

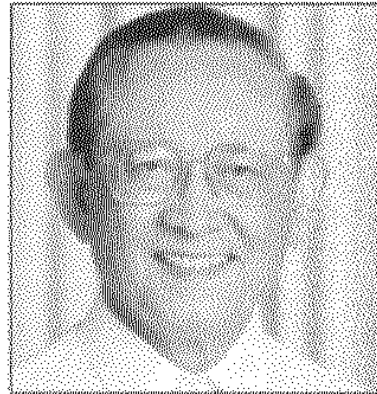


MALACAÑAN PALACE
Manila

M E S S A G E

This Report marks another fruitful year for the Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC).

The LEDAC was conceptualized as an experiment in democratic governance to achieve consistency between the executive branch's development plans and the legislative branch's lawmaking priorities. It provides a regular venue in which counterparts from both branches of government as well as representatives of other concerned sectors could discuss and harmonize their development efforts.



Since its inception in 1992, the LEDAC has proven to be a successful innovation in legislative-executive collaboration in the country. Foremost of the reasons for LEDAC's success is the active support and participation of the President, Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, key legislators, and Cabinet officials in pursuing a common legislative agenda and collectively shepherding the passage of priority legislation. During the period 1996-1997 alone, the enactment of about 35 priority bills was aided by the LEDAC process of consensus-building.

The accomplishments of the LEDAC for the period 1996 to 1997, as presented in this report, is a tribute to partnership of Congress and the Executive in development, which has immensely enriched the democratic process in the country.

To date, the LEDAC continues to serve as an effective instrument for building consensus among the executive and legislative branches and the critical sectors of society. For the coming years, however, we hope that equally workable mechanisms for consensus-building will be institutionalized at the subnational levels to perpetuate the LEDAC experience and provide better opportunities for our people to reap the benefits of democratic consultation for development.

As we witness the assumption of a new national leadership, we wish the continuing success of LEDAC in its pursuit of the national vision of a better life for all.

M A N I L A
June 29, 1998

MESSAGE

Since its creation through R.A. 7640 enacted on December 9, 1992, the Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) continues to serve as an effective high-level advisory and consultative body that ensures consistency in executive development planning and congressional budgeting by providing the mechanism for generating consensus among the different sectors of the economy. The Council also serves as a consultative and advisory body to the President, as head of the national economic planning agency, on certain programs and policies essential to the realization of the goals of national development.



We are pleased to report that the LEDAC, through its accomplishments in 1996 and 1997, has sustained its effectiveness as a consultative mechanism for facilitating the passage of priority legislations essential to the pursuit of the Ramos Administrations' priority programs. With the close cooperation of the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, along with the LEDAC members from the respective houses of Congress, a total of 51 meetings were held in 1996 and 1997 during which 35 priority bills were discussed and subsequently enacted into law. The meetings also served as venue for discussing important issues and policies for executive action.

Meanwhile, the LEDAC Secretariat continued to provide technical and secretariat support to the Council by coordinating the conduct of regular Council meetings and undertaking related policy researches. In 1996, the development of an information system, the Advisory Network for the Government and Legislature (ANGEL), was begun and is expected to be in place only in the Eleventh Congress.

This Report highlights the accomplishments of the LEDAC for CY 1996-1997. These collective accomplishments reflect the product of effective unity, solidarity and teamwork while promoting healthy debate and dialogue to reconcile contending viewpoints among its members.

Truly, the LEDAC has been a crucial instrument for achieving a unified front in undertaking decisive reforms in our economy and society.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cielito F. Habito'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

CIELITO F. HABITO

Secretary for Socio-Economic Planning and
Chairman, LEDAC Executive Committee

THE LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (LEDAC)

Accomplishment Highlights: 1996-1997

The LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (LEDAC) proved to be a highly effective advisory and consultative mechanism in addressing vital issues and concerns relevant to the country's socioeconomic development. The LEDAC, as mandated under Republic Act (RA) 7640, facilitated the discussions and consultations of socioeconomic programs among the Council members from the executive and legislative branches as well as local government officials, youth and the private sector representatives. The LEDAC justified its existence through its actual accomplishments in pursuit of its objectives relevant to the Ramos Administration's priority programs.

