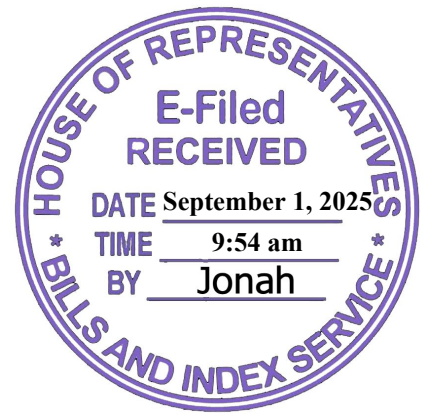




Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session



**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 208**

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Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative  
**EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA**

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS AND THE WORSENING FLOODING IN THE COUNTRY, WITH THE GOAL OF CRAFTING A COMPREHENSIVE, INTEGRATED, INTERCONNECTED AND CORRUPTION-FREE NATIONAL FLOOD CONTROL MASTER PLAN COMPOSED OF SCIENCE-BASED AND COST-EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in harmony with nature;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, emphasizes a holistic, comprehensive, and proactive approach to disaster risk reduction and management;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2(d) of Republic Act No. 10121 states that it is the policy of the State to “adopt a disaster risk reduction and management approach that is holistic, comprehensive, integrated, and proactive in lessening the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of disasters including climate change, and promote the involvement and participation of all sectors and all stakeholders concerned, at all levels, especially the local community;”

**WHEREAS**, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), an average of 20 tropical cyclones (TCs) enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) each year – a frequency higher than anywhere else in the world. Of these, about 8 or 9 cross the country, with the peak of the typhoon season occurring from July through October when nearly 70% of all typhoons develop;

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2024 World Risk Index report, the Philippines, for third consecutive year, ranked No. 1 out of 193 countries as having the highest disaster risk, being vulnerable to natural disasters such as tsunamis and coastal and river floods. Due to its high risk, exposure, vulnerability, and lack of coping mechanisms, the country received an index score of 46.91 out of 100, with higher scores denoting higher risks;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Metro Manila and other flood-prone provinces in the country have seen increasingly severe and worsening flooding year after year – claiming lives and limbs, causing economic losses, risking public safety, and disrupting essential services;

**WHEREAS**, according to data from the government, the recent onslaught of typhoons *Crising*, *Dante* and *Emong* have resulted to the following:<sup>2</sup>

- 6,670,506 affected persons – of which, 113,646 persons stayed in evacuation centers while 80,496 persons sought shelter outside evacuation centers;
- 34 deaths, 18 injuries and 7 missing,
- 30 landslides and 526 flooded areas
- 193 cities and municipalities which declared state of calamity
- Total agricultural damage: Php 1,678,196,474.94
- Total Infrastructure damage: Php P7,355,928,557.34

**WHEREAS**, key road networks and expressways which are not being flooded in the past are now being inundated, raising concerns over inadequate drainage capacity and ineffective engineering responses;

**WHEREAS**, the problem of worsening perennial flooding in the country happens despite the increasing appropriations by the national government for flood control management program – particularly under the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the government agency tasked for the planning, design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure facilities related to flood control;<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, from 2019 to 2025 alone, the national government has already allocated more than Php1.5 trillion just under the budget of DPWH<sup>4</sup>, excluding any flood control funds in other national government agencies and local government units (LGUs);

**WHEREAS**, the more than trillion pesos flood control budget under DPWH are allocated primarily to the construction of river wall structures, slope protection and revetements—prompting questions now as to the appropriateness and effectiveness of government projects;

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<sup>1</sup> September 11, 2024. Philippines has highest world risk index anew in 2024 report. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/920021/philippines-highest-world-risk-index-2024/story/> (Accessed on August 22, 2025).

