



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9215

BY REPRESENTATIVES GO (M.), MANGAOANG, OLIVAREZ, YAP (E.), LARA, NOLASCO, BALINDONG,
BERNOS, ADIONG, SACDALAN AND RODRIGUEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 917

AN ACT
CREATING THE METROPOLITAN BAGUIO CITY, LA TRINIDAD, ITOGON,
SABLAN, TUBA, AND TUBLAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
[(BLISTTDA)] MBLISTTDA, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS,
AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of
2 the State to pursue the acceleration of social, economic, and political development
3 of local government units (LGUs) and their communities through the creation of
4 special development and administrative areas that will ensure the efficient and
5 effective planning, supervision, and coordination of essential basic services,
6 without prejudice to the autonomy of the LGUs concerned.

7 **SEC. 2. Creation and Mandate of the METROPOLITAN Baguio City, La**
8 **Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay Development Authority**
9 **[(BLISTTDA)] (MBLISTTDA).** – There is hereby created a government
10 instrumentality to be named as the METROPOLITAN Baguio City, La Trinidad,
11 Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay Development Authority, hereinafter referred to
12 as [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA, which shall administer a special development and
13 administrative area embracing the City of Baguio and the municipalities of La
14 Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay. The [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA shall be
15 under the administrative supervision of the Office of the President of the
16 Philippines.

1 The [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA shall serve as the platform for the acceleration
2 of the social, economic, and political developments in the area as a unified
3 management unit by enabling the component LGUs to respond to common
4 developmental challenges through unified, effective, and economically efficient
5 programs and undertakings. The [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA shall perform planning,
6 monitoring, and coordinative functions. It shall exercise regulatory and supervisory
7 authority over the delivery of area-wide services within the jurisdictions of the
8 concerned city and municipalities without diminution of the autonomy of the LGUs
9 concerning purely local matters.

10 **SEC. 3. Scope of [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA Services.** – The [BLISTTDA]
11 MBLISTTDA shall provide services that shall take into consideration the needs of
12 the population within the territory of the local government units concerned. These
13 services shall include the following:

14 (a) **Development planning and Preparation of Medium- and Long-Term**
15 **Development Plans.** – These shall cover evaluation and packaging of
16 development projects; investments programming and coordination; and monitoring
17 of program and project implementation;

18 (b) **Urban Renewal, Land Use Planning, and Housing and Shelter.** –
19 These shall cover formulation, adoption and implementation of policies, standards,
20 programs, and projects to rationalize and optimize urban land use taking into
21 consideration urban growth and expansion. These activities shall address the
22 rehabilitation and development of identified areas and the development of shelter
23 and housing facilities with provisions for necessary social services;

24 (c) **Transport and Traffic Management.** – These shall cover formulation,
25 coordination, and monitoring of policies, standards, and programs that will
26 rationalize the existing transport operations, infrastructure requirements, use of
27 thoroughfares, and promotion of safe and convenient movement of persons and
28 goods. These activities shall include the administration and implementation of
29 traffic enforcement operations, traffic engineering services, and the institution of a
30 single ticketing system;

31 (d) **Solid Waste Disposal and Management.** – This shall cover formulation
32 and implementation of policies, programs, and projects for the proper and sanitary
33 disposal of solid waste. It shall likewise include the establishment and operation of

1 a sanitary landfill, waste to energy projects, eco-composting facility (ECR) and
2 related facilities, and the implementation of other alternative programs intended to
3 reduce, reuse, and recycle solid waste;

4 (e) **Flood Control and Sewerage Management.** – This shall cover
5 formulation and implementation of policies, standards, programs, and projects for
6 an integrated flood control and drainage system;

7 (f) **Water Resource Management System.** – This shall cover formulation
8 and implementation of policies, programs, and projects for a comprehensive water
9 resource system which shall include the establishment and operation of water
10 source development, treatment, distribution, and sewerage system facilities;

11 (g) **Health, Sanitation, and Pollution Control.** – This shall cover formulation
12 and implementation of policies, standards, and programs to safeguard public
13 health and maintain sanitation. It shall ensure the promotion of ecological balance
14 and the prevention and control of environmental pollution;

15 (h) **Public Safety and Order.** – This shall cover formulation and
16 implementation of programs, policies, and procedures to maintain public safety,
17 including preparedness for preventive or rescue operations during times of
18 calamities and disasters, including the implementation of contingency plans and
19 mobilization of resources for relief operations in coordination with national
20 agencies concerned; and

21 (i) **Tourism.** – This shall cover formulation and implementation of policies,
22 programs, and projects for the promotion of tourism in the entire BLISTT area.

