



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel Nos. (632) 929-66-26/28; 929-6635/929-3618/929-4028
IP Phone Trunkline No. 988-3367
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph/> E-mail: web@denrgov.ph



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Assistant Secretary**
Policy, Planning and Foreign Assisted and Special Projects

The Directors
Legal Affairs Service
Climate Change Service
Policy and Planning Service

The Bureau Directors
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Forestry Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

The Administrator
National Mapping and Resource Information Authority

The General Manager
Laguna Lake Development Authority

The Executive Directors
National Water Resources Board
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development

The Presidents
Natural Resources Development Corporation
Philippine Mining Development Corporation

FROM : **The Undersecretary**
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **NOTICE OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING RE: THE DISCUSSION ON OFFICIAL COMMENTS OF THE BILLS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

DATE : 28 September 2022

This is to inform you that there will be a continuation of the consultative meeting held last September 8, 2022, wherein it was agreed that the discussion will be continued for the following bills:

- A. Sustainable Forest Management Bill
- B. Bill on Regulation of Single-Use Plastic Products
- C. Bill Amending RA 9003
- D. Bill on Establishment, Maintenance, and Management of Rainwater Harvesting Systems in the Country
- E. Land Administration Reform Act
- F. Integrated Coastal Management Act
- G. Philippine Ecosystem And Natural Capital Accounting System (PENCAS)

In this regard, may we invite you to attend the above subject meeting to be held on **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00 PM at the 2nd Flr., Social Hall, DENR Building, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City.**

Attached herewith are the Agenda and the Minutes of the Consultative Meeting (September 8, 2022), for your reference.

For information and compliance.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

**CONTINUATION OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON DENR PRIORITY
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

Objectives: To finalize the position papers to be submitted to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives.

- I. Continuation of the Discussions on the Following Bills:
 - A. Sustainable Forest Management Bill
 - B. Bill on Regulation of Single-Use Plastic Products
 - C. Bill Amending RA 9003
 - D. Bill on Establishment, Maintenance, and Management of Rainwater Harvesting Systems in the Country
 - E. Land Administration Reform Act
 - F. Integrated Coastal Management Act
 - G. Philippine Ecosystem And Natural Capital Accounting System (PENCAS)

- II. Consensus Agreement on the Draft Official Unified Position Paper for the DENR Priority Legislative Measures

CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON DENR PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

September 8, 2022 (Thursday), 9:00 AM

ATTENDANCE:

USec. Atty. Jonas R. Leones	OUPPIA
ASec. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr.	OAPPFASPS
Dir. Wilfredo G. Moncano	MGB
Dir. Maria Lourdes G. Ferrer	ERDB
OIC-Dir. Melinda C. Capistrano	PPS
Dir. Norlito A. Eneran	LAS
Dir. Romirose B. Padin	LLO
Ms. Maria Katriz Arga	BMB
Ms. Criselda Castor	BMB
Atty. Julie Ann Turoueza	EMB
Ms. Racquel Rosario Reyes	EMB-SWMD
Atty. Tom Kabigting	FMB
Mr. Ivan Fernandez	FMB
Atty. Elizabeth Pimentel	LMB
Atty. Rosette Ferrer	LAS
Atty. Marian R. Soriano	LLDA-Legal
Engr. Renato P. Esperanza	NAMRIA
Ms. Bless D. Baltazar	NWRB
Ms. Marites Reotutan	PMDC
Ms. Llarina Mojica	PSD
Ms. Cherry Hogado	PSD
Ms. Marylou Retos	PSD
Ms. Anna Michelle Lim	PSD
Ms. Shanelle Napoles	LLO
Ms. Ma. Victoria Somera	LLO
Ms. Everly Guerrero	LLO
Ms. Cyrenaica Flaviano	LLO

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING:

A Consultative Meeting on DENR Legislative Measures was conducted to draft in-depth position papers required by the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives. The Undersecretary for Planning, Policy, and International Affairs, Atty. Jonas Leones led the discussion with the DENR concerned officials, bureaus, and other attached agencies. The discussions and agreement were as follows:

TOPIC		DISCUSSIONS AND AGREEMENTS
1.	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USec. Leones briefed the participants on the instructions of the DENR Secretary regarding the submission of the position papers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There must be a unified position with inputs coming from the Legal Affairs Service (LAS), Policy and Planning Service (PPS), Bureaus, and Attached Agencies; 2. Meetings committed to analyzing, synthesizing, and searching for the implications of the bills in the DENR Mandate was instructed before submitting a unified comment; and 3. Such unified comment must be consistent with the position of the DENR Bureaus and Attached Agencies.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USec Leones provided guidelines on how the body can fast-track the drafting of the position papers, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The main proponent of the bill/s at matter will consolidate the comments and positions of the other bureaus and attached agencies; 2. The Office of the Undersecretary of Policy, Planning and International Affairs (OUPPIA), will coordinate with the LLO in matters concerned with the House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change; 3. All documents and invitations addressed to the DENR Secretary must be directly sent to the Office of the Secretary. The Briefers for the Public hearings and committee meetings should be submitted to the OSEC at least three (3) days prior to the event; • ASec. Amaro suggested sending a liaison officer to coordinate with the Committee Secretaries (COMSEC) for updates and follow-ups regarding future public hearings and committee hearings. • Dir. Eneran suggested asking if it is possible to ask the Committee Secretaries if the DENR can provide comments once the bills have been consolidated because it is time-consuming to check and comment on all the bills. BMB disagreed with the suggestion and relayed that it is better to comment on each bill especially if the authors are from different parties. • Ms. Napoles presented the Matrix of all the versions of the bills of the Priority Legislative Measures, where the LAS, PPS, Bureaus, and Attached Agencies can input their comments and suggestions. • ASEC Amaro suggested that the Bureaus with connection or relevance with the said bill must have a discussion with the other bureaus or attached agencies to come up with a unified position and comment about the said bill. • Dir. Ferrer suggested asking for inputs and feedback from the representatives or technical staff who attends the public hearings and committee meetings about the discussions and agreements happening so that they can rectify when necessary.
2.	Bills on Forest Boundary Delineation and Sustainable Forest Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASec. Amaro continued the facilitation of the discussion. It was clarified that the National Land Use Act is no longer part of the DENR Priority Legislative Measure for the 19th Congress as the main proponent of the bill is the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA). • Ms. Napoles presented all available comments from FMB, Climate Change Service, Office of the Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change (OUFISCC), and PPS on the different versions of the Forest Boundary Delineation Bills. • Dir. Eneran commented that some versions of the bills indicate that the FMB becomes a line bureau. Dir. Eneran asked what is the stand of FMB. • FMB explained and clarified that the last Forest Limits Boundary Delineation (FLBD) conducted in 2014 only identifies the forest lands and agricultural lands. Based on the updated FLBD they included the legally classified national parks. In 1992 NIPAS there were twelve (12), while in ENIPAS there are ninety-three (93), and last year there were five (5) that lapsed into law. According to Atty. Kabigting, the FMB only included the forest and agricultural lands and excluded the national parks. • Atty. Kabigting enlightened the participants that the FMB only delimits the forest and agricultural land because the national park is not standard and must undergo the legislative process. He also mentioned that based on the Constitution the division is between the Forest Land and National Park. • ASec. Amaro asked if there is a specific provision excluding the Protected Areas (PA's) in the subject of legislative actions. BMB answered that there is none. • ASec. Amaro suggested submitting the clarifications to Congress that in forest delineation only one (1) is needed of the (4) four classifications.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. Ferrer asked if it is possible that FMB be made a line bureau in the Sustainable Forest Management Bill instead under the Forest Delineation Bill. Atty. Kabigting explained that based on this bill the FMB is assigned to survey the lands and have a direct access to regional offices. • ASec. Amaro said the DENR is not ready to submit its position about the said bill because there are some clarifications that needs to be relayed to Congress like whether the PAs still part of the classification, and when talking about forest boundary should it include the Mineral lands, National Parks, Forest lands and Agricultural lands and reduction of NPAs. • Atty. Kabigting added that the DENR Secretary is not comfortable with the FMB's proposal of reclassification of Forestland into Alienable Disposable Land. • Dir. Eneran added that there is a legal basis for reclassifying some areas whether they are forest or agricultural lands. • Atty. Soriano of LLDA addressed their concerns regarding titles at the Laguna Lake shoreland that were given prior to the year 1975 and the increasing titles issued by the AND, with assistance from OSG they are working out a solution on how they can revoke those issued titles. Some of the titles of land given changes their landscapes over time. During the summertime, the land can be used for agricultural purposes but in the rainy season, the land is submerged in water. With that, they asked, how can the delineation help the LLDA with their predicament regarding the Laguna De Bay shoreland. • Atty. Kabigting suggested that LLDA should coordinate with them and NAMRIA in a separate discussion. While Engr. Esperanza commented that they established the 12.5m implementary of LLDA. The LLDA certifies the land, if the land is in the 12.5m buffer zone of the shoreland, the LLDA must not grant the title.
3.	Sustainable Forest Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASec. Amaro skipped the discussion regarding Sustainable Forest Management because the main proponent (FMB) left the meeting.
4.	Promotion of Mineral Processing and Value-Adding Act and Bill Establishing Fiscal Regime of the Mining Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dir. Moncano explained that the MGB has endorsed the proposed House bill of Rep. Bañas-Nogralas on June 15, 2021. The bill is not refiled for the 19th Congress yet because the said Representative is no longer a member of the House of Representatives. • PMDC expressed their support of the bill on the Promotion of Mineral Processing and Value-Adding Act. • Dir. Eneran asked regarding the requirement from the mining companies to putting up facilities, if there is any additional obligation on the part of the mining companies that pass their required limit under the constitution. Dir. Moncano replied that it is the prerogative of the state to optimize the minerals and what we can benefit from the mining companies. • According to Dir. Moncano, the limitation is that a particular mining company to put its own processing plant is very tedious on their part and that very few mining companies don't have their own processing plant. MGB mentioned that they suggested clustering five (5) or more mining companies to put up a processing plant or the government will build a processing plant that the mining companies can use by paying the service charge. • Dir Moncano explained that the MGB's proposal to this bill is gradual on the restriction in the export. Fifty percent (50%) of the previous year of export and for the succeeding year is only fifteen percent (15%) and in five (5) years their raw materials export is zero. • Dir. Moncano explained that they have prepared an analysis per Section of the versions of the Bill Establishing Fiscal Regime of the Mining Industry and its summary. Ms. Napoles flashed the analysis on the screen.


	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dir. Moncano mentioned that he sought advice from USec. Leones if they will indicate specific numbers for the position papers, because the DENR Secretary advised them to remove all the numbers and that the DENR will defer to the decision of the Department of Finance.• Dir. Moncano mentioned that the MGB is tasked by Congressman Alvarez to organize a meeting on 07 November 2022 to hear the side of the mining sector.• ASec. Amaro said they will seek guidance from USec. Leones based on the meeting with the DENR Secretary on this particular issue among others.
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Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM subject to continuation. No other matters were discussed

Prepared by:


CYRENAICA F. FLAVIANO
IEC Officer

Approved by:


ROMIROSE B. PADIN
Director for Legislative Liaison Office



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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Undersecretary**
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

FROM : **The Director**
Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **CONTINUATION OF CONSULTATIVE MEETING FOR THE
DRAFTING OF THE POSITION PAPERS FOR THE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

DATE : 28 September 2022

Respectfully endorsing the attached memorandum as notice for the continuation of the consultative meeting with concerned DENR Offices, Bureaus, and Attached Agencies to discuss the comments and positions on the Department's Priority Legislative Measures.

This is to be held on **Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:00 PM at the 2nd Flr., Social Hall, DENR Building, Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City.**

For your approval and signature, please.


ROMIROSE B. PADIN