



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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MEMORANDUM

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

FROM : The Undersecretary
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2022-11 HELD ON JULY 21, 2022, 11:00 AM AT THE DENR SOCIAL HALL**

DATE : **AUG 05 2022**

We are furnishing herewith the Highlights of the Expanded Executive Committee Meeting No. 2022-11 held on 21 July 2022, which tackled the DENR's Core Mandates and Organizational Structure, updates on the ten (10) Major Programs, Financial Management and Ways forward.

For information and/or appropriate action.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

MEMO NO. 2022 - 523

Instructions of Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga during the Expanded Execom Meeting held on 21 July 2022:

1. Submit a matrix that will show the breakdown of the total number of JO and COS personnel in the Department with their respective function and task.
2. Provide a brief description of the screening process for the applicants who want to get into the graduate programs.
3. Undertake closer coordination with NAMRIA to capitalize the resources in NAMRIA and to streamline the process of cross data validation to all the Bureaus.
4. Provide an exact number and type of drones the DENR have.
5. Discuss the mining operations, rehab programs and other abandoned mines
6. Provide details on the capacity of Official Development Assistance (ODA) project in promoting the waste-to-energy (WtE) technologies.
7. Discuss the current efforts of ERDB regarding research and development activities of the Department.
8. Delineate the areas for titling to avoid overlap.
9. Comply with the International commitments in coordination with DFA.
10. Provide the position of the Department with regards to the priority legislative agenda: Extended Producers' Responsibility to promote Circular economy.
11. Submit a breakdown list of grants and projects with regards to the ongoing projects in DENR in private partnership with Mitsubishi, L'Oreal etc. under the FASPS.
12. There will be individual meetings with the officials per bureau after the Expanded Execom Meeting.



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2022-11
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING
21 July 2022, 11:00 AM, Social Hall, DENR Central Office Building
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

The Executive Committee meeting commenced at 11:15 AM and was presided over by Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga

AGENDA	AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS/UPDATES	PERSON/OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
1. Transition Report 1.1. Human Resource: DENR Core Mandates, and Organizational Structure	Undersecretary Ernesto D. Adobo, Jr. stated that the transition report is categorized into four (4) parts: 1) Core Mandates of the DENR; 2) Ten (10) Major Programs; 3) Financial Status and Management; and 4) The DENR current directions. - USec Adobo presented the DENR Mandates and the Organizational Structure. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked whose administration was responsible for the reorganization of bringing together Administrative, HR and Legislative Affairs. USec Adobo responded that the reorganization happened during the time of the former Secretary Cimatú. - He introduced the Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Service Directors, Bureau Directors, Regional Executive		