In 1996, the Council held 31 meetings, far more than the quarterly meetings mandated by the law. Among the priority bills identified and discussed in the meetings, about 15 bills were enacted into law. The consultations and discussions of the rest of these identified priority bills were continued the following year. Moreover, in 1997, the Council held 20 meetings and about 20 bills were legislated.

THE COUNCIL

As a result of the regular meetings of the Council in 1996 and 1997, consensus were reached on indentifying and prioritizing the following common legislative agenda for action by Congress. In such meetings, the Council - provided the venue for healthy debates and discussions of these subjects of concern, which resulted in Congress expediting the enactment of the same into laws.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Political Stability and National Unity

The LEDAC provided the venue for the discussion and deliberation of political measures which resulted in the legislation of the following:

1996

- RA 8177 - Law on Lethal Injection
- RA 8188 - Penalty for Wage Adjustment Violations
- RA 8189 - System of Continuing Voters' Registration

The Council also provided a forum for the discussions and consultations of matters concerning the creation of the Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development (SPCPD).

1997

- RA 8249 - An Act further Defining the Jurisdiction of the Sandiganbayan
- RA 8353 - An Act Expanding the Definition of the Crime of Rape
- RA 8294 - Lowering the Stiff Penalties for Illegal Possession of Firearms
- RA 8436 - Automated Election System

On Human Development and People Empowerment

The LEDAC provided the venue for the discussions and deliberations of human development and people empowerment measures which resulted in the legislation of the following:

1996

- RA 8187 - Paternity Leave Law
- RA 8191 - Control of Diabetes Mellitus
- RA 8203 - Counterfeit Drug Law

1997

- RA 8292 - Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Law
- RA 8291 - Social Security Law
- RA 8368 - Anti-Squatting Law
- RA 8369 - An Act Establishing Family Courts
- RA 8371 - An Act to Recognize, Protect, and Promote the Rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities/ Indigenous People
- RA 8425 - Anti-Poverty Bill
- RA 8438 - Cordillera Autonomous Region

On Infrastructure and Energy Development

The LEDAC provided the venue for the discussion and deliberation of infrastructure and energy development measures which resulted in the legislation of the following:

1996

- RA 8180 - Oil Industry Deregulation
- RA 8182 - Optimizing the Use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) Funds

1997

The LEDAC provided a consultative forum for the discussion of issues concerning reforms in the electric power sector.

On Protecting the Environment

During 1996 to 1997, the LEDAC provided the venue for the discussion and deliberation of environment protection measures.

1996

The LEDAC served as the forum for the discussion of issues concerning Water Resources Management, Marine Regeneration, and Reforestation Programs.

1997

The LEDAC provided a consultative forum to mitigate the effects of *El Niño*. Likewise, the LEDAC provided the venue for the discussion and deliberation of the Clean Air Act.

On Streamlining the Bureaucracy

The LEDAC provided the venue for the discussion and deliberation of bureaucratic measures which resulted to the legislation of the following:

1996

- RA 8186 - Officer Grade Distribution in the AFP
- RA 8220 - Creation of Chief and Master Sergeant Ranks

The following areas of concern were also discussed in the 1996 LEDAC meetings:

- PHILPOS/PASAR Privatization
- Deregulation of Shipping Ports

- MWSS/NAPOCOR Privatization
- Privatization of some Education and Health Services
- Bureaucratic Reforms

1997

The LEDAC provided the consultative venue for finalizing the following concerns:

- The PNP Reform Bill
- The PNP Modernization Act
- The Amendment to the Government Auditing Code of the Philippines

On International Relations/Diplomacy

In 1996, the LEDAC extensively discussed the wide-ranging Philippine commitments to the GATT-WTO and the APEC Summit preparations.

