

MALACAÑANG
Manila

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 220

**DIRECTING THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR
THE PROFESSIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 14, Article XII of the Constitution, "the sustained development of a reservoir of national talents consisting of Filipino scientist *xxx professionals xxx* high-level technical manpower *xxx shall be promoted by the State.*"; (underscoring supplied)

WHEREAS, good governance is one pillar of a strong republic;

WHEREAS, by virtue of the provisions of Section 5 and 7(a) of Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as the PRC Modernization Act of 2000, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), hereinafter called the Commission, is empowered to adopt policies, such as professional standards and principles designed to enhance and maintain high professional, technical, and ethical standards in the practice of the professions;

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Code of Good Governance will promote and establish ethical awareness and competency among Filipino professionals to make them accountable to their public liability and fully fulfill their professional obligation to their clients; and

WHEREAS, the Code will empower professionals not only to upgrade or improve their technical and ethical proficiency but also to keep them abreast with modern trends and technology in their respective professions, thereby assuring the highly qualitative and globally-competitive professional services, and secure the safety and protection of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. The Code of Good Governance for the Professions in the Philippines shall be adopted by all registered professionals.

Sec. 2. The Governance Advisory Council and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) are hereby directed to undertake measures, including networking with government agencies and civil society, to effectively



implement and enforce the Code through the Professional Regulatory Boards (PRBs) under the Commission's supervision and control.

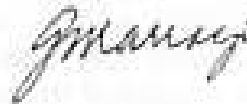
SEC. 3. The PRC shall, after consultation with and upon recommendation of the various Boards, issue the necessary guidelines and procedures for the enforcement of the Code.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause – Any executive issuance, orders or provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are deemed modified or repealed.

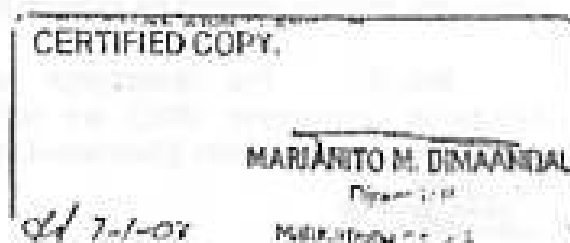
SEC. 5. Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila this 23rd day of June, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

By the President:




ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary



CODE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR THE PROFESSIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

A hallmark of true professionals is their willingness to accept a set of professional and ethical principles and follow these principles in the conduct of their daily affairs. The acceptance of these principles requires that professionals maintain a higher standard of conduct than is called for by law.

This Code is adopted by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and the 42 Professional Regulatory Boards to cover an environment of good governance in which all Filipino professionals shall perform their tasks. While each profession may adopt and enforce its own code of good governance and code of ethics, it is generally recognized that there is a general commonality among the various codes. This Code which covers the common principles underlying the codes of the various professions could be used by all professionals who face critical ethical questions in their work.

General Principle of Professional Conduct

Professionals are required not only to have an ethical commitment, a personal resolve to act ethically, but also have both ethical awareness and ethical competency. Ethical awareness refers to the ability to discern between right and wrong, while ethical competency pertains to the ability to engage in sound moral reasoning and consider carefully the implications of alternative actions.

Specific Principles of Professional Conduct

1. Service to Others

Professionals are committed to a life of service to others. They protect life, property, and public welfare. To serve others, they shall be prepared for heroic sacrifice and genuine selflessness in carrying out their professional duties even at the expense of personal gain.

2. Integrity and Objectivity

To maintain and broaden public confidence, professionals shall perform their responsibilities with the highest sense of integrity and imbued with nationalism and spiritual values. In the performance of any professional service, they shall at all times maintain objectivity, be free of conflicts of interest, and refrain from engaging in any activity that would prejudice their abilities to carry out their duties ethically. They shall avoid making any representation that would likely cause a reasonable person to misunderstand or be deceived.

3. Professional Competence

In providing professional services, a certain level of competence is necessary, i.e., knowledge, technical skills, attitudes, and experience. Professionals shall, therefore, undertake only those professional services that they can reasonably deliver with professional competence. Corollary to this, it is their express obligation to keep up with new knowledge and techniques in their field, continually improve their skills and upgrade their level of competence, and take part in a lifelong continuing education program.

4. Solidarity and Teamwork

Each profession shall nurture and support one organization for all its members. Through a deep spirit of solidarity, each member should put the broader interest of the profession above one's personal ambition and preference. Through teamwork within a cohesive professional organization, each member shall effectively observe ethical practices and pursue continuing professional development as well as deepen one's social and civic responsibility.

5. Social and Civic Responsibility

Professionals shall always carry out their professional duties with due consideration of the broader interest of the public. They shall, therefore, serve their clients/employers and the public with professional concern and in a manner consistent with their responsibilities to society. As responsible Filipino citizens, they shall actively contribute to the attainment of the country's national objectives.

6. Global Competitiveness

Every professional shall remain open to the challenges of a more dynamic and interconnected world. He or she shall rise up to global standards and maintain levels of professional practices fully aligned with global best practices.

7. Equality of All Professions

All professionals shall treat their colleagues with respect and shall strive to be fair in their dealings with one another. No one group of professionals is superior or above others. All professions perform an equally important, yet distinct, service to society. In the eyes of the PRC, all professions are equal and, therefore, every one shall treat other professionals with respect and fairness.

CODE OF CITIZENSHIP AND ETHICS

1. Have faith in Divine Providence that guides the destinies of men and nations.
2. Love your country for it is the home of your people, the seat of your affections, and the source of your happiness and well-being. Its defense is your primary duty. Be ready at all times to sacrifice and die for it if necessary.
3. Respect the Constitution which is the expression of your sovereign will. The government is your government. It has been established for your safety and welfare. Obey the laws and see that they are observed by all and that public officials comply with their duties.
4. Pay your taxes willingly and promptly. Citizenship implies not only rights but also obligations.
5. Safeguard the purity of suffrage and abide by the decisions of the majority.
6. Love and respect your parents. It is your duty to serve them gratefully and well.
7. Value your honor as you value your life. Poverty with honor is preferable to wealth with dishonor.
8. Be truthful and be honest in thought and in action. Be just and charitable, courteous but dignified in your dealings with your fellowmen.
9. Lead a clean and frugal life. Do not indulge in frivolity or pretense. Be simple in your dress and modest in your behavior.
10. Live up to the noble traditions of our people. Venerate the memory of our heroes. Their lives point the way to duty and honor.
11. Be industrious. Be not afraid or ashamed to do manual labor. Productive toil is conducive to economic security and adds to the wealth of the nation.
12. Rely on your own efforts for your progress and happiness. Be not easily discouraged. Persevere in the pursuit of your legitimate ambitions.
13. Do your work cheerfully, thoroughly, and well. Work badly done is worse than work undone. Do not leave for tomorrow what you can do today.
14. Contribute to the welfare of your community and promote social justice. You do not live for yourselves and your families alone. You are a part of society to which you owe definite responsibilities.
15. Cultivate the habit of using goods made in the Philippines. Patronize the products and trades of your countrymen.
16. Use and develop our natural resources and conserve them for posterity. They are the alienable heritage of our people. Do not traffic with your citizenship.

Former President Manuel L. Quezón
August 1939