

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 52, May 08, 2018]

CREATING THE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE FOR EARTHQUAKE RESILIENCY OF THE GREATER METRO MANILA AREA

WHEREAS, the Government is committed to strengthen the country's resilience against earthquakes to ensure public safety, government and business continuity, and national security;

WHEREAS, the Valley Fault System, consisting of the West and East Valley Faults, poses a tremendous threat of a potentially catastrophic earthquake in Metro Manila and nearby provinces, including Pampanga, Bataan, Zambales, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Batangas, and Quezon, among others, which constitute the Greater Metro Manila Area (GMMA);

WHEREAS, in view of the magnitude of this potential devastation and its repercussions, there is an urgent need to enhance the resiliency of GMMA being the seat of the national government and the main hub of the country's economic, financial, political, and educational centers;

WHEREAS, addressing the foregoing urgent need calls for an innovative approach that goes beyond "business-as-usual" structures, processes, and systems, and includes the establishment of an office that will bridge the gaps of the current bureaucratic framework, work on a full-time, sustained and integrated manner, and focus solely on enhancing the earthquake resiliency of the GMMA;

WHEREAS, the Government adopts a *"Two-pronged Strategy Towards an Earthquake Resilient GMMA,"* consisting of immediate and long-term measures to reduce risks and vulnerabilities of communities and strengthen critical infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, under Section 17, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution, the President shall have control over all the executive departments, bureaus, and offices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. Creation and Mandate. The Program Management Office for Earthquake Resiliency of the GMMA, hereinafter referred to as the "PMO-ERG," is hereby created under the Office of the President (OP). The PMO-ERG shall have the following mandates:

- a) Spearhead the immediate operationalization of the *"Two-Pronged Strategy Towards an Earthquake Resilient GMMA,"* attached herein as **"Annex A;"**

b) Integrate all government efforts to enhance the resiliency of the GMMA against earthquakes, fill existing bureaucratic gaps and build on existing resiliency plans and programs;

c) Undertake all necessary action to fast-track the implementation of urgently-needed interventions, including the action points contained in the Metro Manila Earthquake Impact Reduction Study (MMEIRS) and the "Key Result Areas in the Earthquake Resiliency of GMMA," attached herein as "**Annex B;**" and

d) Collaborate closely with the relevant government agencies, local government units (LGUs), private sector, civil society, and the communities themselves in undertaking the above mandates.

Section 2. Functions. The PMO-ERG shall be the primary body responsible for spearheading, orchestrating, and integrating all efforts aimed at enhancing the resiliency of the GMMA in preparation for major earthquakes. In line with this, the PMO-ERG, in collaboration with concerned departments, agencies, and offices of the government, including LGUs, and the private sector, shall perform the following functions:

a) Formulate and operationalize the GMMA Resiliency Plan, including the overall government service continuity plan, which shall be anchored on the specific needs of the area and aligned with the MMEIRS and the Guide to Earthquake Resiliency of GMMA;

b) Ensure availability and adequacy of key lifelines that can be mobilized immediately after a major earthquake, such as, but not limited to the following:

1) Basic needs and utilities (i.e., water, food, shelter, electric supply, and medical services), which must be pre-positioned adequately and strategically in every community and/or LGU; and

2) Effective response mechanisms (i.e., command control and communications, search, rescue and management of dead bodies, fire protection, law and order, transport and mobility) to be provided by well-trained personnel with necessary competencies, resources and technologies. To this end, the PMO-ERG may use existing government facilities such as the Office of Civil Defense's (OCD) 24/7 Operations Center and other command and operations centers and facilities already existing or available;

c) Ensure resiliency of critical infrastructures by facilitating the conduct of structural assessment and retrofitting of buildings and other structures in close coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and monitoring and evaluating the implementation and enhancement of earthquake resiliency measures such as enforcement of zoning ordinance and adoption of resilient building and construction standards, among others;