

Member's Annual Report 2007

Date of preparation :3/28/08
Name of the editor : Atty. Elenito M. Bagalihog

1. About the Organization

(1) Name of the organization and postal address of the office

National Water Resources Board (NWRB)
8th Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City

(2) The representative of the organization

MR. RAMON B. ALIKPALA - Executive Director
ATTY. ELENITO M. BAGALIHOG – Chief, Water Rights Division

(3) Purposes and roles of your organization

a) Historical background of the organization :

March 28, 1974 - The NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL (now BOARD) is created by virtue of Presidential Decree (PD) 424 to be a permanent high level ex-officio body attached to DPWTC tasked to coordinate and integrate all activities related to water resources development and management with the head of the following agencies as members of the Council:MPWH (as Chair), DENR, NEDA, NPC, NIA and BOPW.

September 1974 - The NWRB starts operating with a working staff of 31 housed in the College Engineering building of the University of the Philippines (UP) in Diliman, Quezon City under the leadership of Executive Director Angel A. Alejandrino.

December 31, 1976 - The Water Code of the Philippines is promulgated into law by P.D. 1067. The Code updates and consolidates into one piece of legislation basic laws and administrative systems governing ownership, appropriation, utilization, exploitation, development, conservation and protection of the country's water resources.

October 6,1977 - PD 1206 directs the transfer of the jurisdiction, supervision and regulation of private water supply systems from the defunct Board of Power and Waterworks of the Department of Energy to NWRB.

1979 - The Philippine Water Code with Implementing Rules and Regulations is published.

1987 - July 22, 1987 NWRC is renamed and reorganized as the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) pursuant to Executive Order No. 124-A.

2002- September 12, 2002, Executive Order 123, series of 2002 is signed by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo reconstituting the National Water Resources Board to effectively accomplish its mandate, which has the following activities to be immediately initiated:

- Review of the existing Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Water Code of the Philippines ; and
- Review of the proposed NWRB organizational structure

b) Purposes and roles of the organization :

Under the P.D.424, the NWRB as a *policy-making body* is tasked among others, to:

- Coordinate and integrate water resource development activities of the country;
- Formulate general criteria, methods and standards for data collection, project investigation, formulation, planning design and feasibility evaluation, and rules and regulations for the exploitation and optimum utilization of water resources;
- Review and approve water resource development plans and programs of other agencies;
- Undertake river basin surveys, inventories and appraisals, and develop comprehensive basin-wide plans of storage and control to maximize the conservation and multi-purpose use of water;
- Undertake hydrologic surveys and establish, operate and maintain observation station networks and centralized water resources data center;
- Conduct and/or promote special studies and researches with other government or agencies on related aspects of water resources development.

The NWRB is also tasked to advise the National Economic and Development Authority (“NEDA”) on matters pertaining to water resources development projects and programs; and recommend general policies and guidelines and short/long range plans and programs for water resources development.

The specific functions of the NWRB, as a "*Water Resource Regulator*", include among others, (a) the issuance water permits for the appropriation, and use

of waters; and (b) adjudication of disputes relating to the appropriation, utilization, exploitation, development, control and conservation, protection of waters.

In 1977, the Board of Power and Waterworks (BPW) was abolished pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1206. The functions of the BPW that were inherited from the Public Service Commission as regards waterworks systems, were later transferred to the NWRB, instituting the NWRB as an “*economic regulator*” of waterworks systems.

In 2002, the approval of tariffs for water districts was transferred to the NWRB from the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), pursuant to Executive Order No. 123. In the same executive order, the membership of the NWRB Board was changed to its present composition.

(4) Outline of the organization

1) Number of staff

96

2) Amount of annual budget in 2007

Personal Services-----	P 28,375,000.00
Maintenance & Other Operating Expenses---	P 9,934,000.00

3) Organizational chart

Composition of the Board:

Chairman---Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Vice-Chairman---Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)

Members:

Secretary, Department of Finance (DOF)

Secretary, Department of Justice (DOJ)

Secretary, Department of Health (DOH)

Director, National Hydraulics Research Center
(NHRC)

Executive Director, National Water Resources Board
(NWRB)

Key Officials and respective Positions/Divisions:

Ramon B. Alikpala ----- Executive Director

Atty. Nathaniel C. Santos ----- Deputy Executive Director
Atty. Elenito M. Bagalihog ---- Chief, Water Rights Division
Atty. Marlon T. Molina ----- Chief, Water Utilities Division
Engr. Jorge M. Estioko ----- -Chief, Monitoring & Enforcement
Division
Belen T. Tormon ----- Chief, Administrative & Finance
Division
Engr. Isidra D. Peñaranda ----- OIC, Program & Policy Division

4) Ongoing projects

- **Development of Knowledge Management Portal for Water Supply and Sanitation**

The KM Portal has been developed and was presented to participating agencies. Memorandum of Agreement among agencies was signed in December 2006. Users Training Workshop for the participating agencies was conducted. Web address for the KM Portal has been registered. Meanwhile, series of meetings are currently being conducted to facilitate the web page development with the consultant.