23 ~~[SEC. 4. BLISTTDA Council. — There shall be a Baguio, La Trinidad,~~
24 ~~Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay (BLISTT) Council, hereinafter referred to as the~~
25 ~~Council, which shall serve as the governing board and policy-making body of~~
26 ~~BLISTTDA. The Council shall be composed, in an ex officio capacity, of the~~
27 ~~Governor of the Province of Benguet, the Representatives of Baguio and Benguet,~~
28 ~~and the mayors of the City of Baguio and the municipalities of La Trinidad, Itogon,~~
29 ~~Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay, as regular members.~~

30 ~~The duly authorized representatives of the National Economic and~~
31 ~~Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Transportation (DOTr),~~
32 ~~Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Tourism~~

1 ~~(DOT), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT),~~
2 ~~Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Housing and Urban Development~~
3 ~~Coordinating Council (HUDCC), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples~~
4 ~~(NCIP), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agriculture (DA),~~
5 ~~Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of~~
6 ~~Science and Technology (DOST), Commission on Higher Education (CHED),~~
7 ~~Philippine National Police (PNP) and two (2) representatives of the private sector,~~
8 ~~who shall be appointed by the Council, shall attend meetings of the Council as~~
9 ~~non-voting members.~~

10 ~~The Council shall be headed by a Chairman, to be elected from among the~~
11 ~~regular members, who shall preside over the meetings of the Council.~~

12 ~~In addition to the Council members, there shall be an Administrator who shall~~
13 ~~serve for a term of six (6) years, to be appointed by the President of the~~
14 ~~Philippines from a list of nominees submitted by the Council, and shall continue to~~
15 ~~hold office at the discretion of the appointing authority. The Administrator shall be~~
16 ~~vested with rank, rights, privileges, disqualifications, and prohibitions of a cabinet~~
17 ~~member.~~

18 ~~The Administrator shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the BLISTTDA.~~

19 ~~The Administrator and the members of the Council, except ex officio~~
20 ~~members, are entitled to allowances and per diems in accordance with existing~~
21 ~~policies, rules, and regulations on the matter.]~~

22 ~~SEC. 4. [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA COUNCIL. – THERE SHALL BE A~~
23 ~~METROPOLITAN BAGUIO, LA TRINIDAD, ITOGON, SABLAN, TUBA, AND~~
24 ~~TUBLAY (BLISTT) COUNCIL, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE~~
25 ~~COUNCIL, WHICH SHALL SERVE AS THE GOVERNING BOARD AND POLICY-~~
26 ~~MAKING BODY OF [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA. THE COUNCIL SHALL BE~~
27 ~~COMPOSED OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF BENGUET AND~~
28 ~~THE MAYORS OF THE CITY OF BAGUIO AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LA~~
29 ~~TRINIDAD, ITOGON, SABLAN, TUBA, AND TUBLAY, AS EX OFFICIO VOTING~~
30 ~~MEMBERS.~~

31 ~~THE COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING EX OFFICIO~~
32 ~~NON-VOTING MEMBERS: (A) THE VICE MAYORS OF METROPOLITAN~~
33 ~~BAGUIO CITY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LA TRINIDAD, ITOGON,~~

1 SABLAN, TUBA, AND TUBLAY; (B) THE DULY AUTHORIZED
2 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT
3 AUTHORITY (NEDA), DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTr),
4 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH), DEPARTMENT
5 OF TOURISM (DOT), DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
6 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT), DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
7 MANAGEMENT (DBM), DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND
8 URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DHSUD), NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
9 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP), DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
10 (DTI), DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), DEPARTMENT OF
11 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), DEPARTMENT OF
12 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST), COMMISSION ON HIGHER
13 EDUCATION (CHED), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP); AND (C) TWO (2)
14 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO BE APPOINTED BY
15 THE COUNCIL.

16 THE COUNCIL SHALL BE HEADED BY A CHAIRMAN WHO SHALL (A)
17 BE ELECTED FROM AMONG THE REGULAR MEMBERS; AND (B) PRESIDE
18 OVER THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

19 IN ADDITION TO THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, THERE SHALL BE AN
20 ADMINISTRATOR WHO SHALL (A) BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
21 THE PHILIPPINES FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES SUBMITTED BY THE
22 COUNCIL; (B) SERVE FOR A TERM OF SIX (6) YEARS; (C) CONTINUE TO
23 HOLD OFFICE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY; (D)
24 BE VESTED WITH RANK, RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, DISQUALIFICATIONS, AND
25 PROHIBITIONS OF A CABINET MEMBER; AND (E) ACT AS THE CHIEF
26 EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA.

