) Manage the financial and human resources of the Department.
 - 19 d) Appoint officers and employees of the Department, except presidential appointees, in
20 accordance with civil service law, rules, and regulations.
 - 21 e) Exercise disciplinary authority over officers and employees of the Department in accordance
22 with law.
 - 23 f) Coordinate with other government agencies, the private sector, and civil society
24 organizations on the policies, programs, projects, and activities of the Department, as may
25 be necessary.
 - 26 g) Advise the President on the promulgation of executive and administrative issuances and the
27 formulation of regulatory and legislative proposals on matters pertaining to disaster
28 resilience.
 - 29 h) Serve as the Vice-Chairperson of the Climate Change Commission.
 - 30 i) In coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs, represent the Philippines in the
31 climate change negotiations and articulate the national contribution to global, regional, and
32 other inter-governmental disaster risk reduction and humanitarian platforms.
 - 33 j) Call upon the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police to render
34 assistance in disaster-affected areas.
 - 35 k) Promulgate such rules and regulations and perform such other functions as may be necessary
36 or proper to attain the objectives of this Act.
- 37

38 **SEC. 18.** *Organizational Structure, Functions and Management.* – The Department shall be
39 composed of the following officials and offices:

- 1
- 2 (a) The Secretary, as provided for under this Act;
- 3 (b) Five (5) Undersecretaries, to be appointed by the President, who shall assist the Secretary in
- 4 administering the affairs of the Department, one to be responsible for Resilience, one to be
- 5 responsible for Policy and Governance, one to be responsible for Operations, one to be
- 6 responsible for Administration and Finance, and the Senior Undersecretary. The
- 7 Undersecretaries shall have functional and operational supervision over the bureaus,
- 8 divisions, offices and units assigned to their respective functional areas;
- 9 (c) The Department shall have such number of assistant secretaries and directors as may be
- 10 necessary for the effective and efficient implementation and performance of its mandate,
- 11 powers, and functions;
- 12 (d) Divisions, units and offices as may be created by the Department and whose officers and
- 13 employees shall be appointed in accordance with civil service law, rules, and regulations;
- 14 (e) The National Climate and Disaster Resilience Research, Education, and Training Institute
- 15 under the Capacity Building and Training Service, to be headed by a Director;
- 16 (f) Regional and other field Offices of the Department that shall be established in each
- 17 administrative region, each to be headed by a Regional Director;
- 18 (g) Seconded personnel from relevant agencies and detailed service from the uniformed
- 19 services, as appropriate; and
- 20 (h) Grievance desks in every region, which shall serve as a referral mechanism and shall work
- 21 jointly with relevant agencies, to receive complaints from the public regarding violations of
- 22 this Act. It shall assist the complainant in the gathering of relevant documentation and other
- 23 evidence to support said complaint. The grievance desk shall facilitate the forwarding of the
- 24 complaint to the appropriate office within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof, and shall
- 25 provide timely feedback and updates regarding the status of the complaint. The grievance
- 26 desk shall use the best available technology to ensure that complaints are endorsed to the
- 27 proper office and are addressed in a timely manner.

28

29 **ARTICLE V**

30 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

31

32 **SEC. 19. Fiscal Management.** - The Department shall manage all funds appropriated to it

33 by Congress and from other sources. This shall include all donations, as contemplated under the

34 succeeding paragraph, subject to provisions of Section 3, paragraph (D) of Article 9, of the 1987

35 Constitution on the auditing powers of the Commission on Audit.

36

37 **SEC. 20. Donation.** — (a) The Department shall have the power to receive donations and

38 grants from any person, government institution, corporation, international organization and other

1 similar entities, and the power to recommend the procurement of developmental assistance for the
2 purpose of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management and climate change adaptation.

3
4 (b) It shall be mandatory for the Department to acknowledge and certify the receipt of all
5 DDR grant and donated funds and ensure their judicious management including their proper and
6 accurate audit reporting to constituents.

7
8 (c) The importation and donation of food, clothing, medicine and equipment for relief and
9 recovery and other disaster management and recovery-related supplies is hereby authorized in
10 accordance with Section 800, Chapter 1, Title 8, of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as
11 the "*Customs Modernization and Tariff Act*", as amended, and the prevailing provisions of the
12 General Appropriations Act covering national internal revenue taxes and import duties of national
13 and local government agencies.

14
15 All importations and donations under Section 11 (c) of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise
16 known as the "*Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CTMA)*" shall be considered as importation
17 or donation to the Department, subject to the approval of the Office of the President.

18
19 **ARTICLE VI**
20 **WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT AND WHOLE OF NATION APPROACH**

21
22 **SEC. 21. *National Disaster Resilience Council.*** — (a) There is hereby created the National
23 Disaster Resilience Council (NDRC), which shall serve as the policy advisory body to the
24 Department on disaster risk reduction and management and climate change adaptation, consistent
25 with the policies and scope as defined in this Act.

26
27 (b) The NDRC shall be chaired by the Secretary of Disaster Resilience and shall be
28 composed of the following:

- 29 1. Secretary of Science and Technology;
30 2. Secretary of the Interior and Local Government;
31 3. Secretary of Social Welfare and Development;
32 4. Secretary of National Defense;
33 5. Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority;
34 6. Secretary of Health;
35 7. Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources;
36 8. Secretary of Agriculture;
37 9. Secretary of Education;
38 10. Secretary of Energy;
39 11. Secretary of Finance;

- 1 12. Secretary of Trade and Industry;
- 2 13. Secretary of Transportation;
- 3 14. Secretary of Budget and Management;
- 4 15. Secretary of Public Works and Highways;
- 5 16. Secretary of Foreign Affairs;
- 6 17. Secretary of Justice;
- 7 18. Secretary of Labor and Employment;
- 8 19. Secretary of Tourism;
- 9 20. Secretary of Information and Communications Technology;
- 10 21. Secretary of Human Settlements and Urban Development;
- 11 22. Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process;
- 12 23. Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education;
- 13 24. Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines;
- 14 25. Chief of the Philippine National Police;
- 15 26. Head of the Presidential Communications Operations Office;
- 16 27. Secretary-General of the Philippine National Red Cross;
- 17 28. Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights;
- 18 29. Executive Director of the Council for Welfare of Children;
- 19 30. Lead Convenor of the National Anti-Poverty Commission;
- 20 31. Chairperson of the Philippine Commission on Women;
- 21 32. Chairperson of the National Council for Disability Affairs;
- 22 33. Chairperson of the National Commission on Indigenous Filipinos;
- 23 34. Chairperson of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos;
- 24 35. Chairperson of the National Youth Commission;
- 25 36. President of the Government Service Insurance System;
- 26 37. President of the Social Security System;
- 27 38. President of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation;
- 28 39. President of the Home Development Mutual Fund;
- 29 40. President of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines;
- 30 41. President of the League of Provinces of the Philippines;
- 31 42. President of the League of Cities of the Philippines;
- 32 43. President of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines;
- 33 44. President of the Liga ng mga Barangays;
- 34 45. Maximum of six (6) representatives from the academia and other relevant research
- 35 institutions;
- 36 46. Maximum of six (6) representatives from the civil society organizations; and
- 37 47. Maximum of six (6) representatives from the private sector.
- 38

1 (c) Composition — The Council is hereby organized into five (5) clusters, namely, Disaster
2 Prevention and Mitigation to be led by DOST, Disaster Preparedness to be led by DILG, Disaster
3 Response by DSWD, Logistics led by DND, and Recovery and Sustainable Development led by
4 NEDA.

