

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2067, June 13, 1958]

**AN ACT TO INTEGRATE, COORDINATE, AND INTENSIFY
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT AND TO FOSTER INVENTION; TO PROVIDE
FUNDS THEREFOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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 "Science Act of 1958."

SEC. 2. In consonance with the provisions of section four, Article XIV of the Constitution, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to promote scientific and technological research and development, foster invention, and utilize scientific knowledge as an effective instrument for the promotion of national progress.

SEC. 3. In the implementation of the foregoing policy, the Government shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Act:

1. Stimulate and guide scientific, engineering and technological efforts towards filling the basic and immediate needs of the people;
2. Survey the scientific, engineering and technological resources of the country and formulate a comprehensive program for the development and maximum utilization of such resources in the solution of the country's problems;
3. Strengthen the educational system of the country so that the same will provide a steady source of competent scientific and technological manpower;
4. Furnish incentives to private and individual initiative in scientific work, as a fundamental basis for the advancement of science;
5. Promote and encourage the dissemination of the results of scientific and technological research and the general application thereof;
6. Encourage and facilitate the active participation of domestic and foreign sectors in furnishing financial, technical and other forms of assistance for scientific and technological activities;
7. Promote coordination and cooperation in research in order to secure concentration of effort, minimize duplication and thereby achieve maximum progress;
8. Initiate and bring about the establishment of standards, quality control measures and documentation facilities; and
9. Encourage studies in the pure and fundamental sciences.

SEC. 4. To carry out the provisions of the preceding section, there is hereby created a National Science Development Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, with the following functions, powers and duties:

1. To coordinate and promote cooperation in the scientific research and development activities of government agencies and private enterprises;

2. With the approval of the President of the Philippines, to formulate consistent and specific national scientific policies and prepare comprehensive scientific and technological programs which shall be observed and implemented by the Government and all its subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities;
3. To establish a system of priorities for scientific and technological projects;
4. To review and analyze scientific and technological projects, schedules of activities, programs and project proposals, including the progress of projects being under taken, and to take such measures as may be necessary to accomplish the objectives and policies involved in these activities;
5. To develop a program for the effective training and utilization of scientific and technological manpower;
6. To initiate and facilitate arrangements for scientific and technological aid from domestic private sectors and foreign sources and for the exchange of information among local and foreign institutions and scientific investigators ;
7. To offer to, and accept from, public and private sectors, specific project proposals of scientific and/or technological research and development in accordance with section ten hereof, and to provide appropriate financial, technical and other support thereto;
8. To establish and/or provide incentives, including financial and technological support, for the establishment of scientific and technological centers;
9. To disseminate the results of scientific and technological research and to encourage their practical application;
10. To grant scholarships in mathematics, science, technology and science teaching to deserving citizens;
11. To grant financial or other awards, bonuses and/or prizes to deserving scientific, engineering and technological researchers and inventors;
12. To pay additional compensation to scientific, engineering and technological researchers and inventors employed in the Government or its subdivisions and instrumentalities under such terms and conditions as may be most conducive towards the attainment of maximum emciency in scientific research and studies;
13. To extend travel grants for scientific and/or technological purposes; to send delegates and/or observers to scientific and technological conferences or conventions; and to promote and assist scientific and technological conferences and conventions in the Philippines;
14. With the approval of the President of the Philippines, to appoint not more than five science attaches with the proper scientific background and, whenever necessary, to send scientific and technological missions abroad;
15. To undertake, in collaboration with the Department of Education, a thorough survey of the educational system and to determine, as well as to recommend to the corresponding authorities, the measures which may be necessary to make it an effective instrument for scientific advancement;
16. To initiate and formulate measures designed to promote scientific effort and science consciousness;
17. To submit to the President of the Philippines and to both Houses of Congress, not later than the opening of the regular session each year, an annual report on the status of the national science effort, embodying such recommendations as it may deem proper to make; and
18. Generally, to do such other things and take such action as may be directly or indirectly incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 5. The Board shall be composed of a Chairman; a Vice-Chairman, who shall concurrently be the Executive Director of the Board; and the following members: the Chairman of the National Research Council of the Philippines, the Commissioner of the National Institute of Science and Technology, the Commissioner of the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission, the Director of the Office of National Planning of the National Economic Council, a representative from the University of the Philippines to be designated by the President of the University, one member representing industry, one member representing scientific and/or technological associations or societies, one member representing agriculture, and one member representing education.

