

CREATING THE BANAUE RICE TERRACES TASK FORCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORING, MAINTAINING AND ADMINISTERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RICE TERRACES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 77, March 04, 1999

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/1c528591845a/>

WHEREAS, major cultural and natural landmarks should be preserved, developed and maintained for the perpetuation of Filipino heritage and the enhancement of our national identity;

WHEREAS, the Ifugao rice terraces are a priceless legacy as one of man's best engineering achievement and a major tourist attraction in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Ifugao rice terraces are increasingly being threatened with destruction not only by traditional causes of decay but also changing social and economic conditions;

WHEREAS, to preserve and enhance the cultural and historical value of the rice terraces, it is imperative that a special organization be created to undertake the vital role and responsibility of restoring, maintaining and developing the Ifugao rice terraces;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Creation of the Banaue Rice Terraces Task Force. There is hereby created under the Office of the President a Presidential Task Force to be called the Banaue Rice Terraces Task Force for the restoration and preservation of the rice terraces in the municipalities of Banaue, Aguinaldo, Hingyon, Hungduan, Kiangnan, Lagawe, Mayoyao and Tinoc in Ifugao, herein after referred to as the Task Force composed of the following:

Secretary of Tourism

Chairman

Undersecretary of Agriculture

Vice-Chairman

Undersecretary of Environment and Natural Resources

Member

Undersecretary of Public Works and Highways

Member

Congressman of Ifugao

Member

Governor of Ifugao

Member

President of the Mayor's League of Ifugao

Member

A technical secretariat to the Task Force headed by an Executive Director is likewise created. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the President.

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

- a. Formulate, coordinate and execute policies on the implementation of all programs, projects and activities of the government affecting or relating to the Ifugao rice terraces;
- b. Initiate, plan, undertake and supervise the restoration, maintenance and development of the rice terraces walls, irrigations, dikes, paddies, watersheds, access roads and view decks;
- c. Provide livelihood opportunities as an alternate employment for the constituents of these municipalities;
- d. Sponsor and conduct cultural activities in the area;
- e. To contract, lease, sell, dispose, acquire and own properties;
- f. Receive, take and hold by bequest, device, donation, gift from foreign and domestic sources, either absolutely or in trust for any of its purpose any assets, grant or property, invest and reinvest the same and deal with and expand its assets and income in such manner as will best promote its objectives;
- g. Enter into contracts with any private person or entity or any government agency, either domestic or foreign, whenever necessary for the effective discharge of its functions and responsibilities under such terms and conditions as it may deem proper and reasonable;
- h. Provide grants for the conduct of historical, architectural or scientific researches pertaining to the rice terraces and for other purposes in furtherance of its objectives;

To adopt, alter and use a corporate seal; and

- j. Exercise all powers as may be necessary, essential or incidental to the attainment of its objectives.

SEC. 3. Development Master Plan. The TASK FORCE upon approval of this Executive Order, shall immediately prepare a master development plan for the restoration, development and maintenance of the Ifugao Rice Terraces, including but not limited to tourism development, environmental protection, social, cultural and economic concerns. Said master development plan shall be incorporated by the concerned agencies in their respective agency development program for the ensuing years.

SEC. 4. Dissolution of the Ifugao Terraces Commission. Subject to the provisions of existing laws, the Ifugao Terraces Commission is hereby dissolved. All functions, assets, liabilities, records, appropriation, properties, facilities and equipment of the Ifugao Terraces Commission are hereby transferred to the TASK FORCE.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. EO 158 and EO 178 and other issuances, decrees, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect upon its approval.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 4th day of March in the year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Nine.

(SGD.) JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA

President of the Philippines

By the President:

(SGD.) RONALDO B. ZAMORA

Executive Secretary

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.