5
6 (d) Technical Management Advisory Group — The Department may constitute, as the need
7 arises, a technical management advisory group from the different stakeholders, that shall coordinate
8 and meet with the Department as often as necessary to effectively manage and sustain national
9 efforts on disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and emergency management, and climate change
10 adaptation and mitigation; and

11
12 (e) Guidelines for the Department of Disaster Resilience Fund (DDRF) and Local Disaster
13 Resilience Fund (LDRF) — The Department shall provide the necessary guidelines and procedures
14 on the DDRF and the LDRF releases as well as utilization, accounting and auditing thereof.

15
16 **SEC. 22. *Monitoring, Reporting and Validation.* —**

17
18 a. Monitoring and Reporting. On or before the last quarter of the preceding year, member-
19 agencies of the National Disaster Resilience Council shall submit to the Department through the
20 Council Secretariat their respective DDR annual work and financial plans (AWFPs) for the next
21 year. The AWFPs shall be based on the DDR Plan. The member-agencies shall submit to the
22 Secretariat quarterly progress reports of their implementation of the AWFPs within thirty (30) days
23 from the end of each quarter.

24
25 The Department is likewise accountable, liable and responsible for monitoring and requiring
26 the appropriate implementation of remedial measures by member agencies of the Council during a
27 state of calamity. It shall have the authority and power to require reports from the appropriate
28 member-agencies regarding implementation of such measures.

29
30 b. Validation. The Secretary shall require the submission of reports from local government
31 units to validate the progress reports of the Council member-agencies. Submission shall be through
32 the local field offices of the DDR.

33
34 Every two (2) years, the implementation of the Climate-Disaster Resilience Plan (CDRP) and
35 utilization of the Local Disaster Resilience Fund (LDRF) of each province, local government units,
36 independent city shall be evaluated by the Regional Disaster Resilience Council (RDRC) based on
37 appropriate criteria, such as the award, recognition, citation criteria for provinces, cities and
38 municipalities, barangay and stakeholders.

1 (1) The Regional Disaster Resilience Councils (RDRC) –

2
3 The Regional Disaster Resilience Councils (RDRCs) shall coordinate, integrate, supervise,
4 and evaluate the activities of the LDRCs. It shall be accountable, responsible and liable for ensuring
5 climate-disaster risk sensitive and inclusive regional development plans, and in case of emergencies
6 shall convene the different regional line agencies and authorities, concerned institutions,
7 developmental partners and multiple stakeholders.

8
9 The Regional Directors of the Department shall serve as chairpersons of the RDRCs and the
10 Regional Directors of the DSWD, the DILG, and the NEDA shall serve as cluster heads. In the case
11 of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, the Chief Minister shall be the RDRC
12 Chairperson. In the case of Metro Manila, the MDRC shall be headed by the Chairperson of the
13 Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

14
15 The RDRCs shall establish the RDRC Secretariat and operating facility to be known as the
16 Regional Disaster Resilience Council Secretariat and Operations Center (RDRC).

17
18 The RDRCs shall be composed of concerned regional agencies, offices, local government
19 units and other multiple stakeholders.

- 20
21 i. LDRC Budgetary Requirements of LDRO — The budgetary requirements for personal
22 services, maintenance and other operating expenditures, and capital outlay of the LDRO
23 shall be sourced from the General Fund of the LGU, subject to Section 76 of Republic
24 Act No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991",
25 as amended. The enforcement of Sections 325(a) and 331(b) of Republic Act No. 7160,
26 as amended shall be waived to enable the local government units to fund the initial year
27 requirements for the creation of the minimum five (5) mandatory positions of the LDRO.

28
29 Other maintenance and operating expenditures, and other capital outlay requirements of the
30 LDRO in the implementation of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and climate
31 change adaptation programs shall be charged to the Local Climate-Disaster Resilience Fund of the
32 local government units.

- 33
34 ii. Establish linkage or network with other local government units for disaster risk and
35 vulnerability reduction, climate change adaptation and emergency response
36 purposes;
37
38 iii. Recommend through the LDRC, the enactment of local ordinances consistent with
39 the requirements of this Act;

iv. Establish a Provincial City, Municipal, and Barangay Climate and Disaster Resilience Operations Center; and

v. Encourage Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) to establish their own Climate and Disaster Resilience Operations Center within their territories.

SEC. 23. Synergy with Stakeholders. - The Department shall ensure seamless synergy and coordination with stakeholders, including civil society organizations, the academe, and the private sector, in relation to disaster resilience programs and projects and the development and promotion of research, education, and training mechanism with relevant stakeholders.

The Department shall establish a platform, paradigm, and mechanisms for convergence and coordination with stakeholders, including the development of standards, protocols, and procedures for collaboration for disaster resilience.

SEC. 24. Establishment of Multi-Stakeholders Convergence Unit. - The Department, with the assistance of other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall establish a Multi-Stakeholders Convergence Unit (MSCU), which shall align the disaster resilience efforts of the private sector, civil society organizations, academe, and other stakeholders with the Department by assisting, coordinating, or providing services that strengthen public-private cooperation and coordination in disaster resilience, including the following:

- (a) Establishment and implementation of business continuity practices to ensure the continued delivery of products and services, in the event of disasters.
- (b) Establishment and implementation of a National Continuity Policy to ensure service continuity during power and utilities interruptions, emergencies, and disasters and ensure the quick return to full operations.
- (c) Establishment, incorporation, and application of business continuity plans as part of the disaster resilience plans of local government units.
- (d) Facilitation or assistance in obtaining or processing incentives for the private sector or other non-government stakeholders.
- (e) Preparation and facilitating the issuance of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), such as mechanisms involving procurement and liquidity to create enabling environments for disaster preparedness and recovery.
- (f) The MSCU shall establish a platform that includes, among others, a database for monitoring and coordinating efforts and resources of stakeholders.