<sup>2</sup> July 29, 2025. NDRRMC: Reported deaths due to Habagat, Crising, Dante, Emong now 34. GMA News Online. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/954079/ndrrmc-reported-deaths-due-to-habagat-crising-dante-emong-now-34/story/> (Accessed on August 22, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> Section 4, Executive Order No. 124, s. 1987

<sup>4</sup> Source: DPWH budgets, General Appropriations Act (2019-2025)

**WHEREAS**, the DPWH said that from 2022 to 2024, at least 5,521 flood-control “immediate relief” projects have been implemented but admittedly to be “*tagpi-tagpi*” (piecemeal) and uncoordinated across major river basins, Metro Manila and other parts of the country<sup>5</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, in his State of the Nation Address (SONA) last July 27, 2025, President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr. exposed that government flood control projects are failures and that there was corruption in its implementation, mentioning racketeering such as “kickbacks, initiative, errata and for-the-boys” which resulted to substandard flood control infrastructures and severe flooding during the heavy rains.

**WHEREAS**, after his SONA speech, President Marcos launched the ‘*Sumbong sa Pangulo*’ website, an online public grievance platform for reporting of ineffective flood control projects, which became instrumental in the findings of “ghost” and substandard flood control projects as well as controversy in the procurement of several big-time contractors;

**WHEREAS**, despite hefty government funds allocated annually for flood control and mitigation projects, flooding worsens each year, indicating gaps in the current flood management strategies and approaches as well as corruption and collusion in its implementation;

**WHEREAS**, equally crucial as of the corruption issue, it is now imperative to investigate the root causes of flooding in order to identify the right projects and solutions that will solve flooding;

**WHEREAS**, experts<sup>6</sup> have noted that flooding in Metro Manila is not solely caused by rainfall or typhoons, but is compounded by multiple structural and environmental factors, including the encroachment of concrete surfaces, densification of buildings and residential areas, silting of riverbeds and canals, obstruction of waterways by informal settlers, clogging of floodways with garbage, narrowing of rivers due to developments on floodplains, the draining and filling in of small rivers which forces more water into fewer channels, forest degradation, and the reclamation of coastal lands;

**WHEREAS**, the conversion of major spillways and natural waterways into roads or other infrastructural uses may be worsening urban flood vulnerability;

**WHEREAS**, there is reason to look into the efficacy of science-based initiatives and solutions such as the Project NOAH, and whether their analytical tools are being integrated into our infrastructure-driven approach to flood control management planning;

**WHEREAS**, during a briefing by government agencies on flood control and drainage projects in the country on August 13, 2025 at the Committee on Public

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<sup>5</sup> August 1, 2024. DPWH admits no master plan for flood control. GMA News Online. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/915533/dpwh-masterplan-flood-control/story/> (Accessed on August 22, 2025).

<sup>6</sup> July 23, 2025. Why Metro Manila flooding is getting worse — experts explain. Philippine Star. <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2025/07/23/2459998/why-metro-manila-flooding-getting-worse/amp/> (Accessed on August 22, 2025).

Accounts of the House of Representatives, representatives from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) recommended a comprehensive, integrated and interconnected flood management approach which means that flood control masterplan should be a mix of hard engineering and nature-based solutions, not only engineering intervention.

**WHEREAS**, the DPWH acknowledged that it lacks an integrated national flood-control master plan, with existing flood efforts implemented in isolated, piecemeal projects rather than under a cohesive national strategy<sup>7</sup> - revealing a troubling misalignment between scientific recommendations and actual spending priorities;

**WHEREAS**, to properly safeguard lives and economic assets in the face of worsening climate risks, it is critical that the national budget and spending for flood control be guided by a scientific, empirically-grounded and integrated framework;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives direct the appropriate committee(s) to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the current government flood control projects and the worsening flooding in the country, with the goal of crafting a comprehensive, integrated, interconnected and corruption-free national flood control master plan composed of science-based and cost-effective strategies and solutions.

*Adopted,*

  
EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA

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<sup>7</sup> August 1, 2024. No cohesive flood control master plan — DPWH. Inquirer.net. <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1968592/no-cohesive-flood-control-master-plan-dpwh> (Accessed on August 22, 2025).