

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Excerpt from the Minutes of the 49th Regular Session of the Sixteenth Sangguniang Panlungsod held on June 06, 2023 at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall, 3rd Floor, Ormoc City Hall Building, Aunubing St., Cogon Ormoc City, Leyte.

ORDINANCE NO. 115
Series of 2023

AN ORDINANCE INITIATING A SYSTEM FOR A PARTNERSHIP IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE BETWEEN THE CITY GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF ORMOC THROUGH THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 13, Section 15 provides that the State shall respect the role of independent people's organizations to enable the people to pursue and protect, within the democratic framework, their legitimate and collective interests and aspirations through peaceful and lawful means. In this context, people's organizations are bona fide associations of citizens with demonstrated capacity to promote the public interest and with identifiable leadership, membership, and structure. Section 16 or the same article further provides that the right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making shall not be abridged. The State shall, by law, facilitate the establishment of adequate consultation mechanisms.

In line with the aforementioned constitutional provision, Section 34 of the LGC institutionalized the partnership of these organizations, Section 34 of the Government Organizations (GOs) such as National Government Agencies (NGAs), and Government Owned or Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) to extend funds to the NGOs and/or POs, and in order to provide control and guidance in the granting, utilization, management and recording of such funds, the Commission on Audit (COA) issued Circular Nos. 95-003 and 96-003, 2007-001 dated February 15, 1995, February 27, 1996 and October 25, 2007 respectively.

Article 62 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code (LGC) of 1991, states that Local Government Units (LGUs) shall promote the establishment and operation of People's Organizations (POs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and the private sector, to make them active partners in the pursuit of local autonomy. For this purpose, POs, NGOs, and the private sector shall be directly involved in the following plans, programs, projects, or activities of the LGU: (a) Local Special Bodies; (b) Delivery of basic services and facilities, (c) Joint ventures and cooperative programs or undertakings; (d) Financial and other forms of assistance; (e) Preferential treatment for organizations and cooperatives of marginal fishermen and farmers; (f) Preferential treatment for cooperative development; and (g) Financing, construction, maintenance, operation, and management of infrastructure projects. Further, Article 64 of the IRR of the LGC further empowers the local Sanggunian concerned to accredit various NGOs, POs, and associations and likewise provide the procedures and guidelines for accreditation thereof;

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In reiteration of the said provisions of the LGC, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) thru Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2013-70 dated July 24, 2013, issued clarificatory guidelines relative to the accreditation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and in the selection of representatives to the local special bodies, and to strengthen their participation in local governance and development process.

With the adoption of the New Government Accounting System (NGAS) in 2002 and the marked increase in the number of NGOs and POs seeking funds, the COA revised the existing guidelines on the matter to ensure conformity to the prescribed NGAS financial accounting procedures for related transactions, put in place the necessary controls in the release and utilization of funds, and promote transparency and accountability, including monitoring of the implementation of projects funded out of the funds granted.

To eradicate fly-by-night organizations organized for ulterior or illegal purposes and to identify dormant and idle organizations, it is necessary for the LGU Ormoc to devise a mechanism that can effectively monitor and, whenever possible, properly assist and to strengthen the qualified and accredited CSOs. Let it be emphasized that it shall be the prime responsibility of any government to ensure that there is involvement and/or participation of the people in government activities and undertakings for effective and efficient governance.

Thus, in 2014, this Sanggunian enacted Ordinance No. 009, otherwise known as the "Procedure for the accreditation of civil society organizations (CSO's) in the City of Ormoc. Apparently, the same simply provides for processes of accreditation of Civil Society Organizations. The promise of a meaningful participation is there but the call to action is very limited to accreditation. It provided an authority to send CSOs to the local special bodies, but the mechanism is somehow limited as to sending the CSOs to these bodies. Hence, this ORMOCANONG PANAGTAMBAYAYONG ORDINANCE revamping Ordinance No. 009 in order to prescribe clearer process of CSO accreditation, simplify the requirements and procedure of accreditation, introduce new mechanisms instrumental in strengthening the relationship between the LGU and CSOs such as the provision on Recognizing Organizations apart from accreditation, creation of Peoples Council and CSO Desk, and many other avenues where CSOs can actively participate in the processes of the City Government and Policy making bodies.