1 **ARTICLE VII**

2 **DISASTER RISK AND VULNERABILITY REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE**
3 **ADAPTATION MAINSTREAMING, INTEGRATION AND CONVERGENCE**
4

5 **SEC. 25.** *Integration of DRR and Climate Change Adaptation in the Climate and Disaster*
6 *Resilience Framework and Plan.* - The existing National Disaster Resilience Framework and plan
7 and the National Climate Change Strategic Framework and Plan shall be enhanced by the Climate
8 and Disaster Resilience Framework and plan, which provides for the comprehensive probabilistic
9 multi-hazards, multi-scenario, multi-sectorial, resilience-building, and community risk-based
10 approach and management of disaster and climate risk, and provide for the integration of disaster
11 risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation, as well as the mainstreaming in other
12 sectoral policies. It shall be reviewed every three (3) years.
13

14 The Climate and Disaster Resilience Plan shall provide for the following: (1) identification
15 of the underlying factors of risk, or the nature and degree of hazards, vulnerabilities, exposures and
16 capacities, which need to be managed at the national level; (2) disaster risk and vulnerabilities
17 reduction and management approaches and strategies to be applied in managing said hazards and
18 risks; (3) agency roles, responsibilities, and lines of authority at all government levels; and (4)
19 vertical and horizontal coordination of climate change adaptation, disaster risk and vulnerability
20 reduction and management before, during, and after a disaster. The Climate and disaster resilience
21 plan shall be in conformity with the framework.
22

23 The climate and disaster resilience framework and plan for climate-disaster risk governance,
24 climate vulnerability assessment, risk assessment and risk management shall be formulated and
25 jointly approved by the NDRC and the CCC.
26

27 **SEC. 26.** *Ecosystem-Based Approach to Prevention and Mitigation, Rehabilitation and*
28 *Recovery from Disaster.* — The Department shall ensure the application of ecosystems-based
29 approaches in disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation, particularly
30 through ecosystem management and restoration as defined in this Act, and ensuring that
31 environmental and natural resource policies are risk-informed.
32

33 **ARTICLE VIII**

34 **CLIMATE AND DISASTER RESEARCH, EDUCATION,**
35 **AND TRAINING INSTITUTE**
36

37 **SEC. 27.** *Creation of the Climate and Disaster Research, Education, and Training Institute.*
38 - (a) Within one (1) year from approval of this Act, the Department shall establish the Climate and
39 Disaster Research, Education, and Training Institute in collaboration with higher education

1 institutions and Private and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) which shall be a world-class
2 center of excellence for learning and research in the field of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction
3 and management and climate change adaptation;

4 (b) The Climate and Disaster Research, Education, and Training Institute shall be headed by
5 a Director. The organizational structure and staffing pattern shall be determined by the Department
6 in consultation with the DBM and in accordance with civil service laws, rules and regulations.

7 (c) The Climate and Disaster Research, Education, and Training Institute shall have the
8 following functions:

- 9
- 10 1) Establish regional branches as well as provincial, city or municipal branches if deemed
11 necessary, to train individuals from the public and private sectors in the fields of disaster risk
12 and vulnerability reduction and management, climate change adaptation, and ecosystem
13 management and restoration, among others;
 - 14 2) Develop and implement an inclusive and ladderized curricula on climate change adaptation,
15 and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management;
 - 16 3) Develop research programs and a knowledge management system on climate change
17 adaptation and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management for the purpose of
18 innovation and capacity building and development;
 - 19 4) Partner with public and private academic and research institutions, the private sector, civil
20 society, community-based disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and climate
21 change adaptation practitioners, and other relevant sectors in developing research
22 opportunities and programs on climate vulnerability and disaster risk assessment;
 - 23 5) Establish a resource center for information, education and communication materials,
24 research, publications, best work practices, lessons identified and learned, and other
25 knowledge products on disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management, and
26 climate change adaptation;
 - 27 6) Consolidate and prepare information, education and communication and training materials
28 or publications to assist disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management, and
29 climate change adaptation practitioners in the planning and implementation of their plans,
30 programs, projects and activities;
 - 31 7) Organize and recognize a community of climate change adaptation and disaster risk
32 reduction and management practitioners; and
 - 33 8) Accredite, recognize, monitor and evaluate climate change adaptation, disaster risk and
34 vulnerability reduction and management training institutions.

35
36 (d) Financial Support to the Center:

37
38 1) The budget for the Climate and Disaster Resilience Research and Training Center shall be
39 sourced from the annual General Appropriations Act.

2) The Department shall assist in the establishment of Research and Training Centers at the provincial, city, and municipal governments, as appropriate. The funding for such local Climate and Disaster Research and Training Centers may be sourced from the eighty (80%) percent portion of the LDRF and other financial sources of the local government unit concerned.

ARTICLE IX
INTEGRATION, MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE AND DISASTER
RESILIENCEINFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNICATION
CONVERGENCE

SEC. 28. *Climate and Disaster Resilience Information Management System (CDRIMS).* — The Department shall establish a National and Regional Information Management System for Climate and Disaster Resilience. It shall constitute a physical central database of all disaster risk reduction and climate change data, including a geographic information system on geo-hazard assessments and climate risk. It shall be the repository of current and multi-temporal information for wide-scale disaster risk analysis and climate change vulnerability assessment. The CDRIMS shall at all times be made available to the Emergency Operations Center of the National and Regional 3 Climate and Disaster Resilience Council (NRCDC) development partners and multi4 stakeholders to access critical information and ensure that the collection processing, analysis and dissemination of information is timely, reliable and accurate to support overall decision making and effective coordination both at the national and sub-national level.

SEC. 29. Disaster Resilience and Climate Change Education and Training. - (a) The Department of Education, CHED, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in coordination with the National Youth Commission (NYC), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and other relevant agencies, developmental institutions, and non-government organizations shall integrate disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation education in the school curricula at all levels of education, from K to 12 to tertiary levels, including the early and adult learning programs, National Service Training Program (NSTP), and education for children and persons with special needs, whether private or public, including formal and non-formal, technical-vocational, indigenous learning, out-of-school youth courses and programs, and other channels of educational integration, including media, church, entertainment centers (malls), international and domestic airports and transport terminals.

1 (b) The Civil Service Commission (CSC), Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC), and
2 other licensure bodies shall integrate disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and
3 climate change adaptation questions in all professional and licensure examinations.
4

5 (c) The Department, in coordination with the Disaster Resilience Research and Training
6 Institute, shall develop a curriculum for courses or subjects specific to disaster risk and vulnerability
7 reduction management and climate change adaptation, and shall mandate all tertiary learning
8 institutions to offer these subjects.
9

10 (d) The Parents and Teachers Community Associations shall initiate, support, and participate
11 in disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and climate change adaptation related
12 activities in schools and host communities.
13

14 (e) The DepEd, the CHED, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
15 (TESDA) and other developmental institutions, community-based practitioners and organized non-
16 governmental organizations shall formulate and institutionalize flexible learning options such as
17 online modules, supplemental learning materials, resources and platforms, as part of its climate
18 change adaptation, disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and governance, analysis, and
19 management strategy.
20

21 (f) The DepEd, CHED, TESDA, developmental institutions and community-based
22 organizations shall regularly review, monitor, evaluate and report to the Council the status of
23 integration, mainstreaming and implementation of climate change adaptation, disaster risk and
24 vulnerability reduction and management in public-private schools and other learning institutions.
25

26 (g) The LDROs shall form formal partnerships with tertiary learning institutions within their
27 respective jurisdictions to provide standard and ladderized training programs for LGU officials and
28 other disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and climate change adaptation.
29

30 (h) The DRC, the RDRCs, the LDRCs, the LDROs, the BDRCs, and the Sangguniang
31 Kabataan shall encourage the community, specifically the youth, participation in disaster risk and
32 vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation activities, such as Information, Education and
33 Communication (IEC) Campaigns organizing quick response groups, particularly in identified
34 disaster-prone areas, as well as the inclusion of DRVR climate change adaptation programs as part
35 of programs and projects of the Sangguniang Kabataan, youth organizations and community-based
36 disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management and anticipatory adaptation initiatives.
37

38 (i) There shall be a mandatory training climate change adaptation-DRVR for public and
39 private sector employees, including teachers and Climate-Disaster Resilience Coordinators from

1 both the public and private learning institutions. They shall be trained in emergency preparedness
2 and response in compliance with the provisions of this Act.

