

Chapter 4

Committees of RDC III

Executive Committee

EO 325 states that Council shall create an Executive Committee (ExCom) to act on matters that require immediate attention for and on behalf of the RDC when it is not in session.

All decisions of the ExCom shall be presented for confirmation to the Council. The decision of the ExCom is binding until otherwise revoked by the Council.

The meetings of the ExCom shall be scheduled at least three weeks prior to the RDC Full Council meeting. It shall adopt the RDC rule on quorum, which is 50 percent plus one of its members.

The ExCom shall comprise one-fourth of the total membership of the fully constituted Council, the membership of which is determined by the Council, provided that it shall include only the regular RDC members. Provided further that all Sectoral Committee chairpersons created under Section 7 of EO 325 shall automatically become members of the ExCom.

The members of the RDC III ExCom are as follows:

1. RDC Chairperson
2. RDC Co-Chairperson
3. RDC Vice-Chairperson
4. RDC Secretary
5. Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Development Administration (SCDA)
6. Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Economic Development (SCED)
7. Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Social Development (SCSD)
8. Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Infrastructure Development (SCID)
9. Co-Chairperson, SCDA
10. Co-Chairperson, SCED
11. Co-Chairperson, SCSD
12. Co-Chairperson, SCID
13. Vice-Chairperson, SCDA
14. Vice-Chairperson, SCED
15. Vice-Chairperson, SCSD
16. Vice-Chairperson, SCID
17. Regional Director, Department of Budget and Development
18. Regional Director, Department of the Interior and Local Government

Officers of the Executive Committee

The Chairperson, the Co-Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary of the RDC shall also serve as the ex-officio Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary of the ExCom.

Sectoral Committees

EO 325 IRR Section J provides that the Council shall create the following Sectoral Committees (SECCOMs):

1. Social Development;
2. Economic Development;
3. Infrastructure Development; and,
4. Development Administration.

The members of SECCOMs shall include representatives from both government and private sectors who need not necessarily be members of the Council based on the RDC Secretariat's recommendation.

The SECCOMs shall meet as often as may be necessary but not less than once every quarter. It shall observe 30 percent of members as its official quorum.

Officers of the SECCOMs

The officers of the SECCOMs shall include a Chairperson, a Co-Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson and Co-chairperson of these committees shall either be appointed by the RDC Chairperson or selected by the members among themselves (EO 325 IRR Section J.2). If the Chairperson comes from the government sector, the Co-Chairperson should come from the private sector and vice-versa. The Vice-Chairperson shall either be appointed by the RDC Chairperson or selected by the members among themselves. The lead of the secretariat shall serve as Secretary of that particular SECCOM.

In case a Chairperson of a SECCOM will not be able to attend an RDC meeting or an Executive Committee meeting, his representative must come from the Sectoral Committee he chairs, preferably the Co-Chairperson or Secretary of that particular SECCOM (EO 325 IRR Section L.2).

Term and Tenure of Office

The Council shall determine the term and tenure of the office and process of recall of officers on the SECCOMs (EO 325 IRR Section J.2). The Chairperson and Co-Chairperson of the SECCOMs shall serve for a fixed term of three years, coinciding with the regular term of local elective officials. This prescribed term of office is without prejudice to reappointment.

Functions and Responsibilities

The functions of the SECCOMs as stipulated under E.O. 325 IRR Sec. J.2 are as follows:

1. Review and endorse programs/projects of national government agencies and LGUs in the region to the Council requiring national government financial exposure which may come in the form of guarantees, national government budget appropriations or subsidies, among others;
2. Integrate sectoral information and statistics in the preparation of the annual regional development report;
3. Assist the Council in the translation of national development goals into specific regional sectoral objectives;
4. Integrate sectoral plans and programs of local government units into regional sectoral plans and programs and coordinate all sectoral planning and programming activities of sectoral line agencies in the regions; and,
5. Perform other related functions as may be assigned by the Council.

Advisory Committee

EO 325 IRR Section J.3 provides that the Council shall create an Advisory Committee to advise, assist and support the Council in discharging its functions.

The composition of the Advisory Committee shall include the members of the House of Representatives who have signified their intentions to join and members of the Executive Committee (EO 325 IRR Section J.3).

Officers of the Advisory Committee

The Chairperson, the Co-Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary of the RDC shall also serve as the *ex-officio* Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary of the Advisory Committee (EO 325 IRR Section G).