27 THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, EXCEPT
28 *EX OFFICIO* MEMBERS, ARE ENTITLED TO ALLOWANCES AND *PER DIEMS*
29 IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING POLICIES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS
30 ON THE MATTER.

31 **SEC. 5. Powers and Functions of the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA.** – The
32 [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall exercise the following powers and functions:

1 (a) Formulate, coordinate, and regulate the implementation of medium- and
2 long-term plans and programs for the delivery of services, land use, and physical
3 development within BLISTT, consistent with national development objectives and
4 priorities. The medium-term investment programs for BLISTT-wide services shall
5 indicate sources and allocation of funds for priority programs and projects;

6 (b) Undertake and manage its programs and projects for the delivery of
7 specific services under its jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the Council. For
8 this purpose, the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall create appropriate project
9 management offices;

10 (c) Coordinate and monitor the implementation of such plans, programs, and
11 projects in the City of Baguio and component municipalities; identify bottlenecks
12 and adopt solutions to problems of implementation;

13 (d) Set policies concerning traffic and coordinate and regulate the
14 implementation of all programs and projects concerning traffic management. It
15 may seek assistance and cooperation, including assignment of personnel, from
16 other government agencies concerned if necessary. Install and administer a single
17 ticketing system, fix, impose, and collect fines and penalties for all kinds of
18 violations of traffic rules and regulations. The [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall
19 enforce all traffic laws and regulations in the BLISTT area through its Traffic
20 Operation Center;

21 (e) Enter into contract and own properties; receive funding, payments, grants,
22 contributions, and donations;

23 (f) Sue and be sued in order to carry out its duties and functions as provided
24 for in this Act; and

25 (g) Perform other related functions required to achieve the objectives of the
26 [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA, including the undertaking of delivery of basic services to
27 the LGUs when deemed necessary subject to prior coordination with and consent
28 of the LGU concerned.

29 **SEC. 6. Functions of the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA Council.** – The
30 Council shall perform the following functions:

31 (a) Exercise the policy-making power of the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA;

1 (b) Approve plans, programs, and projects and issue rules and regulations
2 deemed necessary by the [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA to carry out the purposes of
3 this Act;

4 (c) Fix the compensation of the officers and personnel of the [BLISTTDA]
5 MBLISTTDA in accordance with the Salary Standardization Law and approve the
6 annual budget thereof for submission to the Department of Budget and
7 Management (DBM);

8 (d) Recommend investment programming for its plans and programs, as well
9 as supervise the implementation of plans and programs which includes the
10 formulation and coordination of its related activities;

11 (e) Set policies and standards, and promulgate rules and regulations
12 governing the delivery of basic services;

13 (f) Endorse the annual as well as the supplemental budgets of the
14 [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA; and

15 (g) Perform such other acts and assume such other functions as may be
16 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

17 **SEC. 7. Functions of the [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA Administrator.** – The
18 [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA Administrator shall:

19 (a) Appoint, subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations, all
20 subordinate officers and employees, who shall enjoy security of tenure and may
21 be removed only for cause in accordance with law. The Administrator is hereby
22 authorized to engage the services of experts or consultants either on full-time or
23 part-time basis, as may be required in the performance of the Administrator's
24 duties and functions;

25 (b) Execute the policies and measures approved by the Council and be
26 responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day management of the
27 operations of the [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA, and exercise the power to discipline
28 subordinate officials and employees under the provisions of law;

29 (c) Subject to the guidelines and policies set by the Council, prepare and
30 submit to the Council, for its approval, the organizational structure and the staffing
31 pattern, and fix the number of subordinate officials and employees of the
32 [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA in accordance with Civil Service laws, rules and

1 regulations and evaluation and approval of the Department of Budget and
2 Management;

3 (d) Prepare the annual budget for the operations of the [BLISTTDA]
4 MBLISTTDA for submission to the Council;

5 (e) Prepare an annual report on the accomplishments of the [BLISTTDA]
6 MBLISTTDA for submission to the Council and to the President of the Philippines;
7 and

8 (f) Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President of the
9 Philippines or by the Council.