3
4 **SEC. 30. *Standard Mechanism for Cascading Information, Education and Communication***
5 ***on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk and Vulnerability Reduction Management.*** — (a)
6 The DRC shall promote and advocate a culture of resilience and responsible-accountable, liable and
7 responsible citizenship through information, education and communication that is appropriate,
8 integrated, calibrated, inclusive, localized, science- and risk-based, gender, culture and disability
9 sensitive and accessible using multimedia. Information, education, and communication on climate
10 change adaptation and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management should be compelling
11 but not alarming.

12
13 (b) The NDRC shall formulate a Strategic Risk Communications Plan to encompass the
14 entirety of disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation to achieve the
15 desired behavioral and attitudinal change towards responsible citizenship and culture of resilience.
16 It shall serve as a reference on continuous awareness raising and education at all levels of the
17 government and multiple stakeholders.

18
19 (c) A Climate and Disaster Resilience Information Officer shall be designated at all levels
20 of the Department to ensure implementation of the disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and
21 management and climate change adaptation information, education, and communication campaign
22 and shall serve as the primary coordinator for the dissemination of information, education, and
23 communication on climate change adaptation and disaster risk and vulnerability reduction
24 management.

25
26 **SEC. 31. *Declaration of Imminent Disaster.*** - The DDR shall provide guidance and
27 operating guidelines to LDRCs for the declaration of imminent disaster in their respective areas,
28 which shall allow them to implement preemptive measures and use their quick response funds in
29 order to save lives and minimize damage to property, loss of livelihoods and other assets.

30
31 **SEC. 32. *Flash Appeal or Appeal for International Assistance.*** - Upon consultation with the
32 NDRC and in cognizance of the urgency, criticality and intensity of an imminent risk, the DDR shall
33 issue a flash appeal to the family of nations, under regional and multilateral conventions, for
34 assistance in preparedness including preemptive measures, search, rescue and retrieval, relief,
35 recovery, and reconstruction.

36
37 **ARTICLE X**

38 **CLIMATE AND DISASTER RISK INSURANCE AND INCENTIVES**

SEC. 33. *Climate and Disaster Risk Transfer, Insurance and Social Welfare.* - (a) The Department shall oversee all climate and disaster risk-sharing and risk-transfer instruments and other related initiatives to ensure the protection of property and livelihood, both public and private.

(b) The Department shall ensure the mandatory insurance of all assets and properties national government agencies including government-owned or controlled corporations, and those over which the government has insurable interest, as prescribed under Republic Act No. 656, otherwise known as the "Property Insurance Law." The insurance shall be provided by any government insurance agency.

(c) The Department shall oblige the local government units the mandatory insurance coverage of assets, properties and livelihood of vulnerable and marginalized groups for unforeseen or contingent potential losses, damages and disruption from natural hazards and human-induced disasters chargeable against the LDRF.

SEC. 34. *Recognition and Incentives.* — Unless otherwise provided, the Department shall establish an incentives program that recognizes outstanding performance of LDRC, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations, private sector, schools, hospitals, and other stakeholders in promoting and implementing significant disaster risk and vulnerability reduction management climate change adaptation programs and innovations, and meritorious acts of individuals, groups or institutions during natural or human-induced disasters.

ARTICLE XI

PREPAREDNESS AND INTEGRATED EARLY WARNING

SEC. 35. *Standards for Disaster Preparedness Activities.* - (a) The NDRC shall establish standards for disaster preparedness, contingency planning, localizing and operationalizing disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and management, preparedness for disaster response, preparedness for early recovery, continuity of essential services, and other relevant preparedness activities.

(b) Local government units shall identify safe or strategic sites, and establish evacuation centers with appropriate and adequate facilities in accordance with government-approved standards as provided under Republic Act No. 10821, otherwise known as "The Children's Emergency Relief Protection Act," in order to avoid disruption of school classes and lessen the use of school buildings and facilities as evacuation centers.

The local government units shall immediately compensate schools used as evacuation centers. The schools may seek compensation renovation or repairs of damaged facilities for such use.

1 **SEC. 36. Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Risk Communication Standards.** - (a) There shall
2 be a streamlined policy governing early warning systems and risk communication protocols to
3 ensure effective and efficient measures to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from possible
4 risk caused by natural and human-induced hazards and climate risk. The NDRC shall issue and the
5 Department shall oversee and monitor the implementation of this policy.

6 (b) The Department and all other concerned agencies with an integrated early warning and
7 information mandate shall collaborate with the local executives and officers to disseminate climate-
8 disaster risk information through the involvement of local government units, community-based
9 organizations, civil society organizations, and other non- governmental organizations.

10
11 **SEC. 37. Early Warning Mandate.** — (a) The Department shall issue an integrated early
12 warning for hydro-meteorological, geologic, or terrestrial phenomena to the appropriate government
13 agencies or government-accredited organizations for forecasting and early warning purposes. The
14 Department shall recognize and proactively support local or indigenous modes of early warning
15 systems and allow open access to real-time data from both local and international sources made
16 available through various platforms such as websites, mobile apps, and social media to empower
17 local communities and individuals.

18
19 (b) The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration -
20 (PAGASA) and Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) shall work
21 actively and closely with the Department in integrating, mainstreaming, and converging all
22 information, data, research and development studies and results, knowledge and technology, and
23 activities relating to climate change and disaster resilience;

24
25 (c) The Department shall recognize and proactively support local or indigenous modes of
26 early warning systems and allow open access to real-time data from both local and international
27 sources made available through various platforms such as websites, mobile apps, and social media
28 to empower local communities and individuals.

29
30 (d) Any person or juridical entity who transmits early warning concerning the
31 abovementioned phenomena by means of signs in designs, colors, lights, or sound shall do so in
32 compliance with the methods recognized or approved by the NDRC.

33
34 (e) The NDRC at the national and subnational level shall consider the use of integrated early
35 warning system to ensure it is consistent and locally contextualized with the communication
36 protocol and safe evacuation procedure of the affected communities to achieve zero casualty, to zero
37 death.

38

1 (f) The Department shall consider working with other agencies or organizations on pre-crisis
2 information mapping of the humanitarian needs of the at-risk community that will enhance the
3 overall prepositioning of resources at the national and local level.