Functions and Responsibilities

The functions of the Advisory Committees as stipulated under E.O. 325 IRR Sec. J.3 are as follows:

1. Advise in the preparation of the regional development plan and the regional development investment programs and support their implementation;
2. Advise agency regional offices, state colleges and universities and special development authority in the preparation of their annual budgets;

3. Advise and support policy recommendations that need legislation and/or action of the President or the Cabinet;
4. Advise, assist, and support the RDC in discharging its function; and,
5. Strengthen the coordinative and consultative mechanisms in the region to ensure a sustainable, participatory and equitable development.

Special Committees

EO 325 IRR Section J further provides that in addition to the four Sectoral Committees, the Council may also create other ad-hoc Committees which it deems necessary based on its own specific requirements/needs. The members of the special or ad-hoc committees shall include representatives from both government and private sectors who need not necessarily be members of the Council.

The Council shall determine the set of officers and the rules on the officers' selection, terms of office, vacancy, functions, powers and responsibilities; the secretariat; and the functions of the RDC Special committees unless otherwise expressly specified by the law or the issuance creating the special committee.

The following are RDC III Special Committees:

1. Diosdado Macapagal Government Center-Management Committee (DMGC-MC)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-50-2011)

Administer the government center for and in-behalf of the RDC III and ensure its proper use in coordination with other national government agencies based in Central Luzon

2. Regional Land Use Committee (RLUC)

Functions and responsibilities (EO 770, s. 2008)

- a. Formulate and periodically update the Regional Physical Framework Plan (RPF), taking into consideration national, interregional, regional and local plans and policies
- b. Promote the integration of land use and physical planning policies, plans and programs, including disaster risk management into the regional socio-economic plans and programs
- c. Decide and resolve region-specific land use policy conflicts among government agencies
- d. Review and recommend appropriate actions to the NB-NLUC on land use policy conflicts between or among national government agencies
- e. Assess changes in land use and other physical resources in the regional and the implementation of RPF policies

- f. Evaluate consistency of major programs and projects with the RPPF and their impact on land use and the environment
 - g. Undertake the gathering, updating and maintenance of a regional database system
 - h. Perform other related functions as may be directed by the NEDA Board-National Land Use Committee
3. Regional Project Monitoring Committee (RPMC)
- Functions and responsibilities (EO 376, s. 1989 / EO 93 s. 1993)*
- a. Provide list of projects to be monitored to NGOs involved in project monitoring
 - b. Collect and process reports of implementors and NGO monitors on the status of project implementation for the development council and next higher level project monitoring committee
 - c. Pinpoint problems, verify, information and recommend remedial measures to be submitted for analysis and action of the development council
 - d. Provide feedback on the remedial actions of the development council and follow-up their implementation
 - e. Prepare and disseminate periodic (monthly or quarterly) project monitoring reports on the status of project implementation
 - f. Elevate to the higher-level bodies, problems/issues which are not resolved at their level
4. Pampanga River Basin Committee (PRBC)
- Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-51-2011)*
- a. In-charge of the implementation of the Integrated Water Resource Management Strategy in the Pampanga River Basin
 - b. Exercise advisory, guidance, education and monitoring functions for the Basin's management and development
5. Special Committee on Competitiveness (SCC)
- Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-31-2012)*
- a. Collect a standard set of competitiveness indicators on at least an annual basis, compare and track them against a set of benchmark data
 - b. Integrate data collection in the course curriculum of RDC III partner universities and colleges
 - c. Improve "ease of doing business" by streamlining processes, permits and licenses
 - d. Develop and upgrade the skills of Local Investment Promotion Officers
 - e. Conduct feedback surveys and other public opinion surveys
6. Special Committee on Culture, Arts and Tourism
- Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-33-2017)*

- a. Systematic documentation of the region's diverse culture and artistic heritage
 - b. Exploration of the characteristics, capacities, needs and constraints of the region's cultural sector and relevance to development
 - c. Coordinate the development of culture and the arts in the region
7. Regional Gender and Development Committee (RGADC)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-48-2017)

