

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 115, May 11, 2020]

EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE BORACAY INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 53(S.2018)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act (RA) No. 10121 or the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010," and by virtue of Proclamation No. 475 (s. 2018), a state of calamity remains in full force and effect in the barangays of Balabag, Manoc-Manoc and Yapak ("Boracay island") in the Municipality of Malay, Province of Aklan;

WHEREAS, to facilitate the rehabilitation and ensure the ecological sustainability of the Island of Boracay, Executive Order (EG) No. 53 (s. 2018) created the Boracay inter-Agency Task Force ("Task Force"), which shall be deemed dissolved after two (2) years from the effectivity thereof or on 08 May 2020, unless extended by the President;

WHEREAS, pursuant to EO No. 53, the President, upon the recommendation of the Cabinet, approved the Boracay Action Plan, which provides for synchronized and strategic national and local interventions to ensure the island's rehabilitation over the medium term and sustainable management over the long term, towards the vision of a globally-competitive and world-class tourism destination with a vibrant, productive, inclusive and climate-resilient economy;

WHEREAS, based on a 2018 study conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau, and the University of the Philippines Los Banos, Laguna, and upon ground validation, the Boracay island had exceeded its physical carrying capacity by 109.95 hectares (or 4,712 units) for residential structures, 194.90 has. (or 154 units) for businesses with lodging or accommodation services, and 16.95 has. (or 878 units) for other business establishments, while its total population carrying capacity had been exceeded by 15,836 persons per day;

WHEREAS, upon further validation made by the Task Force last 31 2020, thirty-three percent (33%) of establishments in the Boracay island are not compliant with the twenty-five (25) meters plus five (5) meters beach easement, twenty-seven percent (27%) of establishments have not complied with the road easement, required under existing laws;

WHEREAS, despite the demolition of 111 structures on wetlands, 227 structures on the beach easement and 898 on the road easement since the inception of the Task Force in 2018, there are still 723 structures built on forestland blocks, 112 on the beach easement, and 334 on the road easement; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to complete critical projects in Boracay island pursuant to the Boracay Action Plan, such as but not limited to the improvement of the water drainage system, demolition of remaining establishments situated in forest land and