The members representing industry, scientific and/or technological associations or societies, agriculture and education shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from among those who shall be recommended by representative groups, subject to the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments, and shall hold office each for a period of three years.

SEC. 6. The Chairman of the Board, who shall have cabinet rank, shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, subject to the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments. He shall be a citizen of the Philippines with proven executive ability who shall have distinguished himself in science, technology and/or his chosen profession field of activity. He shall hold office for six years and shall not be removed therefrom except for cause. He shall receive an annual compensation of twenty-four thousand pesos.

The Vice-Chairman shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, subject to the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments. He shall be a citizen of the Philippines with proven executive ability who shall have achieved distinction in science and/or technology. He shall receive an annual compensation of eighteen thousand pesos.

Both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall pass the necessary security clearance.

SEC. 7. The members of the Board, except the Commissioner of the National Institute of Science and Technology and the Commissioner of the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission who shall serve as *ex officio* members without extra compensation, shall receive a *per diem* of fifty pesos each per session of the Board: *Provided*, That the monthly total of such per diems for each member shall not exceed two hundred pesos.

SEC. 8. The Board shall have the following divisions: the Division of Programming and Evaluation, the Division of Development and Assistance, the Administrative Division, the Legal Division and such other divisions which the Board may deem necessary to create.

SEC. 9. The Board shall have, for all legal purposes, all the duties, powers and prerogatives of a Board of Directors and shall function as such, unless otherwise provided for in this Act. The Board shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the conduct and exercise of its functions, duties, and powers under this Act: *Provided*, That the concurrence of at least six members is required for the approval of any resolution; *And provided, further*, That only the members of the Board who have passed the necessary security clearance shall deliberate and act

on classified matters relating to atomic energy and/or nuclear science.

The Board shall exercise its powers in such manner as to insure the continuity of research and development activities in the fields specified in this Act by the Government and private enterprise and to assist in increasing theoretical and practical knowledge in such fields.

SEC. 10. Notwithstanding the provisions of Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred and thirty-eight and the requirements of public bidding, the Chairman shall, subject to the approval of the Board enter into contracts, or otherwise make arrangements, for the conduct of the following activities and their development:

- a. Industrial research
- b. Agricultural research
- c. Medical and pharmaceutical research
- d. Biological research
- e. Atomic energy research
- f. Food and nutrition research
- g. Engineering research
- h. Research on social science and the humanities, and
- i. Pure and fundamental science studies.

In implementation of such contracts or arrangements the Chairman may, subject to the approval of the Board, make partial or advance payments and make available such equipment and facilities of the Board and its agencies as he may deem necessary.

The Chairman shall, with the approval of the Board, appoint such technical and administrative personnel as may be necessary to carry out the assigned functions of the Board.

SEC. 11. The Vice-Chairman and Executive Director shall exercise immediate control and supervision over the divisions and offices of the Board.

SEC. 12. There is hereby created the National Institute of Science and Technology, hereinafter referred to as the Institute, which shall be under the supervision of the National Science Development Board, with the following functions, powers, and duties:

1. To implement and conduct programs of scientific and technological research and development as may be directed by the Board;
2. To cooperate with private enterprise in research activities relating to scientific and technological problems of industry, agriculture, medicine, engineering, mathematics and the natural, biological and social sciences;
3. To conduct studies through its research centers on industrial, agricultural, medical, biological and related fields, and to cooperate with other government agencies along these lines;
4. To perform analyses and tests for the purpose of establishing suitable standards of products, to calibrate weights and measures, to determine the quality and composition of materials, and to issue certifications in relation thereto;
5. To provide government entities and local industrial organizations with data of scientific and/or technological nature, subject to established laws and