- a. Initiate, coordinate and monitor gender mainstreaming initiatives at the region
- b. Lead in ensuring integration of gender perspective in regional development plans, investment programs and policies through the conduct of consultations with stakeholders
- c. Promote the participation of women, women's groups and other sectoral groups in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of regional and local development plans, programs and projects
- d. Create sub-committees or technical working groups that will review and handle concerns on women's economic empowerment; social development rights; gender in security, justice and peace; gender in environment and climate change; and gender-responsive governance, among other areas, as necessary
- e. Recommend policies or actions that may be adopted by the RDC to facilitate gender mainstreaming and promote women's empowerment and gender equality in the region
- f. Coordinate and lead the preparation and submission of the GAD plan and budget (GPB) and GAD accomplishment report (GAD AR) of the RDC
- g. Facilitate and coordinate with national government agencies, particularly the PCW, the academe and other training institutions for the conduct of region-wide capacity development programs on GAD
- h. Promote and coordinate the generation and use of sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics to come up with gender-responsive evidence-based regional/local development plans and programs
- i. Assist in the monitoring and collection of data on GAD indicators at the regional level
- j. Provide venues for discussing regional gender issues and concerns, as well as for recognizing and sharing good practices and experiences on gender mainstreaming
- k. Strengthen institutional linkages with regional GAD mechanisms (e.g., Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Trafficking-Violence Against Women and Their Children (RIACAT-VAWC) and Regional GAD Centers), GAD Focal Point Systems of regional line agencies, GAD offices of LGUs, donor agencies and civil society, among others, in pursuing GAD efforts at the regional and local levels
- l. Coordinate with and assist national oversight agencies, particularly the PCW, NEDA and DILG, in localizing the implementation of national laws, policies and programs on GAD

- m. Prepare and submit reports on the status of implementation of the Magna Carta on Women and other GAD initiatives in the region following the guidelines set by the PCW and other government oversight agencies

8. Regional Research, Development and Innovation Committee (RRDIC)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-45-2019)

- a. Assist the RDC in providing R&D policy directions, and harmonizing and prioritizing R&D initiatives in the region

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9. Special Regional Committee on the Sustainable Development Goals (SRC-SDG)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-05-2020)

- b. Identify and address gaps of current policies and programs needed to drive progress on the SDGs
- c. Review and approve SDG-related policy, program, partnership, and budget recommendations and report these to the RDC

10. Balik-Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Special Committee (BP² SC)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-42-2020, Implementing Guidelines of EO 114, s. 2020)

- a. Formulate the Regional BP² Action Plan and engage the participation of concerned LGUs, GOCCs, NGOs, and other stakeholders to ensure coordinated efforts in the implementation of BP² programs and projects
- b. Provide technical guidance to agencies, LGUs, and other private organizations in conceptualizing, designing, and financing of BP² projects
- c. Promote market investment destinations in the region to bring in more agri-business, manufacturing, industrial, information technology-business process outsourcing, service, and tourism ventures, ultimately providing more opportunities for employment and livelihood in the countryside
- d. Assess the progress of the implementation of the BP² Program in the region using the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System, and other mechanisms such as but not limited to, an online platform and a tracer system that will track programs and projects availed by beneficiaries
- e. Undertake problem-solving sessions or consultative meetings to resolve issues, problems, bottlenecks, and other concerns in the implementation of BP² programs
- f. Recommend measures that will further strengthen the effectiveness of the BP² program introduced at the regional and local levels
- g. Create a team of information officers that will develop a strategic regional BP² communications strategy to inform the public of goals and objectives of the program, highlighting new initiatives in the region
- h. Advocate and promote gender sensitivity, respect for the elderly, protection of children, preservation of heritage, protection of natural resources, and disaster risks reduction and climate change adaptation in all interventions under the BP² program

- i. Perform other related functions and activities as necessary to ensure the success of the BP² Program

11. Special Committee on Devolution (DEVCOM)

Functions and responsibilities (RDC Resolution No. 03-67-2021)

- a. Cascade policies and guidelines to the regional offices and local governments
- b. Determine and act upon issues and concerns
- c. Strengthen the coordination between the national and local offices for smooth transition to full devolution
- d. Monitor and assess the implementation of devolution transition plans
- e. Submit quarterly reports to the Committee on Devolution Secretariat at the national level

Affiliate Committees

The various committees and councils organized to carry out national and agency programs in the region are under the umbrella of the RDC. Their role shall be to assist the RDC coordinate, monitor and evaluate their respective specific concerns.

In general, the secretariat functions to these bodies shall be provided by the lead agency that organized the council/committee. The institutional relationship between the RDC and these various committees and councils shall be defined by the Council.

Relationship of the Council with other special bodies

The Council may determine the nature of its relationship with other existing special bodies and those that may be created in the future.

The Councils may opt to determine the manner of relating with each other for the purposes of converging their efforts towards the achievement of goals.