MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 131

ADOPTING THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK AND CREATING THE NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Section 10, Article XIV of the Constitution declares that science and technology are essential for national development and progress, and mandates the State to give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization;

WHEREAS, Chapter 8 of the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028, Advance Research and Development, Technology, and Innovation, recognizes the strategic role of digital transformation and emerging technologies in advancing innovation and national development;

WHEREAS, in May 2025, the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy for the Philippines (NAIS-PH) was approved to serve as the strategic direction for the development and adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the country;

WHEREAS, building upon the NAIS-PH, the AI Governance Framework for the Philippines was approved by the National Innovation Council (NIC) as the national policy framework for responsible AI development, deployment, and use, in support of the National AI Strategy;

WHEREAS, the AI Governance Framework adopts a whole-of-government approach by strengthening public institutions, promoting responsible innovation, enhancing public trust, building national capabilities, improving data governance, expanding AI-enabling infrastructure, and mobilizing strategic investments;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a mechanism for coordinated action that will accelerate the implementation of the AI Governance Framework and strengthen collaboration, operationalization, and monitoring of efforts among government agencies, together with the private sector, academe, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders, to ensure the timely and accountable execution of its key strategies; and

WHEREAS, Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution vests in the President the power of control over all Executive departments, bureaus, and offices, and the mandate to ensure the faithful execution of laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR., President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. AI Governance Framework. The AI Governance Framework for the Philippines is hereby adopted as the national strategic guide for policy formulation, regulatory coordination, institutional development, capacity-building, and other governance measures necessary to support and strengthen the country's AI ecosystem, consistent with relevant national development policies.

The Framework consists of four (4) interconnected elements:

a. **Ethics and Principles.** AI development, deployment, and use shall be guided by the principles of transparency and explainability, security and safety, accountability and integrity, human centricity, fairness and equity, and sustainable development.

b. **Standards and Assurance.** Appropriate technical standards, testing and evaluation, conformity assessment, interoperability, and other assurance mechanisms shall support the responsible, safe, secure, and trustworthy development and use of AI.

c. **Risk-based Policy Toolkit.** AI governance measures shall be proportionate to the nature, context, and level of risk, and may include general and sector-specific guidelines, AI impact assessments, regulatory sandboxes, review of existing laws and regulations, and coordinated complaint and grievance mechanisms. Existing sector regulators shall continue to exercise their respective mandates under applicable laws.

d. **Enabling Resources.** The government shall strengthen institutions, data research and development, capabilities, infrastructure, and demand generation to support responsible AI development, deployment, and use.

Section 2. National Artificial Intelligence Council (NAIC). The NAIC is hereby created to serve as the inter-agency body responsible for coordinating, facilitating, and monitoring the implementation of the AI Governance Framework and related initiatives. It shall report directly to the President and shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson	:	Executive Secretary
Vice Chairperson	:	Secretary, Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev)
Members	:	Secretary, Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Secretary, Department of Science and Technology Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry Secretary, Department of Finance Secretary, Department of Education Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment Secretary, Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Chairperson, Commission on Higher Education Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority

One (1) representative from the private sector to be appointed by the President from a list of nominees submitted by reputable business groups or associations, for a term of three (3) years with one (1) reappointment.

The DEPDev shall serve as the Secretariat of the NAIC and shall be tasked to provide technical, administrative, and operational support to the Council.

The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Members may designate their respective permanent alternates, with a rank not lower than Assistant Secretary or its equivalent, who shall be fully authorized to decide for and on behalf of their principals.

The NAIC may invite representatives from other government agencies, local government units (LGUs), government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges, the private sector, academe, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders to participate in its meetings as resource persons as may be necessary.

The NAIC shall coordinate with the NIC and other existing inter-agency bodies on matters falling within their respective mandates.

Section 3. Duties and Functions of the NAIC. Subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations, the NAIC shall perform the following duties and functions:

a. Ensure all AI programs and initiatives are consistent with the principles, standards, and policy directions of the AI Governance Framework, aligning government projects to address implementation gaps, eliminate duplication, and promote complementarity;
b. Coordinate and align the implementation strategies and timelines of action plans submitted by the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) with the AI Governance Framework, and oversee their implementation;
c. Strengthen international cooperation and private sector collaboration through networks of trusted partners to advance secure and resilient AI infrastructure and technology supply chains, facilitate joint investments, build workforce capabilities, and address emerging AI-related opportunities and risks, consistent with the AI Governance Framework;
d. Identify and facilitate the resolution of policy, regulatory, institutional, resource, and other bottlenecks affecting the implementation of the AI Governance Framework and provide policy direction and guidance to concerned agencies, consistent with their respective mandates;
e. Recommend policy, regulatory, fiscal, institutional, and legislative measures to the President necessary to accelerate AI adoption and safeguard the rights and welfare of workers and learners affected by AI-driven transitions;
f. Create, convene, and reorganize TWGs, determine their lead agencies, composition, and respective responsibilities, and ensure appropriate representation from government, the private sector, academe, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders, as may be necessary for the implementation of the AI Governance Framework;
g. Formulate and issue guidelines for the effective implementation of this Order, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations; and
h. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Office of the President.

Section 4. Technical Working Groups on Enabling Resources. The NAIC shall constitute the following TWGs to formulate and coordinate action plans for implementing the Enabling Resources element of the AI Governance Framework:

a. **Institutions.** The TWG on Institutions shall formulate action plans to strengthen institutional capacity for AI governance and integrate good governance and forward-looking approaches into relevant government policies and programs;

b. **Data and Research and Development.** The TWG on Data and Research and Development shall formulate action plans to advance basic and applied AI research and development, establish secure and trustworthy data systems consistent with applicable data privacy laws, improve the availability and quality of datasets supporting responsible AI development and deployment, and accelerate digital transformation to promote data interoperability;

c. **Capabilities.** The TWG on Capabilities shall formulate action plans to establish a national AI competency and digital workforce development program, promote AI and digital education and literacy across sectors, and institutionalize scholarship programs supporting AI research, development, and use;

d. **Infrastructure.** The TWG on Infrastructure shall formulate action plans aligned with the Philippines AI+ Infrastructure Masterplan 2026–2033 to accelerate the rollout of affordable, reliable, fast, and secure digital infrastructure, enable investments in scalable computing infrastructure, and integrate the energy and water requirements of AI infrastructure into national resource planning; and

e. **Demand Generation.** The TWG on Demand Generation shall formulate action plans to mainstream responsible AI investments into public sector planning and budgeting, mobilize private sector investments through public-private partnerships, and promote innovative financing mechanisms supporting AI development and adoption across the public and private sectors, including micro, small, and medium enterprises and startups.

The action plans shall identify the responsible and supporting agencies, specific deliverables, implementation timelines and milestones, resource requirements, and key performance indicators. The TWGs shall facilitate coordination among implementing agencies, monitor progress, identify implementation bottlenecks, and submit updates and recommendations to the NAIC.

Section 5. Monitoring and Reporting. The DICT shall establish and maintain a digital monitoring and reporting platform to track the implementation of the AI Governance Framework and the action plans, including the corresponding agency deliverables, milestones, key performance indicators, and implementation status.

All concerned agencies shall submit and regularly update the required information through the platform on a quarterly basis. The NAIC, through the DEPDev, shall lead the overall monitoring and reporting of the implementation of the AI Governance Framework. The NAIC shall submit to the President, within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, a report on the status and progress of the implementation of the AI Governance Framework and such other reports as may be required by the President.

Section 6. Periodic Review. The NAIC shall review the AI Governance Framework at least once every two (2) years, or earlier when warranted by significant technological, regulatory, or market developments, and recommend to the President such amendments or other measures as may be necessary.

Section 7. Convergence. All concerned national government agencies, including GOCCs, are hereby directed, and all LGUs, the private sector, academe, and civil society are encouraged, to render full support and cooperation to the NAIC to ensure the effective implementation of this Order.

Section 8. Organizational Structure of the NAIC Secretariat. The DEPDev shall determine the appropriate organizational structure, staffing pattern, and corresponding qualification standards of the NAIC Secretariat, and submit the same to the DBM for review and approval, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations.

Pending such approval, the DEPDev shall constitute an interim Secretariat composed primarily of its personnel within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Order.

Section 9. Funding. The funding requirements for the initial implementation of this Order shall be charged against the current and available appropriations of the members of the NAIC, and such other available funding sources as may be identified by the DBM, subject to pertinent budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations. Thereafter, the funding requirements necessary for the continued implementation of this Order shall be included in the budget proposal of the members, subject to the usual budget preparation process.

Section 10. Separability. If any section or part of this Order is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. Repeal. All orders, rules, regulations, and issuances, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Order, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 12. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 12th day of November , in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

[redacted]

By the President:

[redacted]

Executive Secretary

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Office of the President
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ATTY. KATRIS [redacted] KOK
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