	<p>Directors (RED), other Heads of Attached Agencies and other Heads of DENR Ad Hoc Offices in attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec Yulo Loyzaga suggested to elaborate the mandate of the Task Force Tayo ang Kalikasan (TFTAK) and the Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS). She sought clarification if there is any overlapping or other differences in terms of the nature of their functions. USec Adobo responded that the activities of the Task Force involve engagement with the external stakeholders while the scope of ELEPS involves the regional offices up to the CENRO Level. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga inquired who enforced the ELEPs. USec Adobo responded that the ELEPs is being supervised by the RED, which engaged with the internal stakeholder through a region-wide enforcement. <p>Human Resources Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Adobo explained the Department's staffing complement based on the adopted Rationalization Plan. He enumerated that there is a total of 21,161 permanent positions in the DENR, and as of June 2022 there are a total of 18, 472 filled positions and 2,689 unfilled positions. He also mentioned that there are Contract of Service (COS) Personnel hired as an extension officer who physically manned the programs and projects of the DENR. - On the query of Sec Yulo Loyzaga with regards to the number of personnel hired as COS, ASec Hiro Masuda informed that there is a total of 17,063 COS in the Department consisting of 660 Job Orders (JO) in the Bureaus, 14,727 in the Regional Offices, 2,017 in line Bureaus, and 319 in the attached agencies. Sec Yulo 		
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	<p>Loyzaga instructed the Human Resource Development Service (HRDS) to create a matrix that will illustrate the breakdown of the total number of JO and COS personnel in the Department with their respective functions and tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Adobo stated that the unfilled positions were due to a long hiring process and other requirements such as posting, assessment of the candidates, etc., as stated in the relevant laws and regulations. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga emphasized the instruction from the President regarding the right sizing of the officials and employees under the agencies concerned. She stated that these issues can be justified by the said instruction. - In line with the Good Governance effort, there are a total of 159 personnel with the Administrative Sanction. - USec Adobo also introduced the ENR Academy with a total of 6,714 graduates of Frontline, Basic, Supervisory, and Specialized Courses. Thereafter, he discussed the graduate programs, scholarship grants, and leave privileges offered to the employees as part of the Department's mandates to provide career and personal growth, to which from 2016 – 2022, there are a total of 183 local scholarship grantees, 28 foreign training/scholarship grantees and 110 leave privileges granted. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga requested for the brief description of the screening process for the applicants who want to get into the graduate programs. She also asked if it is the specialization of the committee or according to the priorities of the Department. USec Adobo responded that these opportunities are being posted online. Thus, the employees have an equal opportunity to avail the study grant; however, there is a tedious process in terms of 	<p>HRDS</p>	
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	<p>the selection since there is a Selection Board Committee where the candidates are being chosen based on the priorities of the Department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Usec Adobo noted the Mandanas ruling pursuant to the Executive Order (EO) No. 138, series of 2021 which is in parallel to the DENR's efforts on Capacity Development on ENR for LGU. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if there is a way to measure the impact of the training design. She also asked whether there is an existing tool used to measure the performance matrix and track the changes and impact after the program/training is conducted. - ASec Masuda informed that before crafting the training design, there's an evaluation guided by Kirkpatrick Model method and after six months, there will be an assessment of the training program being carried out. Also, there will be a reentry action plan to be implemented once the LGU finished the program. 		
<p>1.2. DENR Major Priority Programs</p>	<p>Undersecretary Jonas Leones discussed the ten Major Priority Programs which were also tackled during the briefing with President Bong Bong Marcos. It is based on the integrated-ecosystem management approach or the ridge-to-reef approach, which provides the rationale on why programs were being conducted.</p> <p>Enhanced Greening Program (ENGP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed that there is a total of 15M hectares of forest land with 7 Million hectares of forest cover based on FMB. The forest cover increased by 6.6 % based on the satellite. He mentioned that this program started in 2010 with the baseline of 6.8M hectares and currently with 7M hectares and the target for 2028 is to rehabilitate the remaining 2M hectares. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if the National Mapping Resource and Information Authority (NAMRIA) has their own estimation of the increase of the rate under the ENGP since the baseline came from the said office. USec Peter N. Tiangco (NAMRIA) stated that the office reported around 7% increase from its baseline data. - NAMRIA was requested by Deputy Administrators: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Santiago F. Fabic 2. Efren P. Carandang - She also asked NAMRIA what kind of sensing data they use or where they referred to. USec Tiangco replied that they considered Landsat and part of it is Sentinel. Sec Yulo Loyzaga explained that the reference is needed to be well-established. She instructed to have closer coordination with NAMRIA to capitalize the resources and to streamline the competence in terms of cross data validation to all the Bureaus. <p>Intensified Forest Protection and anti-illegal logging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones mentioned that the priority activities are neutralizing the anti-illegal logging hotspots, intensifying the forest fire prevention and continuously patrolling through the LAWIN System. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga inquired on the number of drone units that the Department possess, and whether it is just for optical/visual capture or there are other processes that are inputted in the drones. - USec Leones responded that the CENROs have their respective drones. Sec Yulo Loyzaga requested for the exact number and types of drones. 	<p>Forest Management Bureau (FMB)</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones said that the drone is used to monitor the status of NGP areas. He mentioned that the purpose is more on visual but has applications that will be directed to the DENR server. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga sought further clarifications regarding these programs. ASec Marcial Amaro Jr. explained that the LAWIN program is inputted to the gadget that is distributed to the law enforcement as a real-time assessment and as a response system. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga further asked if it is a visualization or if there are other analytics that are part of it. USec Fragada replied that it is basically for visualization to monitor the area. Sec Yulo Loyzaga probed that the function is basically visual change detection. - USec Leones continued the discussion based on patrolling. He mentioned that there is an involvement in monitoring of illegally cut logs that are converted to chairs and etc. that are donated to other agencies such as DepEd. <p>Enhanced Biodiversity Conversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed that there are 247 protected areas and the priority activities include the establishment of eco-tourism areas, identified critical habitats, Protected Areas Suitability Assessment, and strict enforcement against illegal wildlife trading. - USec Leones pointed out that enforcement service is being implemented through LAWIN and he added that based on the assessment of the resource of the protected areas, the species of flora and fauna will be identified. 		
