

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 119, July 01, 1955]

PROVIDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTING DETAILS FOR REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 10, ON ECONOMIC PLANNING

Pursuant to the powers vested in me by Republic Act Number Nine hundred and ninety-seven, as amended by Republic Act Number One thousand two hundred and forty-one, I, Ramon Magsaysay, President of the Philippines, do hereby direct and order:

Organization of the National Economic Council

SECTION 1. The organization, functions, and operation of the National Economic Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall be in accordance with the provisions of Reorganization Plan No. 10 and this Executive Order; *provided, however,* that the Chairman of the Council, with the approval of the Council and the President, may, subject to the provisions of Reorganization Plan No. 10, make minor changes in the organization, functions, and operations of the Council.

SEC. 2. The Council organization, as indicated in the following organization chart, shall consist of the Council proper, the Office of the Chairman and three staff offices consisting of the Office of National Planning, the Office of Foreign Aid Coordination, and the Office of Statistical Coordination and Standards. The Office of the Chairman shall have three staff services, namely, Legal Counsel, Public Relations, and Administrative Services. The Office of National Planning shall have six branches consisting of the Agricultural Resources Branch, Industrial Resources Branch, Services (Utilities) Branch, Finance Branch, Trade and Commerce Branch, and Social Development Branch. The Office of Foreign Aid Coordination shall have two branches, namely, the Coordination of Program Planning Branch and the Coordination of Program Execution Branch. The Office of Statistical Coordination and Standards shall have two branches, namely, the Planning and Coordination Branch and the Standards and Review Branch.

[Figure 1 – ORGANIZATIONAL CHART NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL]

Personnel of the Council

SEC. 3. The Council shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 13 (n) of Reorganization Plan No. 10, utilize to the fullest extent practicable the services of other government agencies in the formulation and implementation of its policies, plans, and programs. Accordingly, the Council and its offices shall maintain a relatively small staff of highly competent economists and technicians who shall rely upon other government agencies to do the detailed work incident to the formulation and implementation of its policies, plans, and programs. Under no circumstances may the Council or its offices build up a large staff of personnel to engage in detailed work that duplicates work being carried out by other government agencies or in detailed work that could be more expeditiously performed by other government agencies.

SEC. 4. The Council shall prepare the plantilla which shall constitute the initial staff of the Council; *provided, however,* that this plantilla shall be within the limits of appropriations for personal services of the abolished National Economic Council and the Philippine Council for United States Aid; and *provided, further,* that the salary rates shall be in accordance with the provisions of section 28 of this Executive Order.

SEC. 5. The Directors, Assistant Directors, and the Chiefs of the various branches of the Office of National Planning, the Office of Foreign Aid Coordination, and the Office of Statistical Coordination and Standards shall be in the unclassified civil service.

SEC. 6. All other personnel comprising the staff of the Council shall be in the classified civil service.

SEC. 7. All qualified and competent personnel transferred to the Council, under the provisions of section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 10, shall be employed by the Council before consideration is given to the employment of other persons.

SEC. 8. The Chairman of the Council and the Secretary of Finance are authorized to separate officers and employees from the government service, in accordance with the provisions of section 11 of Republic Act Nine hundred ninety-seven, as amended, Reorganization Plan No. 10 and this Executive Order, whose services are not necessary respectively to the Council or to the Department of Finance.

Functions of the Council

SEC. 9. In addition to the functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Council enumerated in section 13 of Reorganization Plan No. 10, the Council shall have the following functions in accordance with section 3 of the Plan:

(a) Provide the President with information and advice with respect to entering into foreign trade agreements as provided by section 5 of Republic Act Number One thousand one hundred and eighty-nine.

(b) Recommend to the President whenever necessary increases and reductions in the rates of import duties as provided for in section 18-A of Republic Act Number Nine hundred and eleven, as amended by Republic Act Number One thousand one hundred ninety-six.

Functions of the Chairman

SEC. 10. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Chairman of the Council shall include, among others, the following:

(a) Preside over the meetings of the Council.

(b) Prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Council and submit for the Council's consideration proposals setting forth policies and measures and economic and social programs, plans, and projects.

(c) Coordinate the work assigned to permanent, special, and temporary committees which may be formed by the Council.

(d) Transmit to the President the policies and measures and economic and social programs, plans, and projects approved by the Council.

(e) Serve as the chief executive officer of the Council; direct and supervise the operations and internal administration of the Council, and delegate administrative responsibilities as necessary or desirable.

(f) Follow up on the implementation and execution of such phases of the economic development program, plans, and projects as are under the jurisdiction of the different entities of the government and prepare for the President such directives as may be necessary.

(g) Prepare for consideration by the Council necessary directives requiring services and reports from other government agencies as may be needed in the formulation and implementation of the policies, plans, and programs of the Council.