4
5 **ARTICLE XII**
6 **DISASTER RESPONSE AND EARLY RECOVERY**
7

8 **SEC. 38. *Declaration of State of Calamity.*** — The Department shall declare a cluster of
9 barangays, municipalities, cities, provinces, and regions under a state of calamity, and the lifting
10 thereof, based on the criteria set by the NDRC.
11

12 The declaration and lifting of the state of calamity may also be issued by the local
13 Sanggunian, upon the recommendation of the LDRO, based on the results of the damage assessment
14 and needs analysis Provided, That the Department, through the LDRC, may seek from the local
15 legislative body or Sanggunian, the declaration of a state of imminent disaster to enable the local
16 executives to implement pre-emptive evacuation and precautionary measures in order to save lives
17 and minimize damage to property, loss of livelihoods, and disruption of livelihood that require the
18 use of funds and resources under the LDRF.
19

20 **SEC. 39. *Emergency Management.*** — The respective Climate and Disaster Resilience
21 Councils shall lead in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the effects of any disaster,
22 upon due consideration to the economics of classification, capacity and vulnerability of the local
23 governments concerned:
24

- 25 a) The BDRC, if one barangay is affected;
26 b) The city/municipal DRCs, if two (2) or more barangays are affected;
27 c) The provincial DRC, if two (2) or more cities/municipalities are affected;
28 d) The regional DRC, if two (2) or more provinces are affected; and
29 e) The NDRC, if two (2) or more regions are affected.
30

31 **SEC. 40. *Humanitarian Assistance Action Center.*** - The DRC shall institutionalize a one-
32 stop shop mechanism through the Humanitarian Assistance Action Center for the processing and
33 release of goods, articles or equipment intended for humanitarian assistance and the processing of
34 necessary documents for international assisting actors. The Humanitarian Assistance Action Center
35 shall be managed by the Department and shall be composed of the following NDRC agencies:
36

- 37 a) Department of Finance-Bureau of Customs;
38 b) Department of Foreign Affairs;
39 c) Department of Social Welfare and Development;

- d) Department of Health;
- e) Food and Drug Administration;
- f) Department of Agriculture;
- g) Department of Energy;
- h) Philippine National Police;
- i) Philippine Coast Guard; and
- j) Department of Justice - Bureau of Immigration

SEC. 41. *Accreditation, Mobilization, and Protection of Disaster Volunteers and National Service Reserve Corps, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector.* - The government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector and local government units may mobilize individuals or organized volunteers to augment their respective personnel complement and logistical requirements in the delivery of disaster risk reduction programs and activities. The agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, and local government units concerned shall take full responsibility for the enhancement, welfare and protection of volunteers, and shall submit the list of volunteers to the Department, through the Local Disaster Resilience Offices, for accreditation and inclusion in the database of community disaster volunteers.

A national roster of Accredited Community Disaster Resilience Volunteers (ACDRVs) and institutions, National Service Reserve Corps, civil society organizations and the private sector shall be maintained by the Department through the LDROs. Accreditation shall be done at the municipal or city level.

The mobilization of volunteers shall be in accordance with this Act and implementing guidelines to be formulated by the NDRC. Any volunteer who died or was injured while engaging in any of the activities defined under this Act shall be entitled to compensatory benefits and individual personal accident insurance as may be defined under the guidelines.

SEC. 42. *Reporting of Humanitarian Assistance.* — The concerned local government unit shall submit a report to the Department, all domestic or international humanitarian assistance received and distributed within its area of responsibility.

ARTICLE XIII

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

SEC. 43. *International Humanitarian Assistance.* - The Department shall promulgate guidelines on international humanitarian assistance, including the initiation, entry, facilitation, transit, regulation, and termination thereof, as well as those involving international disaster relief and personnel assisting international actors, visa waiver, recognition of foreign professional

1 qualifications, entry of international disaster goods and equipment, and exemption from port
2 duties, taxes and restrictions.

3
4 **SEC. 44.** *Assessment of the Need for International Humanitarian Assistance.* –
5

6 (a) Immediately after the declaration of a state of calamity by the Sanggunian of a local
7 government unit or by the Department, as the case may be, the Department shall determine as to
8 whether domestic capacities are likely to be sufficient to attend to the needs of affected persons for
9 international humanitarian assistance. This determination may also be made by the President prior
10 to the onset of an imminent disaster.

11
12 (b) In the event the Department determines that domestic response capacities are not likely
13 to be sufficient due to the impact of the disaster, the Department shall recommend to the President
14 that a request be made for international humanitarian assistance.

15
16 (c) A determination that domestic capacities are likely to be sufficient and that international
17 humanitarian assistance is therefore unnecessary may be reviewed and rescinded by the Department,
18 with the approval of the President, at any time, in light of prevailing circumstances and available
19 information.

20
21 **SEC. 45.** *Request for International Humanitarian Assistance.* — The President may request
22 for international humanitarian assistance upon the advice of the Department. Such request may be
23 specifically directed to particular assisting international actors, or it may be a general request
24 directed to the international community.

25
26 **SEC. 46.** *One-Stop Shop for International Humanitarian Assistance.* - The Department shall
27 establish, in coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) a One-Stop Shop
28 mechanism for International Humanitarian Assistance for the processing and release of entry and
29 facilitation of goods, articles or equipment, and services of international relief workers for the
30 provision of international humanitarian assistance, and the processing of necessary documents for
31 assisting international actors.

32
33 **ARTICLE XIV**
34 **OFFER AND FACILITATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO FOREIGN**
35 **STATES**
36

37 **SEC. 47.** *Offer and Facilitation of International Humanitarian Assistance to Foreign States.*
38 - In the event of a disaster occurring in a foreign state for which international humanitarian assistance
39 is required, the Department, in coordination with the DFA, may offer, facilitate and provide

1 international humanitarian assistance to such foreign State, which shall be subject to guidelines to
2 be promulgated by the Department for the purpose.

3
4 **SEC. 48. Accreditation.** - The Department, in coordination with relevant government
5 agencies and organizations, shall provide and facilitate the necessary training and accreditation to
6 the respective government personnel to be deployed for such offer. facilitation and provision of
7 international humanitarian assistance to a foreign state.

8
9 **ARTICLE XV**
10 **LEGAL FACILITIES FOR ELIGIBLE ASSISTING INTERNATIONAL ACTORS**
11

12 **SEC. 49. Guidelines for Coordination of International Humanitarian Assistance.** - The DRC
13 shall issue comprehensive guidelines on the initiation, entry, facilitation, transit and regulation of
14 international relief goods and personnel, as well as eligibility guidelines to utilize the legal facilities
15 for assisting international actors provided hereunder.

16
17 **SEC. 50. Visa Waiver.** - Eligible assisting international actors shall be entitled to waiver of
18 entry visa requirements, including any associated fees or charges, to perform Disaster Relief and
19 Initial Recovery Assistance work for their sponsoring entities without the requirement to seek
20 a separate residence or work permit.

21
22 **SEC. 51. Recognition of Foreign Professional Qualifications.** - (a) Eligible assisting
23 international actors wishing to deploy international personnel for tasks requiring legal recognition
24 of their foreign professional qualifications shall certify the validity of those qualifications under the
25 law of the country where they were obtained and the competence of their personnel for the tasks
26 envisaged.

27 (b) The Department shall establish the guidelines and scope for recognition of foreign
28 professional qualifications for disaster response and early recovery.

29 (c) Recognition of qualifications shall remain valid until the end of the International Initial
30 Recovery Period, absent individual criminal conduct or other professional misconduct sufficient to
31 bar the individual from professional practice in the country.

32
33 **SEC. 52. Recognition of Foreign Driving Licenses.** - Foreign driving licenses of eligible
34 assisting international actors shall be accorded temporary recognition during the International
35 Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Periods.

36
37 **SEC. 53. Facilitation of Access.** - The international personnel of eligible assisting
38 international actors shall be allowed access to disaster-affected areas and persons requiring Disaster
39 Relief or Initial Recovery Assistance, subject to coordination requirements as mandated by the

1 Authority and limitations based on national security, public order or public health, weighed in the
2 context of the urgency of the disaster needs. They shall be permitted to provide their goods and
3 services directly to affected persons.

4
5 **A. ENTRY OF INTERNATIONAL DISASTER GOODS AND EQUIPMENT**
6

7 **SEC. 54. *Customs Facilitation and Priority Treatment.*** - The Department shall facilitate the
8 rapid importation of consignments of goods and equipment by eligible assisting actors and shall
9 accord them priority treatment in handling.

10
11 **SEC. 55. *Duty of Compliance by Eligible Assisting Actors.*** - In order to benefit from the
12 aforementioned legal facilities, eligible assisting international actors shall:

13
14 (a) Declare that all the goods and equipment they seek to import under this Part are
15 exclusively for Disaster Relief or Initial Recovery Assistance and that they comply with any relevant
16 standards under Philippine laws; and

17 (b) Pack, classify and mark their consignments in accordance with the requirements
18 described in this Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

19
20 **SEC. 56. *Exemption from Import Duties, Taxes and Restrictions.*** - Consignments of goods
21 and equipment by or on behalf of eligible assisting international actors shall benefit from:

- 22
23 (a) Exemption from all duties and taxes;
24 (b) Waiver of economic prohibitions and restrictions except for categories of special goods
25 and equipment that may be indicated by the Department; and
26 (c) Clearance without regard to the country of origin or the country from which the goods
27 have arrived, subject to monitoring for reasons of public health and security.

28
29 **B. EXPEDITED ENTRY AND USE RESTRICTIONS FOR SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL**
30 **DISASTER GOODS AND EQUIPMENT**
31

32 **SEC. 57. *Simplification of Documentation Requirements.*** - (a) Consignment of goods and
33 equipment sent by or on behalf of eligible assisting international actors shall be cleared or released
34 on the basis of a simplified goods declaration providing the minimum information necessary for the
35 Bureau of Customs to identify the goods and equipment and subject, when deemed necessary, to
36 completion of a more complete declaration within a specified period.

37 (b) The requirements for the declaration for all imports of goods or equipment by or on behalf
38 of eligible assisting international actors and any supporting documents relating to said consignment,
39 release and clearance of goods or equipment shall be simplified and lodged without fee.

SEC. 58. *Telecommunications Equipment.* - Eligible assisting international actors shall be permitted to import telecommunications equipment for the purpose of Disaster Relief or Initial Recovery Assistance without restrictions, except as required by NDRC guidelines and other laws for purposes of national security or public order. The NDRC shall provide guidelines for the manner of use telecommunications equipment as well as waiver of licensing requirements or fees.

SEC. 59. *Medications.* - Eligible assisting international actors shall be permitted to import and transport medications and medical equipment for the purpose of Disaster Relief or Initial Recovery Assistance so long as they conform to the implementing rules and regulations to be provided by the NDRC.

SEC. 60. *Food.* - Food imported by eligible assisting international actors for disaster relief and recovery shall be admitted pursuant to expedited procedures set out by the NDRC.

SEC. 61. *Imported Vehicles.* — The granting of local registration and plates for vehicles imported by eligible assisting international actors shall be expedited.

C. PERMITTED DISPOSITION OF EQUIPMENT AND UNUSED GOODS

SEC. 62. *Disposition of Equipment and Unused Goods.* — The DRC shall provide for the guidelines for retention, re-exportation, donation and disposal of unused goods and equipment after the termination of Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance operations.

**ARTICLE XVI
RECOVERY**

SEC. 63. *Standards for Recovery.* - The Department shall observe internationally accepted standards for recovery, planning, programming and implementation of the recovery process and shall:

(a) Improve the community's physical, social and economic resilience, consistent with the principle of "build forward better";

(b) Use locally-driven and centrally-supported processes based on legal mandates with supplementary capacity support when requested;

(c) Redirect development outside danger zones to minimize loss of lives and structures resulting from typhoons, flooding, landslides, and other hazards;

- 1
- 2 (d) Employ outcome-driven planning and implementation;
- 3
- 4 (e) Maximize use of private-public sector partnership where possible;
- 5
- 6 (f) Consider local conditions such as culture, security situation, and existing capacities of
- 7 communities in identifying programs and projects;
- 8
- 9 (g) Ensure access to public transport, physical and mental health services, markets, schools,
- 10 sustainable livelihoods, and other public services in planning for settlement areas; and
- 11
- 12 (h) Ensure restoration of peace and order and recovery of government functions.
- 13

14 **ARTICLE XVII**

15 **REMEDIAL MEASURES UNDER STATE OF CALAMITY**

16

17 **SEC. 64. Remedial Measures under State of Calamity.** - Upon the declaration of the state of

18 calamity, the following remedial measures shall be immediately undertaken by concerned

19 government agencies both of national and local levels:

20

- 21 (a) Imposition of price ceiling on basic necessities and prime commodities by the National
- 22 Price Control Council, as provided for under Republic Act No. 7581, otherwise known as the "*Price*
- 23 *Act*," as amended by Republic Act. No. 10623;
- 24
- 25 (b) Monitoring, prevention and control by the Local Price Coordination Council of
- 26 overpricing/profitteering and hoarding of prime commodities, medicines and petroleum products;
- 27
- 28 (c) Programming/reprogramming of funds for the repair of critical facilities or public
- 29 infrastructures that are vital for the quick delivery of humanitarian assistance, to reduce further threat
- 30 to lives and arrest further deterioration of properties and loss of livelihoods in the affected
- 31 communities, following the "build better forward" principle: (1) Grant of no-interest loans by
- 32 government financing or lending institutions to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups or
- 33 individuals; and (2) Local tax exemptions, incentives or reliefs under such terms and conditions as
- 34 may be deemed necessary by the affected local government unit.
- 35

36 **ARTICLE XVIII**

37 **PROCUREMENT**

38

SEC. 65. General Rule on Procurement. - Any procurement of goods, services, consultancy or infrastructure for disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate risk, whether at the national or local level shall conform to the provisions and Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 otherwise known as "*Government Procurement Reform Act*," as amended.

SEC. 66. *Emergency Procurement.* - In order to expedite disaster response and early recovery, the procurement or lease of equipment and delivery of goods and services through emergency procurement or purchase at site shall be allowed. Periods of action on procurement activities may also be waived for the same purpose and conditions.

ARTICLE XIX

PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES

SEC. 67. Prohibited Acts. — Any public official, private person, group or corporation who commits any of the following prohibited acts shall be liable and be subjected to the criminal and administrative penalties as provided for in Section 67 of this Act, without prejudice to the imposition of other criminal, civil and administrative liabilities under existing laws.

(a) Prohibited Acts of Public Officials — The following acts, if committed by public officials without justifiable cause, shall be considered as gross neglect of duty:

(1) Dereliction of duties which leads to destruction, loss of lives, critical damage of facilities and misuse of funds;

(2) Failure to create a functional LDR Office within six (6) months from approval of this Act;

(3) Failure to appoint a permanent local disaster resilience officer within six (6) months from approval of this Act;

(4) Failure to prepare and implement a Contingency and Adaptation Plan for hazards frequently occurring within their jurisdictions;

(5) Failure to formulate and implement the LDRP with the corresponding budget allocation;
Sexual exploitation and abuse, and other forms of sexual misconduct to the affected population or at-risk communities punishable under existing criminal and administrative laws shall be considered as an aggravating circumstance.

(b) Prohibited Acts of Public Officials and Private Persons or Institutions. -

(1) Delaying, without justifiable cause the delivery or improper handling or storage of aid commodities, resulting to damage or spoilage;

(2) Withholding the distribution of relief goods due to (a) political or partisan considerations; (b) discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, or gender; and (c) other similar circumstances;

1 (3) Preventing the entry and distribution of relief goods in disaster-stricken areas, including
2 appropriate technology, tools, equipment, accessories, disaster teams or experts;

3 (4) Buying, for consumption or resale, from disaster relief agencies any relief goods,
4 equipment or other commodities which are intended for distribution to disaster affected
5 communities;

6 (5) Buying, for consumption or resale, from disaster affected persons, relief goods,
7 equipment or other aid commodities received by them;

8 (6) Selling of relief goods, equipment, or other aid commodities which are intended for
9 distribution to disaster victims;

10 (7) Forcibly seizing relief goods, equipment, or other aid commodities intended for or
11 consigned to a specific group of victims or relief agency;

12 (8) Diverting or misdelivery of relief goods, equipment, or other aid commodities to persons
13 other than the rightful recipient or consignee;

14 (9) Accepting, possessing, using or disposing relief goods, equipment or other aid
15 commodities not intended for nor consigned to them;

16 (10) Misrepresenting the source of relief goods, equipment, or other aid commodities by:

- 17
- 18 i. Either covering, replacing or defacing the labels of the containers to make it appear that
19 the goods, equipment, or other aid commodities came from another agency or persons;
 - 20 ii. Repacking the goods, equipment, or other aid commodities into containers with different
21 markings to make it appear that the goods came from another agency or persons or was
22 released upon the instance of a particular agency or persons;
 - 23 iii. Making a false verbal claim that the goods, equipment or other and commodities in their
24 untampered original containers actually came from another agency or persons or was
25 released upon the instance of a particular agency or persons;
- 26

27 (11) Substituting or replacing relief goods, equipment, or other aid commodities with the
28 same items or of inferior/cheaper quality;

29 (12) Illegal solicitations by persons or organizations representing others as defined in the
30 standards and guidelines set by the NDRC;

31 (13) Deliberate use of false or inflated data in support of the request for funding, relief goods,
32 equipment, or other aid commodities for emergency assistance or livelihood projects;

33 (14) Stealing, taking, or possessing of any of the equipment, accessories and other vital
34 facility or items or any part thereof;

35 (15) Selling or buying stolen equipment, accessories, and other vital facility items or any
36 part thereof;

37 (16) Tampering with or stealing hazard monitoring and disaster preparedness equipment and
38 paraphernalia.

39 (17) Attempting to commit any of the abovementioned prohibited acts; and

1 (18) Benefitting from the proceeds or fruits of any of the abovementioned prohibited acts
2 knowing that the proceeds or fruits are derived from the commission of the prohibited acts.

3
4 **SEC. 68. Penalties.** — The following penalties shall be imposed on any individual,
5 corporation, partnership, association or other juridical entity that commits any of the prohibited acts
6 in the preceding section:

7
8 (a) Imprisonment of not less than twelve (12) years but not more than fifteen (15) years or a
9 fine of not less than One Million Pesos (Php1,000,000.00) but not more than Three Million Pesos
10 (Php3,000,000.00), or both imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the court shall be imposed
11 upon any person found guilty of violating subsections 17 (b)(1) to (b)(16), as well as the confiscation
12 or forfeiture in favor of the government of the objects and the instrumentalities used in the
13 commission of the prohibited acts;

14
15 (b) Imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than eight (8) years or a fine of
16 not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php500,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos
17 (Php1,000,000.00), or both imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed
18 upon any person who attempts to commit any of the prohibited acts in the preceding section, in
19 violation of subsection (b)(17) thereof;

20
21 (c) Imprisonment of not less than two (2) years but not more than six (6) years or a fine of
22 not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (Php200,000.00) but not more than Five Hundred
23 Thousand Pesos (Php500,000.00), or both imprisonment and fine at the discretion of the court, shall
24 be imposed upon any person found guilty of unlawfully benefiting from the proceeds or fruits of
25 any of the prohibited in the preceding section, in violation of subsection (b)(18) thereof;

26
27 (d) Perpetual disqualification from public office aside from the penalty of fine or
28 imprisonment or both, shall be imposed if the offender is a public officer, and confiscation or
29 forfeiture in favor of the government of the objects and the instrumentalities used in the commission
30 of any of the prohibited in the preceding section;

31
32 (e) If the offender is a corporation, partnership or association, or other juridical entity, the
33 penalty shall be imposed upon the officer or officers of the corporation, partnership, association or
34 entity responsible for the violation without prejudice to the cancellation or revocation of these
35 entities' registration, license or accreditation issued to them by any licensing or accredited body of
36 the government. If such offender is an alien, the person shall, in addition to the penalties prescribed
37 in this Act, be deported without further proceedings after service of the sentence;

1 (f) Payment of the full cost of repair or replacement of the government risk reduction and
2 preparedness equipment, accessories and other vital facility items, or any part thereof, which is the
3 object of the crime shall likewise be imposed upon any person who shall commit any of the
4 prohibited acts in the preceding section; and
5

6 (g) The prosecution for offenses set forth under the preceding section shall be without
7 prejudice to any criminal liability for violation of Act No. 3815, as amended, otherwise known as
8 the "Revised Penal Code," and other existing laws, as well as the imposition of applicable
9 administrative or civil liabilities.
10

11 **ARTICLE XX**
12 **APPROPRIATIONS**
13

14 **SEC. 69. Appropriations. -**
15

16 (a) The amount needed for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the
17 current fiscal year's unexpended appropriation of all agencies herein absorbed, transferred, and
18 attached to the Department. Thereafter, the amount needed for the operation and maintenance of the
19 Department shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

20 (b) National Disaster Resilience Fund (NDRF). The utilization and allocation of the entire
21 NDRF (Calamity Fund) and its quick response fund component shall be managed by the Department
22 except as provided for by specific laws.