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	<p>Scaling Up of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BMB is conducting some assessment and monitoring, in coordination with the academe, on the status of the coral reefs especially those affected by climate change. He also mentioned the priority activities such as developing livelihood activities, providing capacity building and technical assistance to the LGUs, and involvement in social mobilization. <p>Geohazard and Groundwater Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed the program and considered it as the adoptive measure to climate change. The Department is assessing the areas that are prone to landslides and floods and consistently updating the ground mapping. He mentioned that based on NWRB, there are nine cities in the country that are considered as ground water stressed areas. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga commented that DOST has developed the GeoRiskPH platform. She asked if the data of MGB was incorporated on the said platform. Dir. Wilfredo Moncano (MGB) replied that the results of the MGB Geohazard and Groundwater Assessment are now interlinked with the data of the GeoRiskPH. <p>Responsible Mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed the mining initiatives and mentioned that MGB is continuously monitoring the mining operations, abandoned mines, and implementation of the rehabilitation programs. He informed that the Philippines has ranked fifth (5th) in the most mineralized country globally, however, the mining 		
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	<p>sector's contribution to GDP is very small due to underutilization of the country's mining potential. Dir. Moncano informed that out of 754,341.94 total area of approved tenement, there are still 3,514,964 hectares of total area pending for approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the query of Sec Yulo Loyzaga whether the responsibility to continuously rehabilitate the mining area is with the operator, USec Leones replied that due to the long litigation process, the government inter-agencies are monitoring the rehabilitation progress. - Dir. Moncano informed that there is a difference in the mining operation before and after the passing of the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. The mining operations established after 1995 are required to establish the final mining rehabilitation decommissioning fund. Currently, 99% of the total mining operators have deposited the said fund amounting to PHP 9 Billion and there are also 375 Billion for progressive rehabilitation. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if the mining tenements listed are prior to 1995. She also asked the total number of abandoned mining areas. Dir. Moncan responded that out of the 11 abandoned mines, there are two (2) areas undergoing rehabilitation. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga remarked that the issues will be discussed further during the MGB's briefing. <p>Improved Land Administration and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed the priority activities under this program such as the issuance of residential free patents, agricultural free patents, Inspection, Verification and approval of Surveys (IVAS) to prevent overlapping and Digital Cadastral Database (DCDB) 	MGB	
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	<p>Cleansing of survey records. He pointed out that the challenge lies on the issuance of patent, as there are other issuing agencies such as DAR, NCIP etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec Yulo Loyzaga inquired if there is an effort to delineate the responsibilities of land titling to ensure that there is no overlapping or duplicates of certain titles. - USec Adobo remarked that the said issues were addressed through the Land Management Bureau (LMB) of the Department. Sec Loyzaga noted a project of the World Bank regarding land titling. - USec Leones cautioned regarding the issue on the NCIP, since the survey of NCIP covers the forest land. <p>Clean Air</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec stated that DENR is monitoring the compliance of the companies in terms of DENR standards, operationalization of Airshed Governing Boards, and calibration and maintenance of Air Quality Monitoring Stations. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked who insured the source of attribution apart from the measurement of the air quality. USec Leones responded that it is under the EMB's purview. He added that EMB Regional offices could identify the nonattainment areas and declare the airshed areas. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if the DENR has a capability to breakdown the type of Air Pollution. USec Leones affirmed that the Department has environmental chemists that are capable of undertaking such activities. 		
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	<p>Clean Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones stated that the activities under this program include monitoring of the compliance of industries, classification of water bodies and the designation of water quality management areas. Relative thereto, he mentioned that there is also a governing board in Water Management Quality Areas and DENR assists the governing boards in protecting the designated areas by issuing notice of violation, etc. to industries that are non-compliant with DENR Water Quality Standards. <p>Solid Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones informed the body that the country is generating waste with a total of 61,000 metric tons/day and 9,000 metric tons are coming from the NCR. There are only 243 landfills that can accommodate the waste generation which only caters 480 LGUs. He provided recommendations to adopt some technology that would address solid waste generation. He also shared that there are ongoing efforts by the DENR to promote the implementation of the waste-to-energy (WtE) projects, a 6B worth joint project of JICA and Philippine Government, subject to the approval of the President. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga inquired about the nature of the partnership of the project with JICA. USec Leones responded that the said project is an ODA and the site is in Davao City. - The goal is to close all the open dumpsites to utilize the landfills. However, this took a toll on the water bodies because people tend to throw their garbage in the rivers. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if DENR can say that the urbanized cities are among the highest waste generators. USec Leones 	<p>Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)</p>	