(h) Submit periodic reports to the Council for its approval and subsequent transmission to Congress and to the President indicating, among other things, the state of progress made by other entities in the implementation of approved economic plans, programs, and projects, and current needs for legislation and changes in administrative policies, objectives, and practices.

(i) Employ, with the approval of the Council, such counsel and such officers and employees as may be necessary to perform the work of the Council.

Functions of Legal Counsel

SEC. 11. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Legal Counsel shall include, among others, the following:

(a) Give legal advice and counsel.

(b) Take charge of all legal matters affecting the Council.

(c) Prepare and draft bills for presentation to the Council and for submission to Congress through the President.

Functions of Public Relations Staff

SEC. 12. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Public Relations staff shall include, among others, the following:

(a) Develop an extensive public relations program that is designed to obtain widespread understanding and support for whatever policies, plans, and programs for economic and social development that may be formulated by the Council.

(b) Gather and prepare for dissemination by means of the press, radio, and other media, popularized informative materials regarding the workings of the Council.

(c) Provide such other services and assistance as the Chairman may require in promoting the public relations of the Council.

Functions of Administrative Services

SEC. 13. The functions, powers, duties and responsibilities of the Administrative Services staff in the Office of the Chairman shall include, among others, the following:

- (a) Provide all administrative and auxiliary services needed by the Council proper, including keeping the minutes and other records of the Council.
- (b) Provide all administrative and auxiliary services required by the various offices under the Council with respect, among others, to secretarial and steno-typing services; budgeting and finance services; requisitions, property, and supplies; personnel and records management; cash and disbursements; messenger and janitorial services; preparation and reproduction of reports; and the maintenance and operation of library facilities and services.

SEC. 14. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Administrative Officer shall include, among others, the following:

- (a) Supervise and assume responsibility for the performance of all administrative and auxiliary services needed by the Council proper and by the various offices comprising the organization of the Council.
- (b) Supervise and direct the following staff activities: budget, finance, and property; records and library; personnel; and general services.
- (c) Supervise and assume responsibility for the recording of the deliberations and proceedings of the Council.
- (d) Supervise and assume responsibility for keeping the minutes and other records of the Council.
- (e) Notify the members of the Council of all regular and special meetings that may be called by the Chairman.
- (f) Prepare, in consultation with the Chairman, the agenda and the materials for consideration in the meetings of the Council.
- (g) Process correspondence and memoranda for the Council and its members and provide necessary secretarial and administrative services.

Functions of the Office of National Planning

SEC. 15. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Office of National Planning shall consist of those specifically enumerated in section 15 of Reorganization Plan No. 10, and those delegated to the Office by the Chairman.

SEC. 16. The functions, power, duties, and responsibilities of the Agricultural Resources Branch shall include, among others, the following:

- (a) Formulate for consideration by the Council definite and consistent broad economic policies and plans for agricultural and related natural resources development.
- (b) Prepare and keep current sound, flexible, and long-range national plans, programs, projects, and measures for agricultural and related

natural resources development, integrated as component parts of the overall economic development program.

(c) Maintain liaison with the entities of government concerned with agricultural and related natural resources development

(d) Follow up and report on the progress of the implementation of approved plans, programs, projects, and measures for agricultural and related natural resources development.

(e) Initiate studies and research work on matters related to agricultural and related natural resources development and attend to the evaluation of the results, as well as to the present available facts and data on agricultural and related natural resources, so that broad policies and sound plans, programs, projects, and measures for agricultural and related natural resources development can accordingly be formulated on an intelligent basis.

(f) Prepare and make periodic reports to the Council indicating, among other things, the state of progress in agricultural and related natural resources development; progress made by other entities in the implementation of approved plans; programs, projects, and measures for agricultural and related natural resources development; and current needs for legislation and changes in policy, objectives, and practices as these pertain to agricultural and related natural resources.

SEC. 17. The functions, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Industrial Resources Branch shall include, among others, the following:

(a) Formulate for consideration by the Council definite and consistent broad economic policies and plans for industrial and mineral resources development.

(b) Prepare and keep current sound, flexible, and long-range national plans, programs, projects, and measures for the development of the industrial and mineral resources of the country, integrated as component parts of the overall economic development program.

(c) Maintain liaison with the entities of government concerned with industrial and mineral resources development.

(d) Follow up and report on the progress of the implementation of approved plans, programs, projects, and measures for industrial and mineral resources development.

(e) Initiate studies and research work on matters related to industrial and mineral resources development and attend to the evaluation of the results, as well as of the present available facts and data on industrial and mineral resources, so that broad policies and sound plans, programs, projects, and measures for industrial and mineral resources development can accordingly be formulated on an intelligent basis.

(f) Prepare and make periodic reports to the Council indicating, among other things, the state of progress made by other entities in the implementation of approved plans, programs, projects, and measures for