

Update on Proposed National Water Resources Management Office (NWRMO)

Guillermo Q. Tabios III
National Academy of Science and Technology
Institute of Civil Engineering and
National Hydraulic Research Center
University of the Philippines at Diliman

March 18, 2014

Water Code of the Philippines, PD 1067 (Dec 1976) in the context of IWRM:

At the beginning of the code it says:

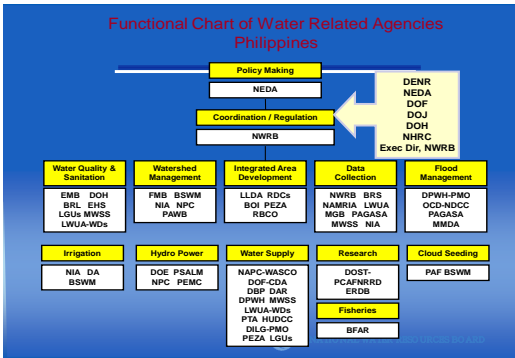
... there is a need for a Water Code based on rational concepts of integrated and multi-purpose management of water resources and sufficiently flexible to adequately meet future developments.

And Article 3(d), Chapter 1 states that:

... the utilization, exploitation, development, conservation and protection of water resources shall be subject to the control and regulation of the government through the *National Water Resources Council*, hereinafter referred to as the Council.

However, the Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of the Water Code of the Philippines (June, 1979) still recognized the legislated roles of many key players in the sector (incomplete list below).

- National Water Resources Board (NWRB)
- Department Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
- Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- Local Government Units (LGU)
- Local Waterworks Utilities Administration
- Water Districts (LWUA)
- Metropolitan Water Works and Sewerage (MWSS)
- Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Seismological Administration(PAGASA)
- National Irrigation Administration (NIA)
- National Power Corporation (NPC)



Observations by Ben Malayang (2004): How Decisions and Actions on Water are Made in the Philippines

- There is a *multiplicity of institutions—organizations and regulations—* governing water and its uses in the country.
- The authority and jurisdiction of water institutions differ in terms of a *hierarchy of their coverage.*
- The *mandates of the institutions differ.*
- Water institutions differ in terms of the *sectors they represent.*

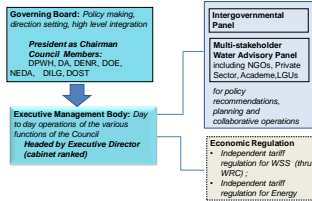
What do we get ? Overlapping and fragmented roles and responsibilities of major water related agencies in the Philippines

	NWRB	LWUA	DENR	LGUS	DPWH	DOH	DOIA	NAPCOR	PAGASA	DOF	MWSS	DILG	DOE	MMDA	DOT	LLDA
Policy Planning	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Data Monitoring	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Scientific modeling								●								
Infrastructure and program dev't	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Operations of water facilities				●	●	●	●	●		●				●		
Regulatory functions	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Financing		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Public relations, Capdev't and IEC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Local RBO dev't			●													

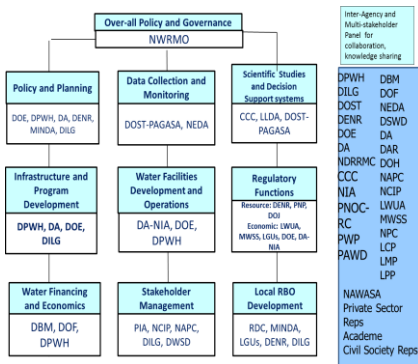
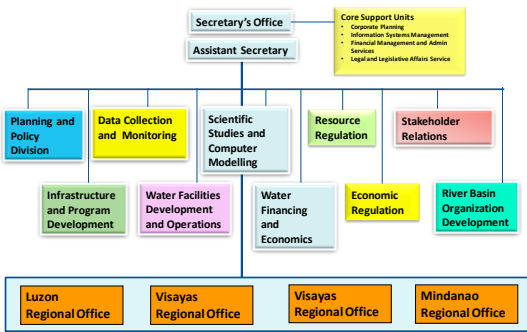
Proposed National Water Resources Management Office (a water superbody proposed last July 2012)

A new office to manage and protect the country's water resources for domestic water supply, sanitation, irrigation, hydropower, fisheries, aquaculture, flood control, navigation, and recreation including the enhancement and maintenance of water quality, conservation of watersheds, control of water pollution and environmental restoration without compromising the natural ecosystem functions and services.

Proposed composition of NWRMO:



National Water Resources Management Office (Organization at National and Regional Level)



Time Line of NWRMO:

October 2011	Policy Paper on Status, Challenges and Proposed National Water Management Superbody for Philippine Water Resources Sector Development Plan (report by Tabios & Villaluna submitted to NEDA)
October 26 2011	President issued Executive Order No. 62 creating Inter-Agency Committee on Water led by DPWH with NEDA, DBM, DILG and OP as members. The committee is tasked to develop the Water Sector Master Plan and recommend an appropriate organizational structure for effective implementation of the water sector master plan
January to April 2012	Regional Consultations for Luzon (NCR, Bulacan, Regions 4A & 4B, Region 5) in Tagaytay City, for Visayas in Cebu City, for Mindanao in Davao City and for Luzon (CAR, Regions 1, 2 & 3) in Baguio City and key agencies (DENR, DA, DOE, DBM) including Senate and Congress in Metro Manila
June 2012	Final Report on Development of the Implementation and Operational Plan for the National Water Resources Management Office (NWRMO) submitted to Interagency Committee on Water (Tabios & Villaluna)
July 2012	Submitted draft of proposed EO (including draft legislative bill) of NWRMO to Office of President for review by water-related agencies
April 5, 2013	Meeting with Office of Cabinet Secretary Almendras with key government offices and departments to submit comments by April 15, 2013.
February 10, 2014	Office of Cabinet Secretary received matrix of comments and forwarded to Sec. Singson of DPWH and forwarded to me March 7, 2014. So EO still alive!

Last Slide!