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	<p>agreed and said that almost 50% of our waste ends up in the water bodies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked for the capacity to generate the waste-to-energy project. USec Leones said that they can provide the profile of the project. <p>Ecosystem Research and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones enumerated the research center of DENR that closely coordinated with the Bureaus and sectors that support the DENR programs and policies to become science and evidence-based. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if there is an internal institutional mechanism that the DENR devised. - USec Leones responded that the Department is initially strategizing to redirect the purpose of the research centers. - Dir Maria Lourdes G. Ferrer (ERDB) replied that ERDB is still in the working process and shared that their agreement is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the programs in terms of the policies; and 2. Generate technology that can be used by the stakeholders in terms of implementation of the program. - Dir Ferrer also shared that there are guidelines being drafted regarding the approval and formulation of the projects. The way forward is for the guidelines of the monitoring and evaluation of the projects as well as the finalization of the reports to come up with publications. - She also mentioned regarding the current efforts of ERDB such as improvement of the operational system, identification of the areas for intervention, and linkages with the Regional Offices and Bureaus. These are some of the immediate considerations of 	<p>Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB)</p>	
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	<p>the office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec Yulo Loyzaga wanted to further discuss the current efforts of ERDB with Dir. Ferrer regarding research and development activities of the Department. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked if the ERDB is involved in the BIOFIN Project. USec Leones replied that the BIOFIN is under the BMB and not within the purview of ERDB as the research arm of the Department. <p>Manila Bay Rehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed the Manila Bay Rehabilitation initiatives of the DENR in parallel with the Supreme Court (SC) Mandamus, directing 13 agencies to clean up and rehabilitate the Manila Bay. He also mentioned the three (3) phase initiatives in line with the Management Plan of the Manila Bay. - He mentioned that the efforts given are clean up drive and water quality improvement prior to the rehabilitation, resettlement, education and sustainability. <p>Boracay Rehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones discussed the efforts undertaken by the Department such as recovery of easement and demolition, detection of buried illegal pipes and closure of non-compliant establishments, among others. He also mentioned that last May 2022, the rehabilitation was successfully turned over to the municipal government of Malay, Aklan. - On the inquiry of Sec Yulo Loyzaga with regards to the titling issue, USec Adobo responded that the Presidential Proclamation No. 1064 classified Boracay Island as forestland (for protection 		
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	<p>purposes) and alienable and disposable land. He said that the issue is now being investigated with the assistance of NBI and other concerned agencies.</p> <p>5 Green Economy Model Sites (GEMS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- USec Leones said that apart from Manila Bay and Boracay, the Department also gave priority to these 5 GEMS namely: El Nido, Palawan; Coron, Palawan; Siargao Island; Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro; and Panglao, Bohol. <p>International Affairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- USec Leones mentioned that there are 22 Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), 11 Asia-Pacific, 9 ASEANS agreements and 1 Sub-regional (BIMP - EAGA), which the DENR is in compliance with the commitment thereto. <p>Partnership Projects with the DENR and FASPs Portfolio</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- USec Leones enumerated the eight (8) ongoing partnership project of DENR with the private sectors. He also discussed the Foreign Assisted and Special Projects (FASPs) from 2012 - 2022 with their corresponding investment costs.- Sec. Yulo Loyzaga instructed to provide a breakdown of the FASPs projects as presented, including the lists of grants and projects.	Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs	FASPs
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	<p>Priority Legislative Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones enumerated some of the Bills that should be prioritized and supported: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Land Used Bill 2. Establishment, Maintenance and Management of Rainwater Harvesting in the Country 3. Regulation of Single Use Plastic Product 4. Extended Producers' Responsibility to promote Circular Economy - USec Leones said that DENR is still waiting for the approval of the President but there are still some existing issues. - Sec Yulo Loyzaga asked for the position of DENR with regards to the Bill. USec Adobo responded that there is no current objection. The EMB comments are also taken into consideration. - USec Cuna raised the issue on the non-inclusion of the comments/position provided by the concerned bureaus on the proposed House Bills prior to the discussion in Congress due to limited time. - USec Leones added that the DENR is actively submitting the comments since the generating industry should have the responsibility to get rid of the waste which is a factor to consider in the approval of the bill. 5. Sustainable Forest Management Bill 6. Forest Boundary Delineation (Final Forest Limit) Bill 	<p>Legal Affairs Service (LAS) and EMB</p>	
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	<p>COVID-19 Related Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Leones also discussed the DENR’s contribution to COVID- 19 related programs. He mentioned regarding the distribution of commodities, integration of livelihood components, streamlining and fast tracking of permitting and issuances on health-related permits, among others. 		
<p>1.3. Financial Management</p>	<p>Undersecretary Analiza Rebueta-Teh provided an overview of the current financial resources of the DENR based on the General Appropriations Act (GAA).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Teh enumerated the breakdown of the DENR 2022 budget amounting to PHP 25,453,589,000 which is allocated to OSEC (including Central Offices with 4 Staff Bureaus and 16 Regions, 76 PENROs including 142 CENROs, 2 line Bureaus (EMB and MGB), and attached agencies (NAMRIA, NWRB and PCSD) - USec Teh also discussed the utilization of the 2021 and 2022 DENR budget. She informed that in 2021 DENR budget, there is still a continuing appropriation amounting to PHP 773,724,000 and as of June 2022, DENR has a total of PHP 14,393,514,000 total obligations, PHP 10,315,455,000 total disbursement and PHP 12,234,186,000 unobligated amount. Thereafter, she proceeded with the budget allocation of the 10 Major programs with a total of 8,884,603,000 (34.91% of the total appropriations). - USec Teh stated that the detailed financial status will be presented based on the schedule and availability of the Secretary. 		