It is also important to note that premium should be given to expanding the participation of the CSOs in local governance where possible. The local governments should be innovative on how to recognize existence of civil society organizations allowing them to co-exist under other arrangements under than accreditation. The rigid requirements and processes for accreditation prompt this Sanggunian to provide another venue or option where CSOs can still work with the government.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the 16th Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Ormoc, in a Regular Session duly assembled, That:

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SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE - This ordinance shall likewise be known as "**Ormocanong Panagtambayong Ordinance.**"

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS - For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms are defined as follows:

- A. **Accreditation** - The process of granting authorization, within sixty (60) days from the organization of the newly-elected Sangguniang Panlungsod of Ormoc City (SP), to an organization for purposes of representation to a local special body, and additionally, granting privileges as herein provided. An organization may still be accredited after the prescribed sixty (60) day period for purposes other than representation to local special bodies, in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.
- B. **Accredited CSO** - NGO or PO which has complied with the requirements in this Ordinance and other pertinent laws and regulations, and has been granted accreditation by SP Ormoc.
- C. **Civil Society Organization (CSO)** - means a non-state and non-profit association that works to improve society and the human condition. It includes non-government organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs), civic organizations, cooperatives, social movements, professional groups, labor unions, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, and foundations.
- D. **Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)** - a non-stock, non-profit organization that works with different sectors and communities, promotes their general welfare and development provides a wide range of services for people's organizations and tends to operate with a full-time staff. Social development organizations, foundations, and independent research institutions fall in this category.
- E. **People's Organization** - refers to grassroots volunteer organizations that advance the economic and social well-being of their members and address concerns relating to a particular sector such as fisherfolk, farmers, local laborers. It may include a bona fide cooperative or association of citizens with none of its officers and members occupying elective government positions.
- F. **Recognition** - an organization whose existence is duly acknowledged by the City Government through the Sangguniang Panlungsod and such existence may qualify an organization to certain rights and privileges such as participation in the activities of the City Government. Recognition is an option for those existing CSOs who have yet to apply for registration with any government entities so that it can then apply for accreditation with the City Government of Ormoc.

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G. **Registered Organization** - an organization that obtains registration from Securities and Exchange Commission, Cooperative Development Authority, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, National Housing Authority, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Health, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, National Anti-poverty Commission, Insurance Commission Philippine Regulatory Commission, Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board, Department of Tourism, National Youth Commission or any national government agency that is empowered by law or policy to accredit or register such organizations.

SECTION 3. SCOPE AND APPLICATION- This Ordinance shall apply to all CSOs who wish to seek recognition and accreditation of their existence in Ormoc City or seek representation in local special bodies of the Ormoc City Government as mandated by the Local Government Code or those created under national laws, local ordinances or executive orders. This ordinance shall also apply to CSOs entering into agreements with City Government of Ormoc to receive funds to complement a project or to a partnership agreement with the City Government of Ormoc for any purpose.

SECTION 4. EXCEPTIONS; EXCLUSION FROM COVERAGE. The City Government of Ormoc may enter into agreements with CSOs and other non-government entities that are not recognized or accredited as defined in this ordinance under the following circumstances:

- A. When a non-government entity donates to the City Government and wishes to have proper legal documentation of such donation;
- B. When a non-government entity is identified to partner with the City Government of Ormoc in implementing a program or project provided that said partnership does not include the transfer of LGU Ormoc funds and other resources to the said non-government entity; and
- C. In cases of emergencies, the requirements for accreditation or recognition may not apply for purposes of partnership needed for efficient and effective delivery of services and goods in time of emergencies.

SECTION 5. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES - The City Government of Ormoc adheres to the following principles of governance:

- A. The will of the people shall always reign supreme. It shall be the prime responsibility of any government to ensure that such will is at all times manifested and enforced.
- B. The will of the people can best be determined if they organize themselves to address their sectoral or common concerns.
- C. Governance is best effected if its responsibilities are shared by the people. A system of partnership between the government and the governed shall guarantee that sovereignty effectively resides in the people.

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It is the policy of Ormoc City Government to encourage people's participation in local governance by creating a scheme where civil society organizations may represent different sectors of the community in the policy- and decision-making process of the City Government. Therefore, The City Government of Ormoc shall not restrain, coerce, discriminate against or unduly interfere with the rights of people to self-organize and those of their organizations.

SECTION 6. DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS UPON APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF CSOs - Any CSO in active operation for at least one (1) year may be accredited by the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Ormoc upon submission or compliance of the following requirements:

- A. Application letter addressed to the Vice Mayor indicating the reasons for seeking accreditation;
- B. Duly accomplished accreditation form containing among others a list of officers and members in good standing and their respective addresses;
- C. Certificate of Registration from any national government agency empowered by law or policy to accredit or register organizations;
- D. Copies of its constitution, by-laws and/or articles of incorporation or cooperation;
- E. Proof of activities held in pursuit of developmental objectives or of organizational activities conducted in the year preceding the application;
- F. Program of activities planned for the year following the date of application for accreditation;
- G. Financial statement of the year prior to filing of the application duly received and acknowledged by the regulatory agency to which the applicant CSO is registered;
- H. Board resolution signed by majority of the officers of the CSO manifesting a decision to seek accreditation and participation under this Ordinance and naming the person authorized to sign documents and appear in accreditation hearings; and
- I. Any document from relevant regulatory agency showing that the CSO is active and in good standing. For CSOs registered with SEC, copy of the latest GIS duly received and acknowledged by SEC will suffice.

