

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 40

Series of 2019

CREATING A TASK FORCE RICE LIBERALIZATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND THOSE OF THE MEMBERS THEREOF, AND OTHER MEASURES TO COMBAT THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF RICE LIBERALIZATION LAW IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN THE PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

WHEREAS, Section 9, Article II of the 1987 Constitution enshrines the state policy of promoting a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all:

WHEREAS, Section 1, Title IV, Book IV, of Executive Order No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987 provides that the State shall promote the well-being of farmers, including share tenants, leaseholders, settlers, fishermen, and other rural workers by providing an environment in which they can increase their income, improve their living conditions, and maximize their contributions to the national economy. Toward this end, the State shall accelerate agricultural crops, fisheries, and livestock by optimizing the use of resources and by applying modern farming system and technology in order to attain food security for domestic use and expand and diversify agricultural production for export. It shall also encourage private initiative in agribusiness ventures both in the production and in the exportation of food and other allied commodities:

WHEREAS, Section 3(h), Chapter I, Title I, Book I of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended or the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the local government shall have a continuing mechanism to enhance local autonomy not only by legislative enabling acts but also by administrative and organizational reforms;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the declared policy of the newly signed Republic Act No. 11203 or the Rice Liberalization Law to ensure food sufficiency in the country which is now under precarious situation because of the possible negative implication of the implementation of the law to the farmers;

WHEREAS, the issues surrounding the implementation of RA 11203 should be properly addressed and communicated among affected sectors for them to be informed and have a better understanding about the law and act accordingly;

WHEREAS, there is need to establish an inter-agency task force which will educate, formulate, implement, and oversee policies, as well as strictly enforce national laws and local ordinances, to ensure the effective delivery of measures to fight the possible negative effect of the implementation of Rice Liberalization Law; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the mandate of the Provincial Governor under the 1987 Constitution, as the Chief Executive of the provincial government, he shall exercise such powers and perform such duties and functions as provided for efficient, effective and economical governance the purpose of which is the general welfare of the province and its inhabitants;

NOW THEREFORE, I, EDUARDO B. GADIANO, Governor of Occidental Mindoro, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. Creation of the Rice Liberalization Inter-Agency Task Force. The Rice Liberalization Inter-Agency Task Force (hereinafter, "TASK FORCE") is hereby created, to be composed of the following:

Chairperson - Provincial Agriculturist

Vice Chairperson - Provincial Cooperative, Enterprises and Investment

Promotion Development Officer

Co-Vice Chairperson - Provincial Planning and Development Officer

Members - Provincial Head, Department of Trade and Industry

Provincial Head, Department of Science and Technology

Provincial Head, Technical Skills Training and Development

Authority

Provincial Manager, National Food Authority

Provincial Head, Department of Labor and Employment

Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer

Provincial Manager, Landbank of the Philippines

All Municipal Mayors of the 11 Municipalities

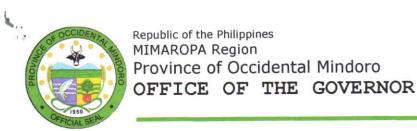
The Task Force members may designate an alternate to represent their respective offices in the Task Force in their absence and must be fully authorized to decide on behalf of the Task Force member.

The Task Force may call upon or mobilize any department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs), to extend full support towards the attainment of the objectives of this Order.

The Task Force shall be deemed dissolved after two (2) years from the effectivity of this Order, unless extended by the Provincial Governor upon recommendation of the economic team.

Section 2. Powers and Functions. The Task Force shall have the following powers and functions:

 Ensure that the policies are consistent with relevant laws, rules and regulations, and fully implement, in coordination with relevant agencies and LGUs, such policies, laws, rules and regulations, including the Task Force Action Plan;



- b. Review and consolidate existing plans and formulate, in close coordination and consultation with all stakeholders, the Task Force Action Plan. The Task Force Action Plan shall be a comprehensive medium-term masterplan to combat the possible negative effects of RA 11203 and ensure its success towards the realization of its objectives. It shall be submitted within one (1) month from the issuance of this Order for the approval of the Governor upon recommendation of the economic team;
- Coordinate with concerned agencies and LGUs for the immediate action and implementation of orders and directives from the Governor;
- d. Collaborate with the agencies and LGUs related to the rehabilitation of affected farmers and communities;
- e. Ensure the implementation of programs and assistance on the ground for all affected stakeholders;
- f. Create committees or technical working groups consisting of relevant national government agencies and local governments units that will address specific concerns relative to the implementation of this Order; and
- g. Perform other tasks that the Provincial Governor may direct.

Section 3. Agency Duties. The members of the Task Force shall perform the following functions in accordance with and/or in conjunction with their respective mandates:

- a. OPA (Office of the Provincial Agriculturist)
 Be in the frontline of the delivery of basic agricultural services, particularly those needed for the survival of the inhabitants during and in the aftermath of manmade and natural disasters.
- b. PCEIDO
- c. PPDO
- d. DOST
- e. TESDA
- f. DOLE
- g. PSWDO

Identify the basic needs of the needy, the disadvantaged and the impoverished and develop and implement appropriate measures to alleviate their problems and improve their living conditions.

- h. NFA
- i. LANDBANK
- j. DTI
- k. ALL MAYORS

Section 4. Reportorial Requirement. The Task Force shall submit a monthly report on the implementation of this Order to the Provincial Governor's Office, through the Office of the Provincial Administrator. Such report shall include the actions taken by the Office of Provincial Agriculture, which shall be closely monitored by the Task Force, and the progress and accomplishments of the Task Force based on the timeline and milestones contained in the Task Force Action Plan, including a comparison from its pre-implementation phase baseline data.

Section 5. Funding. The funding for the implementation of this Order shall be sourced from existing appropriations of member-agencies of the Task Force and such other appropriate funding sources as the Department of Budget and Management may identify, subject to existing budgeting, accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

Section 6. Separability Clause. In the event that any provision of this Order or any part thereof is declared invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, the provisions not thereby affected shall remain in force and effect.

Section 7. Repealing Clause. All executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of the Executive Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 30th day of September, 2019 at the Provincial Capitol, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro.

EDUARDO B. GADIANO Governor