<p>1.4. DENR Ways Forward</p>	<p>DENR Ways Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The goal of the DENR for the forestry sector is focused on the increase in the forest cover. For biodiversity, it is to pursue the conservation of the protected areas and biodiversity resources. For the environment, there should be an improvement in air and water quality and waste management. For climate change, there will be an adoption of climate risk lens in the national planning and policies. For mining, the DENR will promote the sustainable and responsible management of the mineral resources and for water, it is to ensure the water security and resilience in high water-stressed areas through data availability, finance mobilization, and conservation measures such as the use of rainwater conservation authority. <p>Decision Points for the President</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Established the National Natural Resource Geospatial Database; 2. Investment on Climate change mitigation and adaptation; 3. Establishing the Natural Capital Accounting System; and 4. Improve compliance, monitoring and enforcement of environmental laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - USec Teh mentioned the two (2) messages that were raised: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Undertake collaborative research and development in order to enhance, restore and regenerate natural resources and develop adaptive capacities of communities; and 2) Innovate by adopting digital information and communication technologies including the artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other advanced tools in decision making. 		
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<p>2. Message of the Secretary Ma. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sec. Yulo Loyzaga stated that there is no economy without the environment. Relative thereto, the role of the DENR is extremely typical in trying to advance the goal in pursuing the sustainable and resilient development of the new administration. - She instructed that there will be individual meetings with the officials per Bureau after the Expanded Execom Meeting. 	<p>All Bureaus</p>	
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There having no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM.