

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3045, June 17, 1961 ]**

**AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF TWENTY MILLION PESOS  
FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
ABACA INDUSTRY.**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Abaca Development Program Act.

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared to be the national policy to rehabilitate and expand the abaca industry of the country to maintain the world supremacy and the world demand for abaca fiber and to provide adequate measures to insure permanent stability in the production of abaca.

SEC. 3. The Abaca Development Program envisioned in this Act shall be under the administrative supervision and control of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, through a Board composed of the Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension, the Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry, the Manager of the Fiber Inspection Service, three representatives of the three abaca-producing regions and one representative of the Philippine Abaca Federation, Inc., and shall cover the following phases considered necessary to attain the primary objective to bring to at least the pre-war level the production of abaca fiber, popularly known as Manila hemp, and to reduce the cost of production in order to compete successfully with *sisal*, *henequene* and synthetic fibers; and finally, to achieve the desired level of Philippine export of abaca to the world market, as follows:

1. Abaca seed production and distribution to rehabilitate the present depleted abaca plantations;
2. Improvement of fiber extraction methods;
3. Development, and promotion of cottage industries using abaca as raw material;
4. Abaca research;
5. Abaca foreign trade promotion, and
6. General administration.

The Board shall elect its chairman.

SEC. 4. There shall be appropriated, out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of twenty million pesos to be disbursed four million pesos every, fiscal year from 1961-1962 up to 1965-66 for the purpose of this Act.