- **Price Policy for Public Goods, Philippines (Study on Raw Water Pricing) (2005-2008)**

The study funded by GTZ aims to develop a pilot case for raw water pricing in Bohol and Negros Oriental to test the raw water pricing methodology and perhaps more importantly, the actual administrative procedures for the assessment and collection of the raw water charge needs.

- **Economic Valuation of Groundwater in Metro Manila**

The project aims to determine the pricing policies for groundwater users especially on large-scale water users within the coverage of the two Metro Manila concessionaires (MWSI and MWCI). Preparatory works is currently being undertaken.

- **Development of Water Supply Sector Roadmap**

This project is jointly implemented by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the National Water Resources Board (NWRB), with the technical assistance of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) through its Water and Sanitation Program.

- **AusAID-assisted Human Resource Activity under the Philippine Australian Human Resources Development Facility.**

This is a human resource development program aims to strengthen the capability of NWRB.

- **Training on Knowledge Management**
- **Capacity Building for Effective Social Mobilization**
- **Long-Term Training on Organizational Development (January-December 2007)**
- **Preparation of National Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans**

After the series of multi-sectoral meetings and workshops, the National IWRM Plan Framework has been developed and approved by the Project Steering Committee through an NWRB Board Resolution. It was finally launched in January 2007.

5) Main events in 2007

1. The *Philippine IWRM Plan Framework* was approved by the NWRB Board and was launched during the Partners' Forum whereby key stakeholders signed pledge of support to adopt and implement the mainstream IWRM in lead agency. (January 2007)
2. *First National Conference of Small-Scale Water Service Providers (SSWSPS)* was conducted in order to provide support to SSWSPS on issues and concerns to be able to improve operations and management. In this activity, the official group of SSWSPS was organized and named National Waterworks Association of the Philippines (NAWASAP).
3. Preparation of *Economic Regulatory Guidelines (ERG)* as a tool for regulation of water service providers. The ERG could serve as a tool for water service providers to improve services.
4. *Different policies related to water allocation* was formulated such as:
 - Policy Guidelines on the processing of Water Permit Application in Cebu
 - Policy on the abstraction of groundwater for refilling stations
 - Policy on the issuance of Conditional Water Permit
 - Signing of MOA with LLDA on the Institutional Collaboration on the Regulation, Enforcement and Monitoring of Groundwater in the Laguna de Bay Region

2. About NARBO activity

(1) The contact person and organization's web-site

- 1) The name, position, phone & fax number, e-mail address of the contact person

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Chief, Water Rights Division

9202603

elenitob@yahoo.com

MR. RAMON B. ALIKPALA

Executive Director

9282365/9202641

rbalikpala@gmail.com

- 2) The organization's web-site URL (English and local language respectively)

www.nwrp.gov.ph

(2) Activities your organization implemented in 2007 as the member

- Hosted NARBO Workshop on Water Rights with ADB and LLDA (Auditorium Zone A, ADB, Manila, Philippines)
- Conducted Orientation Seminar on the NWRB Water Permit System with LLDA (March 20 and 22, 2007)
- Preparation and adoption of Philippine IWRM Plan Framework
- Strict Implementation of Laws, Rules and Regulations regarding water rights system
- Conduct series of IEC Campaign to inform water users about water rights system
- Establishment of partnership with LGUs and other water related agencies like LLDA, Water Districts, thru deputation and MOA execution

(3) Resolutions and expectations for NARBO activities in 2008

1) Your organization's resolutions

NWRB resolves to cooperate and support all the activities of NARBO in relation to water resources management and development.

2) Expectations of NARBO activities

NWRB expects the NARBO to continue with the activities it started to help countries like the Philippines learn more about the experiences of neighboring countries in the management of water resources.

3) Questions to RBO members

(1) Areas which your organization has improved the performance in 2007

NWRB has improved its performance in :

- Water rights system and water allocation; and
- IWRM concept and implementation

(2) The way in which your organization was able to do so

Through participation in all NARBO activities.

(3) In what way NARBO has helped your organization

NARBO has helped the NWRB a lot through the conduct of workshops and other water related activities attended by the staff, the subject of which were very much relevant in the performance of NWRB mandates.