



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



**The Professional Regulatory
Board of Architecture
(PRBoA)**

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 07_PRBoA-051

23 July 2007

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the Executive Secretary
Malacañang Palace, City of Manila

ATTENTION : **THE HON. EDUARDO R. ERMITA**
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT : **UPDATED REQUEST FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT (IF
POSSIBLE) ON THE MATTER OF THE FULL
IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF R.A. No. 9266
(THE ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004)**

REFERENCES : 1) **Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9266** (The Architecture Act of 2004) approved by Pres. Gloria Macapagal - Arroyo on 17 March 2004 and which took effect 10 April 2004 (repealing R.A. Nos. 1581 and 545), its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) effective 01 December 2004 and derivative regulations; 2) the ongoing willful/ deliberate violations of provisions of R.A. No. 9266, its IRR and its derivative regulations by agents of the DPWH, agents of the DILG and agents of LGUs nationwide; and 3) URGENT REQUEST FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT (IF POSSIBLE) ON THE MATTER OF THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION/ ENFORCEMENT OF RA 9266 (THE ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004) dated 02 May 2007

Dear Sec. Ermita,

Warm greetings from the **Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture** (the "PRBoA")!

The PRBoA, a body under the **Professional Regulation Commission** (the "PRC") is tasked with implementing **R.A. No. 9266** which states that **only registered and licensed Architects** are allowed to sign and seal architectural plans and documents. Yet despite the **full effectivity** of **R.A. No. 9266** since 10 April 2004 (over 3 years ago), registered and licensed Civil Engineers (the "CEs") continue to **practice architecture** through their preparation, signing and dry-sealing of architectural documents, plans, designs and specifications.

The PRBoA fully believes that these acts constitute a clear, unequivocal, continuing, orchestrated and willful violation of multiple provisions under **Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9266 (Architecture Act of 2004)**, its **Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)** and derivative regulations.

The PRBoA also believes that this **issue of signatory to architectural documents** is one of **national importance** because for the last several decades, the situation has already resulted in the

degenerative quality of our physical environment (both natural and built) e.g. substandard and uncomfortable living spaces, overbuilding even on mandated open spaces, too much use of concrete, glass and metal surfaces that increase near-ground and ambient temperatures, incorrect building orientations, major National Building Code of the Philippines (P.D. No. 1096) violations such as windows and/or mounted billboard structures on firewalls, illegal and informal structures and/or settlements within private and public lands and within the road-right-of-way and rights-of-way/ easements (RROWS and ROWs, which all form part of the public domain), the perennial lack of fire escapes, violations of the law on accessibility for the disabled, etc., to mention only a few. Add to these improper grading practices coupled with the rampant cutting of trees (resulting in flooding even on higher elevations/ slopes), garish displays such as billboards and incoherent signages all over the urban and rural landscapes, disregard for various forms of pollution control and energy savings, relative absence of tropical design & green architecture/sustainable building technologies, etc.

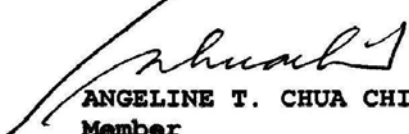
For the PRBoA, these are issues that relate to **public interest, safety and welfare** and are clearly attributable to a **non-architect's** apparent lack of training, focus and aptitude in the design and physical planning of buildings, open spaces and their environs (the "built environment").

To enable the 24,000 Filipino architects to truly help the government in building a new Philippines, there is therefore clear need to effect the soonest the full implementation and enforcement of the provisions of **R.A. No. 9266** and its IRR nationwide, particularly the sections that **limit the preparation, signing and dry-sealing of all architectural documents only to architects registered and licensed by the state.**

In view of the foregoing, the PRBoA respectfully requests an urgent audience with You and President Gloria Macapagal - Arroyo (if possible) at the soonest possible time. Your understanding and assistance will go a very long way in helping relieve the continuing/ decades-long injustice foisted on Philippine architects, presently exacerbated by the flagrant, orchestrated and willful violations of R.A. No. 9266 for the nearly 3 years that it has been in full effect. Thank You very much.

Yours sincerely,


ARMANDO N. ALLÍ
Chairman


ANGELINE T. CHUA CHIACO
Member


MARIETTA B. SEGOVIA
Member

file: 07_PRBoA-051

annexes: PRBoA Letters (duly approved by the PRC) to 1) the various Local Government Units (LGUs) nationwide (sent by the PRC over the period April through July 2007); 2) the Secretary of Justice (received at the DoJ on 15 June 2007); 3) the DPWH OIC Manuel Bonoan (received at the DPWH on 17 June 2007); and 4) the June 2007 PRBoA Memorandum (duly approved by the PRC) and issued by the PRC to all National and Local Government Agencies named