

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1906



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In September 2015, the United Nations Member States, which includes the Philippines, adopted the Agenda for Sustainable Development to guide international, regional, and national development efforts over the next 15 years – more commonly known as the “17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, namely: (1) No poverty, (2) Zero hunger, (3) Good health and well-being, (4) Quality education, (5) Gender equality, (6) Clean water and sanitation, (7) Affordable clean energy, (8) Decent work and economic growth, (9) Industry, innovation and infrastructure, (10) Reduced inequalities, (11) Sustainable cities and communities, (12) Responsible consumption and production, (13) Climate action, (14) Life below water, (15) Life on land, (16) Peace, justice and strong institutions, and (17) Partnerships for the goals.

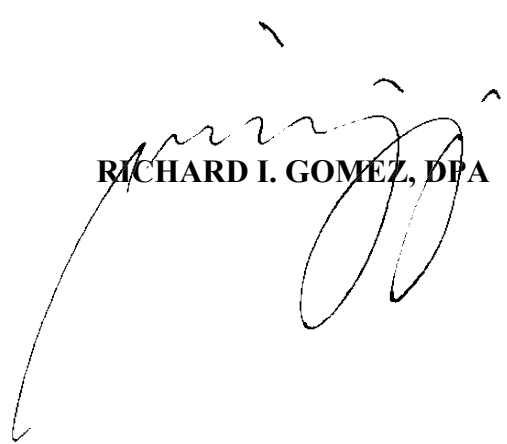
As a member state, the Philippines, through the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev), has been implementing, monitoring and reporting on the country’s performance on each of the 17 SDGs. These results are made available at the NEDA’s website at: <https://sdg.neda.gov.ph>.

For the year 2022, the Sub-Committee on the SDGs (SC-SDG) focused on ensuring that the SDGs are integrated into the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, which resulted in the adoption and integration of a total of 99 out of 155 indicators into the PDP.

At present, the DEPDev conducts voluntary reviews every three (3) years. However, a critical program such as this requires diligent and rigorous monitoring to ensure utmost success in its implementation. To this end, this bill seeks to further formalize and regularize the voluntary

review reporting on the Philippines' progress on its SDGs adoption. This bill mandates an annual voluntary review, which will be personally presented by the Secretary of the DEPDev before the members of the Congress of the Philippines, also on an annual basis.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DFA

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE ANNUAL CONDUCT OF NATIONAL VOLUNTARY REVIEW OF
THE PHILIPPINES' PERFORMANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS, AND MANDATING THE SECRETARY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT (DEPDev) TO
APPEAR ANNUALLY BEFORE CONGRESS TO REPORT THE RESULTS OF SAID
REVIEW

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Annual Report of Voluntary National Review on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Act.*”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Pursuant to Section 28, Article 11 of the 1987 Constitution, it is hereby declared a policy of the State to submit to full public disclosure on matters involving public interest – particularly, relevant information that will greatly help the government craft the necessary policy actions in order to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which ultimately aim to the upliftment of the lives of the Filipino people.

SEC. 3. *Annual Voluntary National Review of Sustainable Development Goals.* — Within the months of January and February of every year, until 2031, the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev) shall conduct a voluntary national review of the country's performance of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, covering the relevant activities and results of the preceding full year.

SEC. 4. *Mandatory Appearance and Reporting before Congress.* — Within the month of March of every year, the Secretary of the DEPDev, together with the heads of related and relevant government agencies shall appear before the Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, either separately or jointly, to report on the progress of the Philippines in reaching the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

SEC. 4. *Contents of Report.* – The report mandated in this Act shall contain, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The full year performance of all 99 out of 155 UN SDG indicators adopted in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-28 using reliable and latest government and non-government data;
2. The impacts of the programs and projects in the immediate preceding full year vis-à-vis the budgets required to implement programs and projects;
3. The direction and targets aimed for the ensuing year, as well as the performance indicators needed to guide official actions;
4. The legislative measures and/or policy adjustments required to meet the set direction and targets; and
5. Other matters that may be requested by Congress.

The DEPDev shall submit the written report to Congress at least one week before the scheduled appearance before Congress.

SEC. 5. *Livestreaming and/or Broadcasting of the Report.* – The report mandated in this Act shall be live-streamed through the online platforms of Congress, DEPDev and any other government agencies. Likewise, it shall be broadcasted in all government television and radio stations.

SEC. 6. *Public Disclosure of the Report.* – On or before the scheduled date of appearance before Congress, the written report submitted by DEPDev to Congress shall be made available, accessible, and downloadable in the respective websites of DEPDev and Congress for the next five (5) years.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,