The Sangguniang Panlungsod, however, may from time to time, and in consultation with the People's Council, impose such other requirements and conditions for accreditation as it may deem appropriate to best adhere to the principles behind this Ordinance.

Any CSO already accredited by the City Government prior to the effectivity hereof need not apply again for accreditation for purposes of this Ordinance except as provided under Section 10 of this ordinance or unless its accreditation has in the meantime been withdrawn.

Coalitions, alliances and federations of NGOs and POs shall not be entitled to a separate accreditation if at least 50 percent of its members are already accredited as individual NGOs and POs.

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SECTION 7. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF ACCREDITED CSOs -
Accredited CSOs may enjoy the following rights and privileges:

- A. Enter into joint ventures and other cooperative undertakings with the Local Government to engage in the delivery of certain basic services and goods, capability- building, and livelihood projects;
- B. Develop local enterprises designed to improve productivity and income, diversify agriculture, spur rural industrialization, promote ecological balance, and enhance the economic and social well-being of the people within the framework of equitable and sustainable development;
- C. Receive assistance from the Local Government for economic, socially-oriented, environmental, good governance or cultural projects to be implemented within the territorial jurisdiction of Ormoc City;
- D. Represent the people in local special bodies such as councils, boards or commissions created or mandated by laws, ordinances or executive orders; and,
- E. Join and become part of the People's Council subject to further regulations of the said Council.

SECTION 8. ROLE OF SANGGUNIANG COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION

- There shall be a Committee on Recognition and Accreditation of CSOs in the Sanggunian. It is mandated to perform the following functions:

- A. Receive, examine and evaluate all applications for recognition and accreditation submitted by the CSOs to the Secretary of SP;
- B. Monitor compliance with the conditions for recognition and accreditation;
- C. Initiate legislative measures for the effective performance of its tasks;
- D. Recommend to the SP a course of action for applications filed before it;
- E. Recommend to the SP the cancellation of existing accreditations of CSOs that shall have been found to have intentionally provided false information in its financial statements, accomplishments reports and such documents to the Committee and/or SP Shall have misrepresented in other ways for purposes of acquiring accreditation or renewal of accreditation;
- F. Hold hearings to verify and validate application documents and other meetings to discuss pertinent matters concerning the validity of CSO documents or for other related purposes;
- G. Endorse validated documents of CSOs to SP for recognition or accreditation; and
- H. Keep an updated list of recognized and accredited CSOs, as well as that of all applicants whose applications were denied, a copy of said list shall be furnished to and kept by the SP Secretary and the CSO Desk.

The People's Council, once formally organized, shall be entitled to a two- seat representation in the said Sanggunian Committee.

SECTION 9. CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION - If the application is found to be meritorious and approved by the Sanggunian, a Certificate of Accreditation shall be issued by the SP under the official seal containing among others the terms and conditions for the maintenance of accreditation status. Further, it shall be conclusive evidence that the CSO therein mentioned is duly accredited unless the accreditation thereof has been revoked or cancelled

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SECTION 10. RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION - Accreditation issued by the SP shall be valid from the date of issue and until the last day of the term of the SP Members during which such accreditation was granted, extended or renewed. Renewal of accreditation shall undergo the same process and documentary requirements as stated in Sections 6 of this Ordinance except item C and D therein. However, those renewing for accreditation shall manifest to the Sanggunian during accreditation hearings if there is any amendment or revision of the constitution and by-laws or on articles of incorporation or cooperation.

The application for accreditation is for renewal if the CSO is accredited in the immediately preceding term of the Sanggunian. Otherwise, the application is considered new and applicant CSO shall comply with all the requirements listed under Section 6 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 11. RECOGNITION OF CSO; RIGHTS - The City Government of Ormoc through the Sangguniang Panlungsod may grant recognition to qualify an organization to certain rights and privileges.

Recognition is available for those existing CSOs who have yet to apply for registration with any regulatory agency of government so that it can process accreditation with the City Government of Ormoc.

Recognized organizations may enjoy the following rights and privileges:

- A. Enlist as member of the People's Council and participate in the activities of the Council but with no right to vote and may not be voted upon as member of the PCEB;
- B. Attend capacity building activities based on the categorization of CSOs conducted by the City Government for CSOs;
- C. Receive a certificate of recognition attesting to the existence of the CSO in Ormoc City; and
- D. Attend other activities of the City Government where CSOs are invited.

SECTION 12. DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOGNITION.

Any CSO in active operation for at least one (1) year may be recognized by the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Ormoc upon submission or compliance of the following requirements:

- A. Application letter addressed to the Vice Mayor indicating the reasons for seeking recognition;
- B. Duly accomplished application form containing among others a list of officers and members in good standing and their respective addresses;
- C. Certification from LGU Department/Office or Punong Barangay attesting to the functionality of the CSO;
- D. Proof of activities held in pursuit of developmental objectives or organizational activities conducted in the year preceding the application to prove functionality;
- E. Plan of activities for the year following the date of application for accreditation;
- F. Financial statement of the year prior to filing of the application and declaration of assets and liabilities; and



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G. Board resolution signed by majority of the officers of the organization manifesting a decision to seek recognition and participation under this Ordinance and naming the person authorized to sign documents and appear in accreditation hearings.

SECTION 13. SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT - All recognized or accredited CSOs shall submit to the Sanggunian their respective annual accomplishment reports and financial statements of the previous year on or before June 30 of each year. They shall also submit annual plans. Any CSO who fails to comply shall automatically have its registration deemed inactive.

For those CSOs using fiscal year, the Committee on NGO Accreditation may prescribe additional requirements included in the implementing rules and regulations such as quarterly financial statements to get an updated record of financial position of the organization.

Any CSO whose registration has been deemed inactive may not avail of the Rights and Privileges of recognized and accredited CSOs contained in this ordinance. However, CSOs may reactivate their registration upon submission of documents they lack and subject to final determination and reactivation by a Sanggunian resolution. Reactivation does not automatically restore the CSO of the rights possessed prior to the deactivation.

SECTION 14. WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION OR RECOGNITION - The Sangguniang Panlungsod may, in consultation with the People's Council Executive Board and after hearing, withdraw any recognition or accreditation granted to any CSO for violation of any provision of this Ordinance or for failure to comply with any of the conditions for maintaining status of recognition or accreditation.

The Certificate of Accreditation or Recognition may also be revoked on the following grounds:

- A. The registration with any national government agencies has been revoked or withdrawn or the organization is delisted or placed in an inactive status;
- B. Engaging in acts contrary to law, public order, public policy, morals or good customs;
- C. Intentionally providing false information in its financial statements, accomplishment reports and such documents submitted to the Committee on accreditation and/or SP, or shall have misrepresented in other ways for purposes of acquiring accreditation or renewal of accreditation; and,
- D. For other analogous cases.

SECTION 15. CREATION OF PEOPLE'S COUNCIL - A People's Council refers to a conglomeration or network of CSOs and is LGU-based NGO/PO mechanism which concretizes the spirit of people's participation and advances the principle of partnership in local governance. In this ordinance, it shall be composed of accredited CSOs. For this purpose, the Committee of CSO accreditation shall, not later than 90 days from the effectivity of this ordinance, call for a convention of all accredited CSOs to facilitate the formal organization of the People's Council.

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Recognized CSOs may sit as observers in the meetings and activities of the People's Council subject to further rules and guidelines approved by the People's Council.

SECTION 16. POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNCIL - the People's Council may, in accordance with its policies and internal rules, exercise the following powers and responsibilities:

- A. Elect or appoint, from among its member organizations, its representatives to all local special bodies of the city government of Ormoc or those which the city government or the national laws may hereinafter create subject to the qualifications set by the local special body. The CSO Desk Officer shall coordinate with the secretariat of the different local special bodies prior to the election to determine the priority sectors to be selected and the qualifications of the CSO representative.
- B. Member organizations elected or appointed to represent the People's Council shall have the sole prerogative to choose from among their bona fide members the persons that shall sit in the local special bodies.
- C. Unless otherwise provided herein and by other laws or ordinances, such representatives shall at least be twenty-five (25) percent of the membership of the board, council, or other local special body.
- D. Participation of the People's Council or any of its member organization in the conception, implementation and evaluation of government activities and functions shall be without any compensation or remuneration except for reasonable allowances for attendance during meetings or during authorized travels. The City Government, however, shall provide for the necessary infrastructure for said participation of the Council.
- E. Representatives of the People's Council may observe, vote and participate in the deliberation, conceptualization, implementation and evaluation of projects, activities and programs of the City Government, propose legislations and participate and vote at the committee level of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, and/or act as the people's representatives in the exercise of their constitutional rights to information on matters of public concern and of access to official records and documents.
- F. Establish a mechanism that shall facilitate the organization of federation or coalition of sectoral CSOs including the election from among members, their set of officers.

SECTION 17. INTERNAL RULES OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNCIL - The People's Council shall determine its own internal rules subject to the provisions of this ordinance, but at all times provide for adequate consultation mechanisms for purposes of obtaining the views and suggestions of all movements, organizations, and other non-accredited but legitimate CSOs; Provided, that no political party, government employees organization, or non-accredited CSOs may be nominated in the PCEB or nominated by the Council for membership in the LGUs special bodies nor may they be granted the rights and privileges of accredited CSOs under this ordinance; Provided further, that no provision herein shall be interpreted to prohibit the Council from changing its name or from being organized for purposes other than those indicated in this ordinance.



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The People's Council shall ensure observance of quorum in the conduct of meetings of the Council or the Board especially in making decisions or resolutions.

SECTION 18. PEOPLE'S COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD (PCEB) - The PCEB shall also be constituted to be composed of four (4) representatives from the non-government organizations, four (4) representatives from peoples organizations, and four (4) representatives from cooperatives or a total of 12 members to be elected by the three sectors respectively in a general assembly of the People's Council.

The 12 members of the PCEB shall sit for a one-year term renewable via election. The PCEB may appoint replacements to fill up any vacancy but only for the remaining period to which the vacancy is created subject further to internal rules of the People's Council for filling up of vacancies. The People's Council shall include in the internal rules grounds for replacement of PCEB members that are habitually absent in meetings and activities of the Council.

SECTION 19. PCEB OFFICERS - The PCEB shall elect from among themselves the Chairperson and the Secretary. The PCEB may elect other officers deemed necessary. The Chairperson shall only vote in case of a tie.

SECTION 20. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PCEB - The PCEB shall function as the steering committee of the full Council and shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. Convene and act as collegial body to decide on urgent issues and concerns and other matters affecting the operations of the People's Council and that all decisions are subject to the ratification of the People's Council;
- B. Report to the People's Council status of projects and activities, issues and recommendations;
- C. Represent the People's Council in meetings and activities where the presence of the People's Council is requested;
- D. Constitute committees to ensure that major programs are given attention and also to ensure proper delegation of tasks and responsibilities;
- E. Recommend to the People's Council enactment of policies and guidelines to regulate and guide the operations; and
- F. Perform other duties that may be assigned by the People's Council.

SECTION 21. CSO DESK - There shall be a CSO Desk created and shall be a unit under the Ormoc City Cooperative Development Office (OCCDO). The Senior Cooperative Development Specialist who is the head of the OCCDO shall also be designated as the CSO Desk Officer.

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The City Mayor shall appoint at least three (3) employees with casual status to assist the CSO Desk Officer in effectively performing the secretariat works to the People's Council and the PCEB; implement programs and services for the CSOs such as the week celebrations, annual summit, CSO awards, implementing the CSO initiated projects, and other activities; and, monitoring and mentoring of the recognized and accredited CSOs assisting them to comply with the terms and conditions of recognition and accreditation, and monitoring their performance in the local special bodies. The City Mayor may detail or assign other employees of the City Government to help in the operations of the CSO Desk.

SECTION 22. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CSO DESK - The CSO Desk shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. Serve as secretariat of the People's Council and the PCEB;
- B. Have custody of the records and all other documents relevant to the operations of the People's Council;
- C. Maintain and update a database of all CSOs in Ormoc City categorized into accredited, recognized and all others;
- D. Coordinate with the Sanggunian Committee on CSO accreditation for the processing of applications for recognition or accreditation;
- E. Spearhead the planning and implementation of projects and activities of the People's Council;
- F. Coordinate and ensure implementation of this ordinance;
- G. Mobilize and ensure participation of accredited and recognized CSOs in the various processes and activities of the local government, particularly in planning, budgeting, monitoring and other service delivery areas;
- H. Monitor the attendance and participation of the CSOs in the local policy-making bodies as well as in the programs, projects and activities and events of the City Government where the presence of CSOs are important and requested;
- I. Coordinate with the established federation of local CSO and the People's Council, the holding of regular meetings, and other relevant activities of the CSOs;
- J. Collaborate and submit reports to the DILG field Office on matters relating to the programs, projects, and activities of the CSOs; and
- K. Perform other duties that may be assigned by the People's Council or by the City Mayor from time to time.

SECTION 23. NON-PARTISAN NATURE OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNCIL -

The People's Council shall not engage in, or allow itself or its member organizations to be used for purposes of, partisan politics and shall adopt such measures to ensure that it is adequately shielded from any political partisanship or influence.

For purposes of this Ordinance, partisan politics shall refer to any activity statement or manifestation which solely or primarily serves to campaign for or against any particular political party or any candidate for any elective public office.



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SECTION 24. AMENDMENT OF COMPOSITION OF CITY GOVERNMENT LOCAL SPECIAL BODIES - The existing compositions of the City Government's boards, councils, and other local special bodies are hereby deemed amended and modified to accommodate the membership and participation therein of the People's Council or its representatives which shall be at least 25 percent of the membership of the local special body.

SECTION 25. RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION - It shall be the joint responsibility of the City Government and the People's Council to organize the Ormocanons into cooperatives, labor unions, interest groups, non-government organizations, sectoral organizations and/or people's organizations, or to encourage and support their own efforts towards self-organization to address their common concerns, to promote their common welfare, and/or to serve the city or their communities and interests.

SECTION 26. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONSULTATIONS, REFERENDA AND PLEBISCITES - It shall be the principal obligation of the City Government to conduct regular public, barangay and sectoral hearings and consultations on all matters affecting the general welfare, and/or submit all controversial issues and legislations to the people in a referendum or plebiscite especially called for the purpose, upon two-thirds vote of the Sangguniang Panlungsod and subject to the provisions of existing laws.

SECTION 27. INFORMATION BOARDS AND SUGGESTION BOXES - The People's Council shall identify areas within the City for information boards and suggestion boxes such as barangay halls, public plazas, city hall compound, public markets, schools, government offices, and at such public places accessible to the people, which boards and boxes shall be other than those maintained by the barangays, City Government and the national government, and shall be controlled solely by the People's Council.

Copies of the contents of the suggestion boxes shall be timely furnished the Office of the City Mayor, the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod and the People's Council. City Government is mandated to respond within 15 working days to the suggestions filed by Citizens in suggestion boxes.

SECTION 28. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON EMPOWERMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - The City Government shall maintain a radio and/or regular television information program on city policies, programs, projects and activities in credible and popular radio station and social media platform to adequately inform the people on issues and matters affecting their rights and welfare.

The City Government shall develop and implement a public information, cultural and general education program for the people through films, video and other visual aids.



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SECTION 29. SECTORAL DESKS - The City Government shall endeavor to establish and maintain sectoral desks or offices for labor, women, urban poor, students, peasants and agricultural workers, and disadvantaged minors to serve as centers for cooperation, coordination and joint actions with the People's Council on matters affecting the interest of said sectors. The CSO Desk shall coordinate the operations of the sectoral desks.

SECTION 30. PARTICIPATION OF CSOs IN LOCAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES - The Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Ormoc shall endeavor to include the representatives of the People's Council in the different standing and special committees of the Sangguniang Panlungsod. Henceforth, the right of these representatives to participate in the deliberations and to vote in the decision-making processes of these committees shall at all times be encouraged and upheld. Corollary to this, the Sanggunian shall come up with mechanisms to consider the presence of the said representatives in the determination of the quorum for the hearings, meetings, or activities of these committees; Provided, however, that when the People's Council has been duly notified of said hearings, meetings, or activities in accordance with the rules of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, the absence of the CSO representatives shall not prevent these committees from validly proceeding with business at hand.

SECTION 31. PARTICIPATION OF CSOs IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION - LGU Departments and Offices shall endeavor to consciously promote partnership with CSOs in implementing programs, projects and activities subject to government accounting and auditing rules and regulations. All departments and offices shall identify during the planning and the preparation of their annual budgets the programs and projects that will be co-implemented by the CSOs. The City Budget Office shall come up with budget template/form that will contain those programs, projects and activities that will be implemented under a partnership or under a co-implementation modality.

SECTION 32. PARTICIPATION OF CSO IN BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) PROCESSES - Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act, the Bid and Awards Committee (BAC) shall, during the eligibility checking, shortlisting, pre bid conference, preliminary examination of bids, bid evaluation, and post evaluation and other stages of the procurement process, invite the People's Council to send at least two (2) observers to sit in the proceedings, one (1) from a duly recognized private group in a sector or discipline relevant to the procurement at hand, and the other from a non-government organization: provided, however, That they do not have any direct or indirect interest in the contract to be bid out. The observers should be duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and should meet the criteria for observers specified in the 2016 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Republic Act No. 1984.

SECTION 33. PARTICIPATION OF CSO IN LOCAL BUDGET PROCESS - the City Government of Ormoc shall engage the CSOs not only in the planning stage but also in the whole local budget process. As such, the City Government espouses new ways to exercise their powers in partnership with CSOs and bring citizens closer to the government and develops a strong sense of community that promotes a more responsive governance.



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- A. **AIP PREPARATION:** During the preparation of the Annual Investment Program (AIP), the City Planning and Development Office shall invite the CSOs in the AIP preparation. The CSO shall confirm consistency of AIP with approved Local Development Investment Plan (LDIP) and raise inconsistencies, if any.
- B. **AIP APPROVAL BY SANGGUNIAN:** When Sanggunian enacts the resolution approving the AIP, the accredited CSOs shall be invited during Committee meetings to deliberate on the AIP. Once approved, the sanggunian shall furnish copy of the resolution to all accredited CSOs.
- C. **BUDGET PREPARATION:** During budget preparation phase, accredited CSOs shall be furnished of the budget call. The budget call shall require and direct the department/office heads to consult relevant accredited CSOs in the formulation of the programs, projects and activities (PPAs). The City Budget Office shall also invite the accredited CSOs during budget forum to gain overall appreciation of the thrusts and priorities of the LGU for the budget year. With the mandate to consult CSOs, the latter can examine the target beneficiaries and funding requirements and may propose projects for consideration of department/office heads. The City Budget Office shall also invite accredited CSOs during technical budget hearings taking note of the relevant CSOs to the department/office PPAs. The accredited CSOs shall also be invited during the state of the city address (SOCA) of the Mayor.
- D. **BUDGET AUTHORIZATION:** The Sanggunian shall invite accredited CSOs during budget hearings and budget deliberation sessions and the accredited CSOs may provide inputs on sectoral concerns. The Accredited CSOs maybe allowed to observe the voting for enactment of the appropriation ordinance (AOs). The CSOs shall monitor posting and publication of the approved AO and assist in making this known to the public.

The implementing rules and regulations may include more provisions that shall promote people's participation including the emerging roles of CSOs in budget execution and budget accountability. The said rules and regulations may look into relevant circulars of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and other circulars from national government agencies that prescribe participation of the CSOs in local budget processes.

SECTION 34. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CSO REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LOCAL SPECIAL BODIES - The CSO representatives may perform the following roles and responsibilities:

- A. Share the perspective of the people in the policy formulation, planning and resource allocation and provide information and experiences useful in policy, planning, and budgeting;
- B. Give feedback to the policymakers on the concerns and needs of the people especially those of the marginalized and disadvantaged segments of society and ensure that decisions of the local special bodies are sensitive to the people's needs and concerns;



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- C. Attend all meetings of the local special bodies they were elected to represent the people;
- D. Actively participate in the discussions to ensure democratic processes in arriving at decisions and ensure that decisions result from intelligent discussions of the situations;
- E. Be accountable and own the decision of the local special body and embrace the process leading to the decision;
- F. Help in disseminating the decisions of the local special bodies especially among the CSO community such as providing meeting reports in the social media platforms of CSOs; and
- G. Perform such other roles that will advance the causes of the civil society groups.

SECTION 35. HONORARIA FOR ATTENDANCE DURING MEETINGS OF LOCAL SPECIAL BODIES. - To ensure proper representation, the president or chairman of elected CSOs attending meetings of a local special bodies shall receive honoraria in the amount of at least TWO HUNDRED FIFTY PESOS (P250.00) per meeting subject to accounting and auditing rules and subject further to availability of funds. The CSO Desk shall take charge of processing the documents and ensure the release of the said honoraria on a per month basis and always on the succeeding month subject to further to implementing rules and regulations. This provision however does not prohibit the CSO from sending representative other than the president or chairman to a meeting even if not entitled of honoraria.

SECTION 36. ORMOCANONG PANAGTAMBAYAYONG WEEK - Every third week of the month of September of every year shall be declared as "Ormocanong Panagtambayayong Week". The People's Council, in consultation with all the CSOs shall work together and be jointly responsible in organizing activities to commemorate the event and showcase the good practices among the CSOs.

SECTION 37. ANNUAL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING CSOs - The City Government of Ormoc shall recognize good practices introduced by the CSOs or award CSO outstanding performers during the Civil Society Week Celebration. The nomination, criteria and other guidelines for the awards shall be included in the implementing rules and regulations. However, if the City Government gives cash awards, these shall be disbursed to a community project implementation subject to guidelines issued by the City mayor and subject further to accounting rules and regulations.

SECTION 38. ANNUAL CSO SUMMIT - The City Government of Ormoc through the CSO Desk Officer and the Sanggunian Committee on Accreditation and People's Participation shall organize an annual summit of all CSOs in the City preferably during the Civil Society Week to look into the state of people's participation in the City and discuss areas of improvement and further actions by stakeholders to imbibe the true meaning of good governance.



