



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6974

BY REPRESENTATIVES GO (M.), COSALAN, DALOG, ORTEGA (P.),
AGGABAO, SINGSON, VARGAS-ALFONSO, CELESTE, ALBANO,
BATAOIL, GO (A.C.), MANGAOANG, CUARESMA, BELARO,
DE VERA, ESPINO, ROQUE (H.), LAZATIN, SY-ALVARADO,
ROMERO, MARCOS, TY, TING, BERTIZ, MARCOLETA, ATIENZA,
MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, PINEDA, HERRERA-DY, PANGANIBAN,
ACOSTA, SAVELLANO, BOLILIA, ALONTE, BILLONES, PANOTES,
MATUGAS, PIMENTEL, BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN, LOPEZ (M.L.),
BULUT-BEGTANG, GERON, MARIÑO, BRAVO (A.),
AGLIPAY-VILLAR, DIMAPORO (M.K.), BERNOS, GARCIA (J.E.),
ROBES, DEL ROSARIO, ALVAREZ (P.), FARIÑAS, SUAREZ,
SACDALAN, NOGRALES (K.A.), DEL MAR, LOBREGAT,
ABELLANOSA, AMATONG, ARAGONES, CALIXTO-RUBIANO,
CASTRO (F.L.), ESCUDERO, PADUANO, RELAMPAGOS,
ROQUE (R.), SUANSING (E.), TAN (A.), VERGARA AND ZUBIRI,
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 573

AN ACT CREATING THE BAGUIO CITY, LA TRINIDAD,
ITOGON, SABLAN, TUBA, AND TUBLAY DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY (BLISTTDA), 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
2 policy of the State to pursue the acceleration of social, economic, and
3 political development of local government units (LGUs) and their

1 communities through the creation of special development and
2 administrative areas that will ensure the efficient and effective
3 planning, supervision, and coordination of essential basic services,
4 without prejudice to the autonomy of the LGUs concerned.

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

15 The BLISTTDA shall serve as the platform for the
16 acceleration of the social, economic, and political developments in
17 the area as a unified management unit by enabling the component
18 LGUs to respond to common developmental challenges through
19 unified, effective, and economically efficient programs and
20 undertakings. The BLISTTDA shall perform planning, monitoring,
21 and coordinative functions. It shall exercise regulatory and
22 supervisory authority over the delivery of area-wide services within
23 the jurisdictions of the concerned city and municipalities without
24 diminution of the autonomy of the LGUs concerning purely local
25 matters.

26 SEC. 3. *Scope of BLISTTDA Services*. - The services under
27 the jurisdiction of the BLISTTDA are those that will affect all or

1 majority of the population or a wide segment of the territory,
2 transcending local political boundaries or entailing huge
3 expenditures such that it would not be viable for said services to be
4 provided by an individual LGU. These services include:

5 (a) Development planning and Preparation of Medium- and
6 Long-Term Development Plans. – Evaluation and packaging of
7 development projects; investments programming and coordination;
8 and monitoring of program and project implementation;

9 (b) Urban Renewal, Land Use Planning, and Housing and
10 Shelter. – Formulation, adoption and implementation of policies,
11 standards, programs, and projects to rationalize and optimize urban
12 land use taking into consideration urban growth and expansion.
13 These shall address the rehabilitation and development of identified
14 areas and the development of shelter and housing facilities with
15 provisions for necessary social services;

16 (c) Transport and Traffic Management. – Formulation,
17 coordination, and monitoring of policies, standards, and programs
18 that will rationalize the existing transport operations,
19 infrastructure requirements, use of thoroughfares, and promotion of
20 safe and convenient movement of persons and goods. These shall
21 include the administration and implementation of traffic
22 enforcement operations, traffic engineering services, and the
23 institution of a single ticketing system;

24 (d) Solid Waste Disposal and Management. – Formulation
25 and implementation of policies, programs, and projects for the
26 proper and sanitary disposal of solid waste. It shall likewise include
27 the establishment and operation of sanitary landfill, waste to

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

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

7 (f) Water Resource System. – Formulation and
8 implementation of policies, programs, and projects for a
9 comprehensive water resource system which shall include the
10 establishment of water harvesting and distribution facility;

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

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

23 SEC. 4. *BLISTTDA Council.* – There shall be a Baguio, La
24 Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay (BLISTT) Council,
25 hereinafter referred to as the Council, which shall serve as the
26 governing board and policy-making body of BLISTTDA. The Council
27 shall be composed of the Governor of the Province of Benguet, the

1 congressional representatives of Baguio and Benguet, and the
2 mayors of the City of Baguio and the municipalities of La Trinidad,
3 Itogon, Sablan, Tuba, and Tublay, as *ex officio* members.

4 The duly authorized representatives of the National Economic
5 and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Transportation
6 (DOTr), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH),
7 Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Information and
8 Communications Technology (DICT), Department of Budget and
9 Management (DBM), Housing and Urban Development
10 Coordinating Council (HUDCC), National Commission on
11 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Department of Trade and Industry
12 (DTI), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Environment
13 and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Science and
14 Technology (DOST), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and
15 the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall attend meetings of the
16 Council as nonvoting members.

17 In addition to the *ex officio* members, there shall be a
18 Chairman, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, and
19 shall continue to hold office at the discretion of the appointing
20 authority. The Chairman shall be vested with rank, rights,
21 privileges, disqualifications, and prohibitions of a cabinet member.

22 The Chairman shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the
23 BLISTTDA.

24 The Chairman and members of the Council are entitled to
25 allowances and per diems in accordance with existing policies, rules,
26 and regulations on the matter.

1 SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions of the BLISTTDA.* – The
2 BLISTTDA shall exercise the following powers and functions:

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

10 (b) Undertake and manage its programs and projects for the
11 delivery of specific services under its jurisdiction, subject to the
12 approval of the Council. For this purpose, the BLISTTDA shall
13 create appropriate project management offices;

14 (c) Coordinate and monitor the implementation of such plans,
15 programs, and projects in the City of Baguio and component
16 municipalities; identify bottlenecks and adopt solutions to problems
17 of implementation;

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

1 (e) Enter into contract and own properties; receive funding,
2 payments, grants, contributions and donations; and sue and be sued
3 in order to carry out its duties and functions as provided for in this
4 Act; and

5 (f) Perform other related functions required to achieve the
6 objectives of the BLISTTDA, including the undertaking of delivery
7 of basic services to the LGUs when deemed necessary subject to
8 prior coordination with and consent of the LGU concerned.

9 SEC. 6. *Functions of the BLISTTDA Council.* - The Council
10 shall perform the following functions:

11 (a) Exercise the policy-making power of the BLISTTDA;

12 (b) Approve plans, programs, and projects and issue rules and
13 regulations deemed necessary by the BLISTTDA to carry out the
14 purposes of this Act;

15 (c) Fix the compensation of the officers and personnel of the
16 BLISTTDA in accordance with the Salary Standardization Law and
17 approve the annual budget thereof for submission to the DBM;

18 (d) Recommend investment programming for its plans and
19 programs, as well as supervise the implementation of plans and
20 programs which includes the formulation and coordination of its
21 related activities;

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

24 (f) Endorse the annual as well as the supplemental budgets
25 of the BLISSTDA; and

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

1 SEC. 7. *Functions of the BLISTTDA Chairman.* – The
2 BLISTTDA Chairman shall:

3 (a) Appoint, subject to civil service laws, rules and
4 regulations, all subordinate officers and employees, who shall enjoy
5 security of tenure and may be removed only for cause in accordance
6 with law. The Chairman is hereby authorized to engage the services
7 of experts or consultants either on full-time or part-time basis, as
8 may be required in the performance of the Chairman's duties and
9 functions;

10 (b) Execute the policies and measures approved by the
11 Council and be responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day
12 management of the operations of the BLISTTDA and exercise the
13 power to discipline subordinate officials and employees under the
14 provisions of law;

15 (c) Subject to the guidelines and policies set by the Council,
16 prepare and submit to the Council, for its approval, the
17 organizational structure and the staffing pattern, and fix the
18 number of subordinate officials and employees of the BLISTTDA;

19 (d) Prepare the annual budget for the operations of the
20 BLISTTDA for submission to the Council;

21 (e) Prepare an annual report on the accomplishments of the
22 BLISTTDA for submission to the Council and to the President of the
23 Philippines; and

24 (f) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by
25 the President of the Philippines or by the Council.

26 SEC. 8. *The General Manager and Senior Managers.* – The
27 Chairman shall be assisted by a General Manager, a Senior

1 Manager for Planning, and a Senior Manager for Finance and
2 Administration, all of whom are appointees of the President of the
3 Philippines, subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations. They
4 shall enjoy security of tenure unless removed for cause in
5 accordance with law.

6 The General Manager shall exercise the powers of a Senior
7 Manager for Operations with the following functions:

8 (a) Assist the Chairman in the administration of the
9 BLISTTDA and supervision of subordinate personnel;

10 (b) Assist the Chairman in the supervision of operation
11 centers and units of the BLISTTDA;

12 (c) Assist the Chairman in the review of plans and programs
13 for the BLISTTDA and the LGUs, and in the preparation of the
14 annual report of the activities and accomplishments of the
15 BLISTTDA; and

16 (d) Perform such other duties and functions as may be
17 lawfully delegated or assigned by the Chairman from time to time.

18 The Senior Manager for Planning shall possess not less than
19 five (5) years extensive experience in development and planning or a
20 Master's degree in Urban Planning or related discipline.

21 SEC. 9. *Institutional Linkages.* - The BLISTTDA shall, in
22 carrying out its functions, consult, coordinate, and work closely with
23 the LGUs, NEDA, and other national government agencies
24 mentioned in Section 4 hereof, and accredited people's
25 organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and the private
26 sector operating in the component city and municipalities. The
27 Chairman or the authorized representative from among the Council

1 members shall be *ex officio* members of the boards of government
2 corporations and committees of the departments of government
3 whose activities are relevant to the objectives and responsibilities of
4 the BLISTTDA.

5 The BLISTTDA shall formulate a master plan to serve as the
6 framework for the local development plans of the component LGUs.
7 The BLISTTDA shall submit its development plans and
8 investments programs to the NEDA for integration into the
9 Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) and public
10 investment program.

11 The BLISTTDA shall, in coordination with the NEDA and the
12 Department of Finance (DOF), interface with foreign assistance
13 agencies for purposes of obtaining financial support, grants, and
14 donations in support of its programs and projects.

15 SEC. 10. *Sources of Funds and the Operating Budget of the*
16 *BLISTTDA.* –

17 (a) The amount necessary for the operating budget of the
18 BLISTTDA shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
19 Act.

20 (b) The BLISTTDA is empowered to levy fines and impose
21 fees and charges for various services rendered.

22 (c) The operations of the BLISTTDA shall likewise be
23 supported through financial contributions or technical assistance
24 from member LGUs, nongovernment agencies (NGAs) and
25 government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) and the
26 private sector, and other local and international organizations in

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

3 SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of
4 this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions
5 hereof which are not affected shall continue to remain in full force
6 and effect.

7 SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive
8 orders, rules and regulations, or parts or provisions thereof which
9 are not consistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
10 modified accordingly.

11 SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
12 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
13 general circulation.

Approved,

O