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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**
Forest Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Lands Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau

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

SUBJECT : **DRAFT DENR MEMORANDUM ORDER (DMO)
PRESCRIBING AN INTEGRATED DENR
MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) SYSTEM**

DATE : **MAR 03 2022**

This refers to your comments and recommendations on the Draft DENR Memorandum Order (DMO) on the Integrated DENR M&E System. The comments are constructive inputs in the formulation of said DMO. However, some of these recommendations are not translated into the DMO's provisions on the following premise:

Forest Management Bureau

1. The Means of Verification (MOVs) of program/project accomplishments are the documents being examined during validation period of reported office accomplishments. These are examined by sectoral representatives during annual field validation being conducted by composite teams of which your sector is represented. However, due to the pandemic protocols MOVs are submitted to the Central Office (CO) as an alternative process.

In the proposed system, the examination of the MOVs shall be done jointly with the PPS mimicking the field validation process. In fact, this is also true to the MOVs of non-sectoral indicators for PBB, which is performed by the CO's focal units, i.e., Citizen's Charter, PhilGEPS Posting, etc.

This process was proposed to strengthen the Bureau's monitoring of program/project for policy implementation and development. This was emphasized in your other comments to pursue program/project monitoring.

Also, this will address the findings manifested in the survey conducted last year to simplify the M&E process of the DENR.

2. Program/Project Status monitoring is a component of Technical Monitoring. All this time, the Bureau has been doing this Project Status monitoring. Example of this is the status monitoring of ENGP on a weekly basis, monitoring of forest protection activities thru the LAWIN System and monitoring of forest data thru the Enhanced Forest Information System (eFIS).

The Policy and Planning Service (PPS), on the other hand, focuses its monitoring activities on the performance of the functional units (this is mainly Physical and Financial Performance). Information on programs/projects status monitoring focuses on how programs/projects are implemented vis-à-vis policies (Guidelines are policies including implementation guidelines).

The impact of your proposal is to avoid multiple requirements of reports from the Central Office. PPS usually needs information as an input in the process of performance evaluation and assessment against annual and medium-term plans.

3. Evaluation and Assessment of programs/projects are principally being performed by the program oversee (sector). Thus, reports of field output indicators as required by the program logical framework should be submitted to them directly (again this is to avoid confusion and Bureaucratic processes). The PPS concern is the Evaluation and Assessment of Plan (short medium-term and long-term), outcomes and impact; the input of which shall be based on the Program/Project outcome evaluation and assessment to be done by the sector.
4. On Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects, previously, the management has already made a policy that Bureaus (Staff and Line) will be the Project Managers of all Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects. This policy was resorted to in order to make or provide a seamless mainstreaming of FASPs results which principally or basically most applicable to sectors. The proposal to submit FASPs results to PMOs in the Bureaus is to respect that in fact they are the PMOs. And therefore, the submittal of Special Projects Field Reports must pass through the PMO before it reaches FASPS.

Land Management Bureau

1. On defining the roles and responsibilities of DENR Field Operations in the draft DAO, please note that the DENR Field Operations is part of the DENR Management, which we submit Performance and Project Status Reports to.
2. On the Thresholds of Performance, please be informed that the draft DAO proposed for the following thresholds. These thresholds shall be the reference standards in evaluating the Performance:

Physical Performance	Over 130%- justification and explanation is required
	100-130%
	Below 100%- justification and explanation is required
<i>Major deviation</i>	Below 70% - justification and explanation is required
<i>Minor deviation</i>	70-99% - justification and explanation is required
Financial Performance	100%

3. On the query on who will identify Lapses and Deficiencies of Reports, it is the PPS for the Performance Reports and Bureaus for the Project Status Reports.

Biodiversity Management Bureau

1. On the comment regarding the submission of MOVs of reported accomplishments by the Regional PMDs to the Bureaus, considering that the Bureaus are conducting their technical monitoring, which is also the Project Status Monitoring, we find it practical to submit the MOVs directly to the Bureaus, copy furnish the PPS for OPCR evaluation and validation.
2. While it is true that PPS consists of three divisions, PPD, PMED and PSD with corresponding functions, the draft DMO opted to use PPS instead of PMED since the Service oversee the performance of all programs and projects. It coordinates all planning activities in the Department. This would also avoid potential concerns in the future should there be any movement or reorganization within the Service.
3. On the suggestion to include the statement, "*PMED shall coordinate with the Staff Bureaus, Regional and Field Offices concerned with the schedule and conduct of the monitoring and validation activities. The consolidated validation results and findings shall be submitted to PPS by the PMED*". We find it not necessary to include this in the draft since this could be part of validation guidelines that shall be developed and issued by PMED-PPS through Memorandum in every conduct of annual validation in consideration of the management's preference and instruction.
4. On the submission of Bureaus of validation findings to PPS, please note that the Bureaus, as the Programs/Projects Oversight, principally perform the evaluation, assessment and validation of programs and projects. The PPS concern is the Evaluation and Assessment of Plan (short medium-term and long-term), outcomes and impact; the input of which shall be based on the Program/Project outcome evaluation and assessment to be done by the sector.
5. The annual validation of programs and projects shall be jointly done by the PMED and the concerned Bureaus. However, the sectoral validation shall be led by the concerned sector and not by the PPS, considering the technical competence of the said Bureau, in addition to being the Program oversight.

6. On defining responsibilities of Field Operations, please see our comment on item no. 1 under LMB.

Environmental Management Bureau

1. On the comment to revise the provision from "*Foreign-assisted and Special Projects Performance and Project Status Reports shall be submitted to the respective Project Management Office (Bureaus) for submission to FASPS, copy furnished the Regional Office where the project is operating*" to "*Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Performance and Project Status Reports shall be submitted to the FASPS by the Bureau, copy furnished the Regional Office where the project is operating*", please note that as proposed in the draft, the PMO within the Bureau shall be required to directly submit their reports to the FASPS. Please see comment no. 4 under FMB.

Mines and Geosciences Bureau

1. Kindly be informed that Program/Project Status Monitoring System keeps an account of the milestones/stages of priority programs/projects implementation as defined from time to time by the management. We believe that the Bureau is actually undertaking this process in monitoring the implementation of its programs and projects.

As to what programs and projects to be enrolled and monitored, please be guided that it should be defined from time to time by the management.

Other recommendations submitted by your office were integrated into the final draft of the DMO submitted for adoption process.

For your information.



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