

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 774, December 26, 2008]

REORGANIZING THE PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, climate change is already impacting adversely on the world;

WHEREAS, climate change will have catastrophic effects if immediate and sufficient action to curb industrial emissions and forest loss is not taken;

WHEREAS, while our country's remissions remain much lower in per capita terms than those of industrialized nations, our country's recent growth and development have been accompanied by a rise in damaging emissions from fossil fuels.

WHEREAS, we should try to help push the mind-set from the present traditional paradigms to economics to the new mindset of conservation, protection and restoration.

NOW THEREFORE I, GLORIA M. ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. Reorganization. - (a) The Presidential Task Force on Climate Change (PTFCC) is hereby reorganized. The President of the Philippines shall serve as Chair. All sectors under the President are hereby directed to cooperate with one another toward the fulfillment of the vision and goals of sustainable development.

(b) The Cabinet members shall be members of the Task Force. Their offices shall immediately practice proper solid waste management, the most basic form of environmental responsibility, pursuant to the Solid Waste Act. Every Friday of the week, the President or Presidential Adviser on Climate Change (PACC) shall personally visit government offices, to help in the implementation of the aforesaid discipline. The weekly visits shall continue until it shall be proclaimed that the mindsets have been converted into attitudes and practices by the government offices of Conservation, Protection and Restoration (CPR).

(c) The Presidential Management Staff Appointments Office shall clear the President's schedule on Fridays and devote five (5) hours to concerns and initiatives for environmental security.

Section 2. Task Group on Solid Waste Management - (a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall lead a Task Group in the implementation of solid waste management. It shall target the reduction of solid waste generation by fifty percent (50%) within the next six months. All local governments are hereby enjoined to fully implement the law on solid waste management. The President or the PACC on Climate Change shall visit the regions,

provinces, towns and cities every week until it is proclaimed that the Filipino people shall have fully integrated into the mainstream of their thought their personal environmental responsibilities and thereby effectively implement the Solid Waste Act.

(b) The DENR shall report to the President in person or through the PACC every Friday during the weekly visits to offices and regions to campaign for responsible solid waste management.

(c) With the Department of Health, the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage Systems shall enjoin the private sector, such as sludge excavation contractors and water concessionaires, to undertake a methane recovery program from human and animal waste and convert it into cooking gas and other forms of energy.

Section 3. Protected Areas - After six months of such campaign of solid waste management, the next stage and level of the focused CPR campaign shall be to identify and regenerate the forest lands and protected areas of the islands and seas of the Philippines.

Section 4. Task Group on Watershed Protection - (a) Within the next six months, the DENR shall lead a Task Group to undertake a survey and mapping for the protected areas of the country and the needed areas for forest land. Pursuant to the Constitution, these areas shall be clearly marked on the ground. Part of the Two Billion Pesos (P2,000,000,000.00) allocated for reforestation shall be provided for the delineation and boundary marking of the forest lands within the respective Congressional districts. This preliminary activity shall set the state for the massive restoration and regeneration of said forest lands and protected areas.

(b) Water resources and watersheds shall be immediately identified and protected and their water flow improved and their floral cover regenerated. For this purpose, the fund set aside for the rehabilitation of watersheds under the Electric Power Industry Reform Act shall be made available by the National Power Corporation for forest delineation and reforestation projects.

(c) The DENR, the state universities and colleges (SUCs), particularly their Departments of Biology and Marine Sciences, Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and other scientific institutions shall mobilize the youth to conduct and complete an inventory of the flora and fauna in the terrestrial and marine ecosystems of their respective localities within one hundred and eighty (180) days from this issuance of this Order. Funds for this purpose shall be allocated from the research budgets or the SUCS, the DENR and the DOST

(d) The DENR and the Commission on Higher Education shall report to the PACC the progress of this initiative every Friday of every week until almost all of the flora and fauna have been identified.

Section 5. Clean Water Conservation. - With due consultation and proper relocation assistance, all riverbanks and waterways must be cleared of informal structures and obstacles. All waterways must be restored to waters suitable for fisheries and boating within twenty-four (24) months from the issuance hereof.

Section 6. Task Group on Rainwater Conservation. - Rainwater collection

systems shall be put in place. The DPWH shall lead a Task Group in cooperation with the United Architects of the Philippines to design and implement the efficient rainwater collection and aquifier systems. Demonstration projects shall be in operations within ninety (90) days from issuance of this Order. Plans for scaling them up nationwide, especially in areas highly vulnerable to droughts, shall be presented to the President through the PACC.

Section 7. Task Group on Water Recycling. - Water recycling - the prevention, recovery and treatment of used water - shall be placed at the highest priority of survival. For the purpose, the National Water Resources Office, shall lead a Task Group in cooperation with the Local Water Utilities Administration and the water districts, the DTI and manufacturers of irrigation implements and toilet facilities to efficiently use, recover and reuse water. With due consultation and proper relocation assistance, all riverbanks and waterways must be cleared of informal structures and obstacles. All waterways must be restored to waters suitable for fisheries and boating within twenty-four (24) months from the issuance hereof.

Section 8. Task Group on Atmospheric Activities. - The DOST shall lead a Task Group to transform the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Administration (PAGASA) into a world-class atmospheric and meteorological facility. For this purpose, a Filipino Scientist Program on Atmospheric Sciences shall be immediately incorporated into the DOST Research and Development Program to attract the best Filipino minds, both young and more senior, both in the Philippines and abroad, to develop the Filipino capability for weather sciences.

Section 9. Task Group on Fossil Fuels. - (a) To reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall lead a Task Group to reform the transportation sector. The new paradigm in the movement of men and things must follow a simple principle: "Those who have less in wheels must have more in road." For this purpose, the system shall favor non-motorized locomotion and collective transportation system (walking, bicycling, and the man-powered mini-train).

(b) The DOTC and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall immediately transform roads using aforesaid principle.

(c) Malacañang Palace and all Cabinet offices are hereby directed to bring down by fifty percent (50%) the consumption of fossil fuels within two (2) years from the issuance of this order.

(d) The PACC shall consult with the biggest consumers and undertake extensive mass media social marketing and mobilization campaigns to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels.

(e) The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall immediately make available funds from Road Users' Tax for the purposes stated in this Section.

(f) The Secretaries of the DOTC, DBM and DPWH shall personally report to the President through the PACC every 48 hours on the progress of the initiatives stated in this Section.

(g) The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall coordinate with