

RESOLUTION NO. 006-0507
May 16, 2007 – 54th Board Meeting
APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE INTEGRATED WATER
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (IWRM) PLAN FRAMEWORK

WHEREAS, water is a core element of life and the key challenges confronting our country today is ensuring the continuing availability of adequate supplies of clean and safe water at a reasonable price, while at the same time effectively safeguarding the biodiversity and health of the environment;

WHEREAS, the Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002 called for countries to develop Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plans by 2005 to address the challenges in the water sector and to reach the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

WHEREAS, WSSD recognized the importance of IWRM in the achievement of the MDGS. There are critical links between improved water resources management, access to water supply and sanitation, as well as poverty reduction, alleviation of hunger, improved health and education. Gender equality and environmental sustainability. It is in this context that the United Nations recognizes IWRM as the process for governance.

WHEREAS, cognizant of the urgency of taking immediate and collaborative action on the commitment of the Philippines to the WSSD, the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) 2004-2010, recognizes the need to translate this global commitment to action by adopting and institutionalizing the IWRM approach as the strategy for water resources management;

WHEREAS, the UNEP-Assisted “IWRM 2005 SEA Project” provided assistance to the Philippines to accelerate IWRM implementation through the development of a National IWRM and Water Efficiency Improvement Plan. The NWRB, in collaboration with the Philippine Water Partnership (PWP), was the focal agency for this project;

WHEREAS, for the smooth implementation of the activity, a Project Steering Committee was constituted composed of the NWRB Board: Secretaries of DENR, NEDA, DOJ, DOF, DOH, Director of UP-NHRC and Executive Director of NWRB, to provide general guidance, support and approval of the plan. Likewise, a Multi-sectoral Task Force (MSTF) was constituted composed of key government agencies, non-governmental organization and an academic institution, to serve as the core group to undertake the preparation of the Plan;

WHEREAS, consistent with the principles of IWRM, the Philippine IWRM Plan Framework was formulated through a series of national workshops and consultations participated by different multi-sectoral stakeholders to ensure that all related concerns were incorporated in the Plan Framework;

WHEREAS, the Plan Framework is a directional plan that will guide water-related government agencies and other stakeholders in ensuring that water and IWRM are mainstreamed and integrated in their respective plans, programs and project. It seeks to enable and encourage a wider adoption and localization of IWRM across different stakeholders at different levels;

WHEREAS, the Plan Framework was presented to the Board during its 50th meeting last December 21, 2006 for comment and clearance;

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2007, the Plan Framework was launched at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources main office, where representatives from key national government agencies, LGUs, CSOs, academe, private sector and donor agencies attended and affixed their signatures to the platform of action as a sign of their commitment to adopt and support the Plan Framework;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved that the attached Philippine Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Plan Framework is hereby approved and endorsed as a collaborative framework for mainstreaming IWRM in all development plans, programs/projects at all levels.