

**[ EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 197, March 24, 1939 ]**

**REVISING FURTHER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 139, DATED  
JANUARY 14, 1938, CREATING A NATIONAL RELIEF  
ADMINISTRATION, AS REVISED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 188,  
DATED FEBRUARY 23, 1939**

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of Commonwealth Acts Numbered Ninety and Two hundred and sixty-six, which state that the funds therein appropriated shall be expended through such official, office, entity, or agency as the President may designate, and with a view to achieving efficiency and economy by consolidating the different relief activities of the Government under one management and coordinating such Government relief activities with those being undertaken by private relief institutions, I, Manuel L. Quezon, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby create a National Relief Administration under the general supervision and control of a board herein designated as the National Relief Board, to be composed of the Secretary of the Interior as Chairman, the Secretary of Finance, and the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, as members. The Commissioner of the Budget shall be the Executive Officer of the Board.

1. The duties of the National Relief Administration shall be as follows:

(a) To investigate the extent of the damages caused by typhoons, floods, fires, and other public calamities in the different provinces; and to determine the amounts of money needed for relief and rehabilitation work.

(b) To coordinate the relief activities of the Government with those being undertaken by private relief institutions.

(c) To serve as a coordinating agency for the placement in public works projects under the Department of Public Works and Communications and other branches, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government of unemployed laborers who register in the Department of Labor.

(d) To extend relief to the indigents who are physically incapacitated for work either directly or through the Bureau of Public Welfare or the charitable institutions under the latter's supervision.

(e) To take charge of all the funds appropriated under Commonwealth Acts Numbered Ninety and Two hundred and sixty-six and such other funds as may be appropriated or donated to or by the Government for relief or rehabilitation purposes, and, subject to the approval of the President, to make allotments out of said funds for the purposes of this