



**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
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**07 OCT 2020**

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment  
The Undersecretary for Enforcement, Mining and Muslim Affairs  
The Director, Legal Affairs Service  
The Director  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Forest Management Bureau  
Land Management Bureau  
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

**FROM :** The OIC, Director  
Policy and Planning Service

**SUBJECT :** **SUMMARY OF AGREEMENTS DURING THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) ON THE CODIFICATION OF MAJOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ENR) LAWS AND POLICIES**

In connection with the recently conducted 4<sup>th</sup> Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on the Codification of Major Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Laws and Policies held on October 2, 2020, may we respectfully apprise you of the following agreements:

1. For the Legal Affairs Service to submit its comments on the draft policy, particularly on the possible conflict with other laws and policies and provide additional inputs on the Chapter regarding Law Enforcement. The comments shall be submitted to the PPS-PSD a week after the 4<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting.
2. For the PPS-PSD to:
  - Reconsider the use of the term “codification” if the intent is to only come up with a collection of basic ENR policies, and if there are no amendments to existing policies, harmonization of conflicting policies, or revision on/streamlining of processes that can be used in the operations of the field offices.
  - Conduct a meeting with the Director, Legal Affairs Service to discuss the points raised during the meeting. It should be scheduled a week after the 4<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting.
  - Review the provision under Section 5.1. Land Classification, regarding the reversion by the DENR to the classification of forest lands those that are eighteen per cent (18%) in slope or over which have already been declared as alienable and disposable (A&D), etc., as this conflicts with Section 4.a of Republic Act (RA) No. 6657 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988.
  - Add Political Boundary Surveys among the classification of surveys under Section 5.3.
  - On Section 3. Scope and Coverage, clarify whether the draft policy will apply to areas managed or administered by other agencies or instrumentalities.

- On Section 6. Natural Resources Tenure Recognition, include a harmonizing statement regarding principles of tenure recognition that are being applied, e.g., respect for ancestral domains, titles, vested or prior right, etc.
  - Include a provision regarding mapping, particularly on the establishment and use of a standard ENR map (One Control Map).
  - Harmonize the provisions regarding easement and buffer zone.
  - Provide a statement on the general principles at the start of each section.
  - Revise the draft policy based on all other comments and suggestions adopted/agreed upon.
3. For the BMB to:
    - On Section 6.3 National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS), provide an alternative statement/elaboration regarding the NIPAS, focusing on the issuance of tenures such as PACBRMA and SAPA.
    - On Section 9. Stabilizing the Edges of Rivers and Creeks, specify the kinds of wetlands that are proposed to be included.
    - On Section 17. Prohibition on the Establishment of Permanent Structures in Foreshore Areas and the Adjoining Salvage Zones, provide a definition of "green port," including relevant policies aimed at promoting those ports.
    - On Section 22. Prohibition on Extraction of Resources inside Protected Areas, revised as Sustainable Use of Resources within Protected Areas, cite the requirements of the NIPAS Act, as amended and other rules and regulations, for the sustainable use of natural/biodiversity resources in protected areas in multiple use zones and buffer zones.
    - Submit the additional inputs to PPS-PSD a week after the 4<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting.
  4. For the LMB to submit its consolidated comments on October 7, 2020 (Wednesday).
  5. For the EMB to submit its comments/inputs on the draft policy to PPS-PSD.
  6. For the FMB and MGB to submit updated additional comments on the issues raised during the 3<sup>rd</sup> TWG meeting.
  7. All the Bureaus concerned are requested to provide comprehensive inputs on all the violations/prohibited acts within their respective areas of jurisdiction, with the corresponding penal provisions. The request for the assistance of the Office of the Undersecretary for Enforcement, Mining and Muslim Affairs relative to the crafting of the Chapter on Law Enforcement is reiterated.
  8. In the review of the draft policy, the Bureaus are requested to provide complete inputs concerning the legal and technical aspects thereof and the necessary management decision, particularly on the harmonization of policies/streamlining of the processes.
  9. The PPS-PSD shall provide a copy of the revised draft DAO to the TWG members on October 8, 2020 (Thursday).
  10. The 5<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting shall be conducted in the third week of October 2020. Once the draft policy has been refined, the same will be subjected for review by the DENR-Policy Technical Working Group (PTWG).

For your information and appropriate action.

  
**MELINDA C. CAPISTRANO**