

[NBDB, April 23, 1997]

**RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING R.A. NO. 8047,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY
DEVELOPMENT ACT**

The following rules and regulations implementing R.A. 8047, otherwise known as the Book Publishing Industry Development Act are hereby promulgated as follows:

**Rule 1
Statement of Policies**

Section 1. Title. — These rules shall be known and cited as the Rules and Regulations Implementing R.A. 8047, otherwise known as the Book Publishing Industry Development Act, referred hereto as the Book Act.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is a declared policy of the state that the book publishing industry has a significant role in national development since books are instrumental in the citizenry's intellectual, technical and cultural development which constitutes the basic social foundation for the economic and social growth of the country. Books are the most effective and economical tools for achieving educational growth, for imparting information and for recording, preserving, and disseminating the nation's cultural heritage.

a) Private Sector Participation. The State shall promote the continuing development of the book publishing industry, with the active participation of the private sector, to ensure an adequate supply of varied, high quality books that are affordable and suited for the domestic as well as the export market.

b) Policy and Development Plan Formulation. The Government shall formulate, adopt, and implement a National Book Policy and a corresponding National Book Development Plan that will serve as the enduring basis for fostering the progressive growth and viability of the book industry.

**Rule II
Definition of Terms**

Section 1. Definition of Terms. — As used in the Rules and Regulations, the terms below shall mean except when the context indicates otherwise, as follows:

- a. Book. As defined by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), it is a printed non-periodical publication of at least forty-eight (48) pages, exclusive of cover pages, published in the country and made available to the public;

However, in order to satisfy the intent of the Book Act in the light of modern

information technology and for purposes of enjoying the tax and duty-free status of imported books, this definition shall include: (1) children's books which may be less than forty eight (48) pages; (2) children's educational comics; (3) boomics, which is a combination of a book and a comics; (4) scientific, cultural, medical, architectural and professional magazines; and (5) book catalog.

- b. Textbook. A book which is an exposition of generally accepted principles in one (1) subject, intended primarily as a basis for instruction in a classroom or pupil-book-teacher situation.
- c. Book Title. Refers to a particular book of which a number of copies are printed.
- d. National Book Policy. A statement of the intention and philosophy of the State as a basis for the formulation and implementation of measures for the development, production and distribution of books.
- e. National Book Development Plan. Refers to the integrated approach for fostering book development, consisting of the totality of the procedures and systems for attaining the balanced growth of the various components of the book development and production, including preparation and distribution of books.
- f. National Development. It is used in the most general sense to refer to the country's progress as well as to the process or measures that contribute to such progress.
- g. Book Publishing. A process of choosing, producing and making available books dealing with everything known to the human spirit, philosophy, religious beliefs, intellectual ideas, the physical world, all the arts and sciences and the like.
- h. Book Development. A condition not only of having more output but also different kinds of outputs that were previously produced, as well as changes in the technical and institutional arrangements by which such output is produced and distributed.
- i. Related Activities. The domestic industries which have direct bearing on the long term viability of the book publishing industry, such as but not limited to the following: printing distribution, book trading, importation of paper, procurement, manufacture or production of raw materials for book publishing, and the development of new technologies.
- j. Information. Any material, medium, or process which has actual or potential knowledge value (KEV).
- k. Board. The National Book Development Board.

Rule III
National Book Policy and Development Plan

Section 1. Formulation of the National Book Policy. — Pursuant to RA No. 8047, the Board shall formulate and adopt a National Book Policy to ensure the development and viability of the book publishing industry.

The purposes and objectives of the National Book Policy are as follows:

- 1) to create conditions conducive to development, production, and distribution of books, especially the acquisition and adoption of state-of-the-art technology, equipment and machinery for book publishing;
- 2) to obtain priority status for the book publishing industry;
- 3) to ensure an adequate, affordable, and accessible supply of books for all segments of the population;
- 4) to promote book readership especially among the young and neo-literates, through programs promoting literary and good reading habits, book fairs and exhibits, and an efficient nationwide system of libraries and reading centers especially in the rural areas;
- 5) to promote the development of indigenous authorship and of translations among various language groups in the country;
- 6) to promote the translation and publication of scientific and technical books and classic works in literature and the arts;
- 7) to promote the effective distribution of books in the domestic as well as in the international markets through an efficient and reliable postal and transport delivery system;
- 8) to foster the development of skills of the personnel engaged in book publishing through in-service training programs and formal degree and non-degree book publishing courses in the schools;
- 9) to respect and inculcate the concept of intellectual property ownership and to protect the rights of authors and publishers by strictly enforcing copyright laws and providing legal assistance to authors and publishers in suits related thereto;
- 10) to reaffirm and ensure the country's commitment to the UNESCO principle of free flow of information and other related provisions as embodied in the Florence Agreement and in other similar international agreements; and
- 11) to promote, whenever appropriate, the use of recycled/waste paper and other inexpensive local materials in the manufacture of books to reduce the cost of such locally produced books.

Section 2. Formulation of a National Book Development Plan. — For the formulation and modification of the National Book Development Plan, the Board (NBDB) shall undertake a planning process and adopt strategic measures for the realization of the components of the plan.

a) Planning Process. The Board shall gather and/or generate data through surveys/studies on the book industry covering but not limited to the following:

- 1) book production in specific fields of knowledge such as supply and demand of paper, publishing equipment and machinery, and existing distribution networks;
- 2) availability of manpower and skills needed by the publishing industry such as authors, editors, designers and illustrators, marketing personnel, printers and professional training capability therefor;
- 3) legislative measures affecting the book industry both at the national and international levels;
- 4) kind and quantity of book importation; preferences, attitudes and reading habits of Filipinos; and
- 5) consultation with all segments of the book industry.

b) Components of the Plan. — The National Book Development Plan shall have the following components and/or requisites:

- 1) provisions for strong and effective mechanisms for book development in the country;
- 2) provisions for producing books or other periodicals, such as appropriate or selected comics as instructional or teaching materials for such various categories of readers in the country as pre-school children and school children, school drop-outs, neo-literates, the handicapped, professionals, general readers, and ethnic groups;
- 3) measures for addressing the needs and problems of the book industry as indicated in the surveys conducted;
- 4) measures designed to redress the imbalance between demand of good books and other reading materials and the supply thereof in different parts of the country;
- 5) measures to secure to authors adequate compensation for copyrights and other intellectual property rights;
- 6) guidelines for ethical practices in the book trade; and
- 7) a human resource development programs for book personnel.

Rule IV

Governing Board

Section 1. Creation of NBDB. — To implement the Book Act, a National Book Development Board (NBDB) is created, herein referred to as the Board. It shall operate under the administrative supervision of the Office of the President, It may convert itself into a corporate entity when it meets the criteria for the creation of

government corporations, subject to the approval of appropriate authorities.

The Board shall be composed of a Governing Board and a Secretariat.

Section 2. Composition of the Governing Board. — The Governing Board shall be composed of eleven (11) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, as follows:

a) Five (5) representatives of the government to be chosen from the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA), and nominees by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) from the academe and training institutions, respectively; and

b) Six (6) nominees of organizations of private book publishers, printers, writers, book industry related activities, students and the private education sector, preferably representatives of the three (3) main islands of the country in view of the substantial progress made by other regions in the book publishing industry. Related activities shall include, but not limited to booksellers, importers, paper/raw materials suppliers, and those involved in new technology.

The appointees to the Governing Board shall be one of three (3) nominees of the concerned nationwide organizations duly incorporated with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and with membership, whenever feasible, in all cities and provinces throughout the country.

The members of the Governing Board shall elect a chairman from among themselves. The DECS representative in the Governing Board shall be the ex-officio vice-chairman of the Governing Board.

Section 3. Qualifications. — The members of the Governing Board must be citizens of the Philippines, at least thirty (30) years of age, and of established competence and integrity.

Section 4. Terms of Office. — The members of the Governing Board shall serve for a term of three (3) years; provided, that no member shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Provided, further, that the terms of the first appointees from the private sector shall be staggered thus: the first two (2) representatives of the private sector shall serve for three (3) years; the second two (2) for two (2) years; and third two (2) for one (1) year. That the appointee from the academe shall serve for the period of three (3) years and the appointee from training institutions shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

The members of the Governing Board shall serve and continue to hold office until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. Should a member of the Governing Board fail to complete his/her term, his or her successor shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, but only for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 5. Meetings and Compensations. — The Governing Board shall meet at least once a month or as frequently as it may deem necessary. In the absence of the