23 (c) Local Disaster Resilience Fund (LDRF). Not less than seven percent (7%) of the
24 estimated revenue from regular sources shall be set aside as the LDRF to support disaster risk and
25 vulnerability reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation programs, projects and
26 activities. The LDRC shall monitor and evaluate the use and disbursement of the LDRF based on
27 the LDRP as incorporated in the local development plans and annual work and financial plan. Upon
28 the recommendation of the LDRO and approval of the Sanggunian concerned, the LDRC may
29 transfer the said fund to support the disaster risk and vulnerability reduction and climate change
30 adaptation work and initiatives of other LDRCs that are declared under a state of calamity.
31

32 1) Of the amount appropriated for LDRF, twenty percent (20%) shall be allocated as
33 Quick Response Fund (QRF) or stand-by fund for prepositioning of goods and relief and early
34 recovery programs in order that the situation and living conditions of people in communities
35 or areas stricken by disasters, epidemics, or complex emergencies, may be normalized as
36 quickly as possible.
37

38 2) Of the annual appropriation of LDRF, eighty percent (80%) shall be appropriated
39 for climate change adaptation, disaster risk and vulnerability reduction, prevention, adaptation

1 and mitigation programs, projects and activities focusing on both institutional capacity
2 building of vulnerable communities and risk reducing infrastructure. The NDRC shall pass a
3 resolution to set the priority allocations and govern and trigger the acceleration and
4 implementation of this section.

5
6 3) Of the amount appropriated for the Disaster Resilience Fund, twenty percent (20%)
7 shall be allocated as Quick Response Fund (QRF) or stand-by fund for prepositioning of goods
8 and equipment and relief and early recovery programs in order that situation and living
9 conditions of people in communities or areas stricken by disasters, epidemics, or complex
10 emergencies, may be normalized as quickly as possible.

11
12 4) All departments/agencies and local government units that are allocated with Local
13 Disaster Resilience Fund shall submit to the Department their monthly statements on the
14 utilization of Local Disaster Resilience Funds and make an accounting thereof in accordance
15 with existing accounting and auditing rules.

16
17 5) All departments, bureaus, offices and agencies of the government are hereby
18 authorized to use a portion of their appropriations to implement projects designed to address
19 disaster risk and vulnerable reduction-climate change adaptation activities in accordance with
20 the Disaster Resilience Plan and the guidelines to be issued by the DRC in coordination with
21 the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and Commission on Audit (COA).

22
23 Unexpended LDRF shall accrue to a trust fund solely for the purpose of supporting disaster
24 risk reduction and management and climate change adaptation activities of the LDRCs within the
25 next two (2) years. Any such amount still not fully utilized after two (2) years shall revert back to
26 the general fund and will be available for other social services to be identified by the local
27 Sanggunian.

28
29 The NDRC shall issue guidelines on the utilization and release of LDRF in coordination with
30 other concerned government agencies.

31
32 (d) Prevention, Mitigation and Preparedness Fund for third (3rd) to sixth (6th) class
33 provinces and municipalities. There shall be in the annual General Appropriations Act an amount
34 allotted solely for the use of 3rd to 6th class provinces and municipalities for the purpose of
35 augmenting their LDRF with respect to plans, programs, projects, and procurement for climate
36 change adaptation, disaster risk prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. The requirements to
37 avail of this fund shall be laid down in rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Secretary.

ARTICLE XXI
FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 70. *Transfer and Attached Offices, Agencies, and Personnel.* - (a) The following offices and agencies are hereby transferred to the Department including their powers and functions, funds and appropriations, obligations, records, equipment, property, and personnel:

1. Office of Civil Defense;
2. Climate Change Office of the Climate Change Commission;
3. Geo-Hazard Assessment and Engineering Geology Section of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau;
4. Health Emergency Management Bureau of the Department of Health;
5. Disaster Response Assistance and Management Bureau of the Department of Social Welfare and Development;
6. Bureau of Fire Protection; and
7. Program Management Office for Earthquake Resiliency of the Greater Metro Manila Area.

(b) The powers and functions, applicable funds and appropriations, records, equipment, property and personnel of the following agencies are attached to the Department:

1. Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA); and
2. Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

The Department shall, by virtue of this Act, be subrogated to all the rights and assume all the liabilities of the agencies absorbed under this Act, and all their funds, records, property, assets, equipment, and such personnel as necessary, including unexpended appropriations or allocations. All contracts and liabilities of the said agencies are hereby transferred to and assumed by the Department and shall be acted upon in accordance with the Auditing Code and other pertinent laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 71. *Separation Benefits of Officials and Employees of Affected Agencies.* - National government employees displaced or separated from the service as a result of this Act shall be entitled to separation pay and other benefits in accordance with Republic Act No. 6656, otherwise known as "Government Reorganization Law" and other existing laws, rules or regulations. *Provided, That* those who are qualified to retire under existing retirement laws shall be allowed to retire and receive retirement benefits to which they may be entitled under applicable laws and issuances.

SEC. 72. *Special Benefits and Privileges.* - Qualified employees of the DDR, local government units and its attached units shall be covered by Republic Act No. 8439, known as the

1 Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers and Other Science and Technology
2 Personnel in the Government, and Republic Act No. 7005, otherwise known as "Magna Carta for
3 Public Health Workers.”
4

5 **SEC. 73. Hazard Pay and Other Allowances and Benefits.** - Qualified personnel of the
6 Department shall be entitled to receive hazard pay and other allowances and benefits, in accordance
7 with such policies and regulations promulgated by the Department. in consultation with the DBM
8 and the COA.
9

10 **SEC. 74. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Department, in consultation with
11 concerned stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
12 implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.
13

14 **SEC. 75. Congressional Oversight Committee.** — (a) There shall be created a Congressional
15 Oversight Committee on Climate Change and Disaster Resilience to monitor and oversee the
16 implementation of the provisions of this Act. The committee shall be composed of six (6) Members
17 of the House of Representatives and six (6) Senators to be designated by the Speaker of the House
18 of Representatives and the President of the Senate, respectively, from their appropriate committees:
19 *Provided, That,* two (2) Members of the House of Representatives and two (2) Senators shall come
20 from the Minority of their respective houses of congress.
21

22 (b) Five (5) years after the effectivity of this Act, or as the need arises, the Congressional
23 Oversight Committee shall conduct a systematic evaluation of the accomplishments and impact of
24 this Act, as well as the performance and organizational structure of its implementing agencies, for
25 purposes of determining remedial legislation.
26

27 **SEC. 76. Separability Clause.** — If any provision of this Act shall be declared
28 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and
29 effect.
30

31 **SEC. 77. Repealing Clause.** - All other laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules
32 and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this
33 Act are hereby repealed or amended, accordingly.
34

35 **SEC. 78. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
36 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,