THE SECRETARIAT

For 1996 and 1997, the LEDAC Secretariat, as mandated by RA 7640, provided technical and secretariat support to the Council in terms of its day-to-day operation, hosting of the Council regular meetings, and other related secretariat works.

In terms of personnel complement, the LEDAC Secretariat during 1996 to 1997 had twelve (12) approved contractual positions of which eight (8) are filled up, as of year-end 1997.

During 1996, the LEDAC operated with an authorized budget of P5.208M. Its authorized budget for CY 1997 was P7.492M.

On the LEDAC Information Network System

The Advisory Network for the Government Legislature (ANGEL) Project was created under Special Order No. 96-01 issued by the Chairman of the LEDAC Executive Committee on 03 June 1996.

In that year, the LEDAC prepared the foundations for the operationalization of an Information Network System linking the executive and the legislative branches of the government. In 1997, a Pre-qualification, Bidding and Awards Committee (PBAC) was created to assist the Project. By December 1997, the PBAC awarded the bid, for the supply delivery and installation of the LEDAC information network system.

On Policy-Oriented Research in Support of LEDAC's Policy Advisory Mandate

For 1997, two policy-oriented researches were contracted. The first study entitled "Five-point Action Agenda Response to the Currency Turmoil Taking Into Consideration ASEAN and Mexico's Responses" was completed. The second study entitled "Stabilization with Mobile Capital and Other BOP Issues" is still ongoing. More policy researches are on the LEDAC research pipeline for 1998.



LEDAC'S 1998 Program Thrusts: Challenges and Directions

For 1998, LEDAC shall further strengthen its consultative and advisory functions to ensure the continuity of the socioeconomic goals of the present as well as of the incoming Administrations.

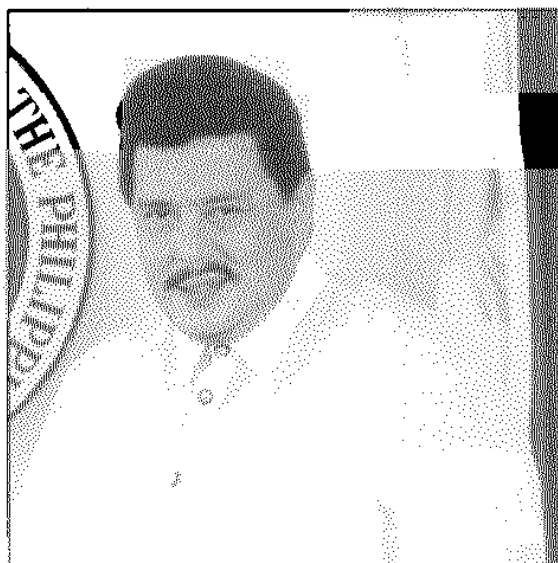
The LEDAC envisions a very challenging role for 1998. It shall pursue the following thrusts for 1998:

- Provide consultative and advisory services to the President on vital issues affecting the socioeconomic development of the country.
- Determine and formulate recommendations on long-term and medium-term socioeconomic development of the country, through a common legislative agenda in support of the national development plan.
- Coordinate the formulation of a common legislative agenda in support of the national development plan.
- Provide general administrative support services including improvements in internal systems and procedures and the operationalization of the LEDAC Information Network System linking the LEDAC with the Office of the President, Senate and the House of Representatives.
- Enhance the Secretariat's technical capabilities through a series of trainings, seminars, and workshops.
- Coordinate LEDAC-sponsored policy-oriented researches in support of the development programs for the 21st century.

**REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE
DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (LEDAC)***



His Excellency President Fidel V. Ramos



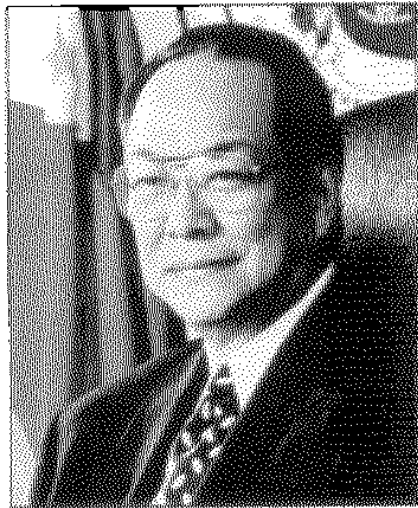
Vice-President Joseph E. Estrada

* As of CY 1997

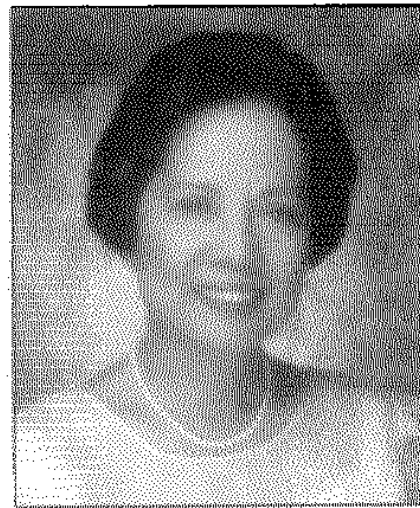
From the Senate



Senate President Neptali A. Gonzales



Sen. Ernesto M. Maceda



Sen. Leticia R. Shahani

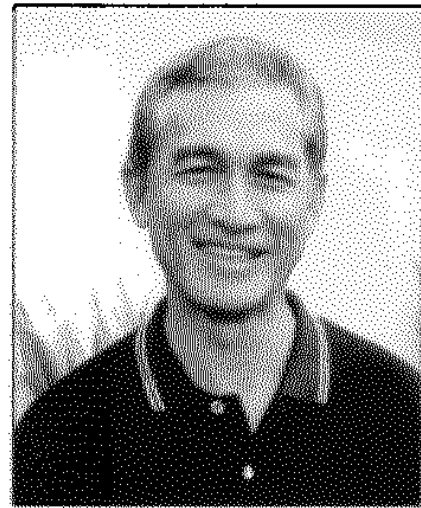
From the House of Representatives



Speaker Jose C. de Venecia



Cong. Rolando R. Andaya



Cong. Margarito B. Teves

From the Cabinet



Sec. Cielito F. Habito
*National Economic and Development
Authority (NEDA)*



Sec. Roberto S. de Ocampo
Department of Finance (DOF)



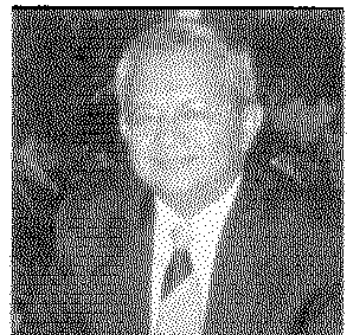
Sec. Cesar B. Bautista
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)



Sec. Arturo T. Enrile
*Department of Transportation
and Communications (DOTC)*



Sec. Victor O. Ramos
*Department of Environment and
Natural Resources (DENR)*

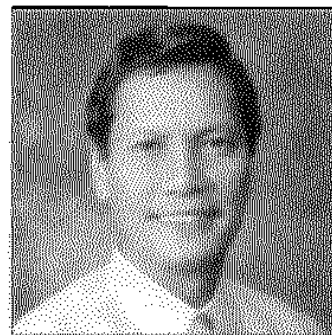


Sec. Salvador T. Escudero III
Department of Agriculture (DA)



Sec. William S. Padolina
*Department of Science and
Technology (DOST)*

Others



Gov. Roberto M. Pagdanganan
Rep. Local Government Units (LGUs)

Exec. Dir. Aurora F. Tolentino - *Rep. Private Sector*

Comm. Ryan Anthony Culima - *Rep. Youth*