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SECTION 39. TERM PLAN ON CSO DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT - The City Planning and Development Office shall guide the People's Council in crafting the CSO Development and Empowerment Plan at the start of each term of administration and the plan each year. The said term plan shall be submitted for approval of the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

SECTION 40. PEOPLE'S FUND - The City Government shall appropriate annually the amount of at least THREE MILLION PESOS (P3,000,000.00) to carry out the term plan of the People's Council subject to accounting and auditing rules and subject further to the availability of funds. The People's Council and the City Planning and Development Office shall prepare the guidelines for the disbursement of funds for approval by the City Mayor and subject to existing accounting rules and regulations.

SECTION 41. FUNDING - The funds necessary for the maintenance and operational expenses of the People's Council, in relation to participation in local governance, shall be included in the annual budget. The City Government, through the CSO Desk shall also allocate budget for the capacity building of the CSOs. Other activities that deserves fund allocation include community organizing, establishment of cooperatives, people's and nongovernment organizations, interest groups, labor unions and other activities which promote and advance the people's right to self-organization.

The appropriation necessary to cover the cost of implementing this ordinance in the calendar year 2023 shall be sourced out from the budget of the City Mayor's Office or to be taken from the Unappropriated Surplus, End of Year 2022.

No part of the public funds, however, shall be used to support any activity which is intended for religious purposes or as a form of partisan politics. In no case shall funds be used other than for organizing purposes as defined by the People's Council and approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod.

SECTION 42. ROLE OF THE BARANGAYS - Every Barangay within the jurisdiction of Ormoc City shall constitute a Committee on CSO Coordination and People's Participation as a regular committee of the Sangguniang Barangay to encourage regular interaction between the barangay governments and the civil society organizations. The Chairperson of the said Committee shall function as SBM In-charge of CSO Coordination and People's participation. The barangays shall endeavor to create an environment for participatory governance and ensure that mandated bodies like barangay development council includes CSOs as members. Every barangay shall conduct and update annually its inventory of CSOs operating in their respective areas of jurisdiction and submit to the CSO desk of the City Government the updated list of CSOs not later than end of January of each year.
Agendum No. 2023-185

SECTION 43. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS - Within 90 days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the CSO Desk Officer and the City Legal Office in consultation with CSOs shall determine effective ways and methods for the implementation of this ordinance and craft implementing rules and regulations.

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SECTION 44. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS. Within 30 days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the CSO Desk Officer and the Secretariat of the Sanggunian Committee on NGO Accreditation shall convene all accredited CSOs to elect members of the interim People’s Council Executive Board (PCEB). This is interim and only for the purpose of working with offices assigned to draft the implementing rules and regulations and to prepare for the Ormocanong Panagtambayayong Week. In the last quarter of this year, the interim PCEB shall work with the CSO Desk Officer to prepare for the full implementation of the ordinance starting January 2024 including the full activation of the People’s Council and the PCEB.

SECTION 45. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE- If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the ordinance or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 46. REPEALING CLAUSE – Ordinance No. 009 s 2014 or any ordinance or executive issuances or provisions thereof contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this ordinance is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 47. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Act shall take effect after complying with the publication requirements under the Local Government Code of 1991.

ENACTED, June 06, 2023.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to furnish copies of this ordinance one each to the City Mayor Lucy Torres Gomez; the City Administrator; the City Legal Officer; the City Budget Officer; the City Accountant; the City Treasurer; CPDO; the CSO Desk Officer; the President, Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc; the Office of the Majority Floor Leader; the City Local Government Operations Officer-DILG; and other offices concerned;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above ordinance.

MARIA ANTONIETA G. CO HAT
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod



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ROIILAND H. VILLASENCO
SP Member


NOLITO M. QUILANG
SP Member
Majority Floor Leader

Do not sign!

(On Leave)

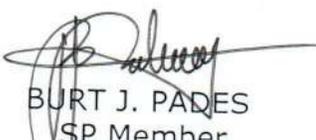

PETER M. RODRIGUEZ
SP Member


GREGORIO G. VRASTORZA III
SP Member
Presiding Officer "Pro-Tempore"


JASPER M. LUCERO
SP Member
1st Asst. Majority Floor Leader


MARIA CARMEN JEAN T. RAMA
SP Member


EDMUND B. KIERULE
SP Member


BURT J. PADES
SP Member
2nd Asst. Majority Floor Leader


LALAINA A. MARCOS
SP Member


ESTEBAN V. LAURENTE
Ex-Officio SP Member
Chapter President
Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc


JOAN MARBIE C. SIMBAJON
Ex-Officio SP Member
Chapter President
Panlungsod ng Pederasyon
ng mga Sangguniang
Kabataan ng Ormoc



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ATTESTED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo J. Locsin".

LEO CARMELO J. LOCSIN, SR.
City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucy Torres Gomez".

LUCY TORRES GOMEZ
City Mayor

20 JUN 2023

(Date)