10 **SEC. 8. The Senior Managers.** – The Administrator shall be assisted by a
11 Senior Manager for Operations, a Senior Manager for Planning, and a Senior
12 Manager for Finance and Administration, all of whom are appointees of the
13 President of the Philippines, as recommended by the Administrator and Council,
14 subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations. They shall enjoy security of
15 tenure unless removed for cause in accordance with law.

16 A. The Senior Manager for Operations shall have the following functions:

- 17 1. Assist the Administrator in the administration of the [BLISTTDA]
18 MBLISTTDA and supervision of subordinate personnel;
- 19 2. Assist the Administrator in the supervision of operation centers and
20 units of the [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA;
- 21 3. Assist the Administrator in the review of plans and programs for the
22 [BLISTTDA] MBLISTTDA and the LGUs, and in the preparation of the
23 annual report of the activities and accomplishments of the [BLISTTDA]
24 MBLISTTDA; and
- 25 4. Perform such other duties and functions as may be lawfully delegated
26 or assigned by the Administrator from time to time.

27 B. The Senior Manager for Planning shall possess not less than five (5)
28 years extensive experience in development and planning or a Master's degree in
29 Urban Planning or related discipline and shall have the following functions:

- 30 1. Provide technical assistance to the Administrator;
- 31 2. Assist in the crafting and formulation of medium- and long- term
32 development plan; and
- 33 3. Perform other functions as delegated by the Administrator.

1 C. The Senior Manager for Finance and Administration shall perform the
2 following functions:

- 3 1. Assist in the preparation of the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA annual
4 budget;
- 5 2. Assist in the preparation of medium- and long-term investment
6 program for the delivery of social services;
- 7 3. Assist in the preparation of budgetary expenditure and sources of
8 financing program for the operation of [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA; and
- 9 4. Perform other functions as may be delegated by the Administrator.

10 **SEC. 9. Institutional Linkages.** – The [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall, in
11 carrying out its functions, consult, coordinate, and work closely with the public and
12 private institutions, accredited people’s organizations and nongovernmental
13 organizations operating in the BLISTT area.

14 The [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall formulate a master plan to serve as the
15 framework for the development of the blistt area. It shall submit its development
16 plans and investment programs to the NEDA for integration into the Medium-Term
17 Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and public investment program.

18 The [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall, in coordination with the NEDA and the
19 Department of Finance (DOF), interface with foreign assistance agencies for
20 purposes of obtaining financial support, grants, and donations in support of its
21 programs and projects.

22 **SEC. 10. Sources of Funds and the Operating Budget of the [~~BLISTTDA~~]**
23 **MBLISTTDA. –**

24 (a) The amount necessary for the operating budget of the [~~BLISTTDA~~]
25 MBLISTTDA shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

26 (b) The [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA is empowered to levy fines and impose
27 fees and charges for various services rendered.

28 (c) The operations of the [~~BLISTTDA~~] MBLISTTDA shall likewise be
29 supported through financial contributions or technical assistance from member
30 LGUs, nongovernment agencies (NGAs) and government -owned and -controlled
31 corporations (GOCCs) and the private sector, and other local and international

1 organizations in the form of grants, donations, contributions, payments, penalties,
2 fees, and charges.

3 In case of grants, in-cash or in-kind, from foreign governments or their
4 agencies and instrumentalities, or multilateral institutions or organizations,
5 acceptance thereof shall be subject to prior clearance and approval of the Council
6 and the President of the Philippines or the authorized representative, based on the
7 recommendation of the Secretary of Finance. In case of donations, in-cash or in-
8 kind, from foreign governments, acceptance thereof shall require prior clearance
9 and approval by the Council and the President of the Philippines or the authorized
10 representative based on the recommendation of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

11 **SEC.11. *Inclusion in the*** ~~[BLISTTDA]~~ MBLISTTDA. – Adjoining LGUs that
12 opt to be included in the ~~[BLISTTDA]~~ MBLISTTDA shall be allowed: *Provided,*
13 That a Sanggunian resolution for the purpose has been passed *and* duly
14 approved: *Provided, further,* That there shall be a concurrence from the
15 ~~[BLISTTDA]~~ MBLISTTDA Council.

16 **SEC. 12. *IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.*** – WITHIN NINETY
17 (90) DAYS FROM THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, THE MBLISTT COUNCIL
18 SHALL PROMULGATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
19 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.

20 **SEC. ~~[12]~~ 13. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is
21 held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not
22 affected shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

23 **SEC. ~~[13]~~ 14. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders,
24 rules and regulations, or parts or provisions thereof which are not consistent with
25 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

26 **SEC. ~~[14]~~ 15. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
27 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

28 *Approved,*