



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
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MEMORANDUM

FOR : All Undersecretaries
The Head Executive Assistant
All Assistant Secretaries
All Bureau Directors
All Service Directors
Executive Directors (MBCO, RBCO)
Heads of Attached Agencies (NAMRIA, NRDC, NWRB, LLDA)

FROM : The Undersecretary
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

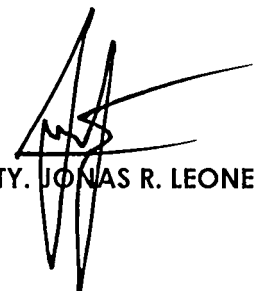
SUBJECT : **HIGHLIGHTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2022-01 HELD
ON MARCH 7, 2022, 10:00 AM AT THE DENR-OSEC CONFERENCE
ROOM**

DATE : MAR 14 2022

We are furnishing herewith the Highlights of Executive Committee Meeting No. 2022-01 held on March 7, 2022, which tackled the State of the Environment and Ways Forward and other matters.

As regard the instructions that require inputs/updates from your office, please submit status of action taken thereon to the Policy and Planning Service - Policy Studies Division as soon as possible.

FOR INFORMATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

MEMO NO. 2022 - 148



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2022-01
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

07 March 2022, 10:00 AM, OSEC Conference Room, DENR Central Office Building
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

The Executive Committee meeting commenced at 10:25 AM and was presided over by Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna

AGENDA	AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS/UPDATES	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
1. State of the Environment and Ways Forward (Contribution of the ENR Sector to the Economy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Anticipating the requests of candidates for the May 2022 elections regarding information/briefing on the State of the Environment, Secretary Jim O. Sampulna instructed the preparation of a presentation focusing on how the ENR sector will contribute in nation-building and economic recovery.He also issued the following instructions:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">For the Bureaus to submit their inputs on Ways Forward to PPS within the day.	All Bureaus	March 7, 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepare an audio-visual presentation indicating the State of the Environment or the DENR's accomplishments, and a powerpoint presentation regarding the Ways Forward (priority programs/thrusts and legislations that the DENR wishes to be pursued, e.g. Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau,	PPS	March 7, 2022, 4:00 PM

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	etc.) Submit the presentation to OSEC within the day by 4:00 PM.		
- Mines and Geosciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. Wilfredo G. Moncano informed that the Mining Sector's ways forward include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lifting of moratorium on the processing of new MPSAs; - Resumption of previously suspended mining operations during the administration of former Secretary Gina Lopez; - Declaration of <i>Minahang Bayans</i>; - Lifting of the ban on Open-Pit Mining; - Legislative action on the putting up of domestic mineral processing plants/smelting plants (e.g., nickel, copper) and limiting the shipping of raw ores; - Approval of new Exploration Projects/Permits; - Legislative action on the imposition of 5% royalties for mining companies operating outside mineral reservations; and - Bidding out to investors the major mineral reserves or nationally owned mining assets (i.e., Basay, Marcopper, etc.) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary Sampulna instructed the MGB to facilitate the cancellation of non-moving MPSAs and to look into the possible reduction/streamlining of requirements and processes. 	MGB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary Sampulna suggested the possible disestablishment of portions of Dinagat Islands as a mineral reservation. • In addition, Secretary Sampulna stressed that the BMB and MGB should coordinate on possible mechanisms regarding mining operations within the PAs. 	BMB, MGB	

AGENDA	AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS/UPDATES	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forestry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asst. Dir. Edna D. Nuestro informed that the Forestry Sector's ways forward include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the ENGP by engaging the upland communities/CBFM POs; - Forest protection; - Watershed improvement in support of food security; and - Issuance of policies on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Facilitation of importation requirements o Renewal of Wood Processing Plants (WPP) at the Regional Office level, and approval of new WPPs at the Central Office o Devolving the approval of harvesting of timber products to the field office o Devolving to the CENRO the issuance of cutting permit for DPWH projects and other national government agencies projects 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary Sampulna asked Mr. Tom Valdez of the Society of Filipino Foresters, Inc. (SFFI) to revisit the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) bill. • Mr. Valdez informed that the SFFI will push for the refiling of the bill. 	SFFI, FMB	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. William P. Cuñado shared the ways forward of the Environment Sector, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Streamlining the process of permitting and reduction of the requirements; - Devolving the approval of permits to the Regional Office level; 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening monitoring, particularly of environmentally critical projects or ECPs; - Streamlining monitoring through satellite approach and establishment of data centers; - Operationalization of the data monitoring centers within the month; and - Automatic approval of documents through the online system. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. Natividad Y. Bernardino shared the Biodiversity Management Sector's ways forward, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improvement of ecosystem services provided by ecotourism sites through coordination with the Department of Tourism; - Valuation of ecosystem services; - Replication of the Boracay Rehabilitation Program in other tourism areas/gems; and - Pushing for the enactment of priority legislations such as the amendment of Republic Act No. 9147 or the Wildlife Act, the National Wetlands Policy, among others. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary Sampulna added that another way to jumpstart the economy through the PAs is the strict implementation of the issuance of tenurial instruments, thus, improving the collection of revenues. As such, the BMB should ensure that those operating inside the PAs should be holders of tenurial instruments. 	BMB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usec. Jonas R. Leones suggested the possible disestablishment of NIPAS areas that are no longer used for the purpose. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asec. Arleigh J. Adorable suggested devolving to the Regional Office the approval of SAPA. 		

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- Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dir. Emelyne V. Talabis informed that the Lands Sector's way forward include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the 10-year accelerated land titling program 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the five (5) patrimonial properties managed by the LMB, Secretary Sampulna instructed the latter to submit its recommendation to the Central Office. 	LMB	
- Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dir. Maria Lourdes G. Ferrer informed that the way forward for the Research Sector is the conduct of researches in support of the DENR programs and sectors, in coordination with the Bureaus and the Regional Offices. Usec. Leones suggested that the six (6) Research Centers of the ERDB should come up with milestones. 		
2. Other Matters			
- Manual of Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devolve to the Regional Office/Field Office the authority to approve permits, including the appraisals for Forestry and Biodiversity. 	BMB, EMB, FMB, LMB, MGB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize and submit the draft Revised Manual of Authorities on Technical Matters by the end of the month. 	PPS	March 31, 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EMB should ensure that its system of approval of documents is in accordance with the DENR Manual of Authorities. 	EMB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamline the requirements, process, and approval of documents, and capacitate the personnel on the ground through the conduct of trainings. 	All Bureaus	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the Undersecretaries are empowered/granted the authority to sign documents that are within their respective areas of responsibility. They shall report the updates to the Secretary during the Execom meetings. 	All Undersecretaries	

AGENDA	AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS/UPDATES	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the revocation of DENR Special Order No. 2020-188 dated June 5, 2020 regarding the approval of Travel Orders. 	PPS	
- Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and execute a new Memorandum of Agreement with law enforcement agencies regarding the enforcement of ENR laws and policies. 	ELEPS	
- Road Infrastructure Development in NIPAS Areas and Forestlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come up with a measure/policy to address the issue on the opening up of NIPAS areas and forestlands to road infrastructure development. 	Asec. Adorable, BMB, FMB	
- Revenue Collection over Areas covered with Tenorial Instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usec. Leones informed that a draft policy was crafted regarding the collection of fees and charges from tenorial instruments holders during the Covid-19 pandemic. The same will be consulted with other agencies. He also mentioned that a Memo was already signed by the Secretary instructing all REDs to apply the current (previously approved) rates/appraisal for certain tenorial instruments. 	PPS	

There having no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:56 AM.