



**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

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

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

**SUBJECT:** **HIGHLIGHTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2023-19 HELD ON 04 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT THE OSEC CONFERENCE ROOM**

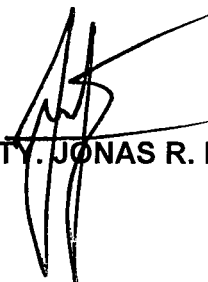
**DATE :** SEP 18 2023

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We are furnishing herewith the Highlights of Executive Committee Meeting No. 2023-19 held on 04 September 2023, 9:00 AM at the OSEC Conference Room, with the following agenda:

1. Report on the official trips attended re:
  - 7<sup>th</sup> GEF Assembly
  - 17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and Related Meetings
2. House Bill No. 6373 - Proposed KIG Scarborough Shoal NIPAS

Please take appropriate action on the instruction/s that require inputs/updates from your office, copy furnished the Policy Studies Division at [psddivision@gmail.com](mailto:psddivision@gmail.com).

  
**ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES**



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**DENR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2023 - 19**  
04 September 2023 | 0900H (PST)  
4F DENR OSEC Conference Room, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

**PRESIDED BY: SEC. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA**

**ATTENDEES:** Usec. Marilou G. Erni  
Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh  
Usec. Jonas R. Leones  
Usec. Augusto D. Dela Peña  
Usec. Joselin Marcus E. Fragada  
Usec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna  
Usec. Ignatius Loyola A. Rodriguez  
HEA Jose Joaquin Y. Loyzaga  
Asec. Noralene M. Uy  
Dir. Cheryl Loise T. Leal  
Asst. Dir. Armida P. Andres  
Secretariat

**REFERENCE: NOTICE OF MEETING NO. 2023-19**

The meeting commenced at 9:00 AM and was presided over by Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga.

AGENDA	DISCUSSIONS/AGREEMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY	PERSON/ OFFICE RESPONSIBLE	TIMELINE
<p><b>1. House Bill No. 6373 re Proposed KIG Scarborough Shoal NIPAS</b> by Usec. Peter N. Tiangco and Asec. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include Panganiban or Mischief Reef in the proposed declaration of Eastern Kalayaan as Protected Landscape and Seascape (PLS) and all other areas that are part of the arbitral award, on the basis/foundation of ecological studies/research provided by the UP MSI.</li> <li>• Involve BMB in the scientific research interest in the West Philippine Sea (WPS), in coordination with UP MSI.</li> <li>• Documents for submission to Congress (e.g. NAMRIA maps and other data) should be coursed through the Office of the Secretary.</li> <li>• Revive the official endorsement for the two proposed proclamations under the time of the former DENR Secretary (Eastern Kalayaan PLS and Pag-asa Island PLS).</li> <li>• Provide a matrix of the actual findings of the research expeditions in the Kalayaan Island Group.</li> <li>• Set the DENR's objectives, explore the possibility of partnership with other international organizations and private institutions in terms of financial support if funds cannot be provided under the GAA, and come up with the aspirational vision to push the blue economy (i.e. seagrass).</li> <li>• Get updates on the research studies of DOST with regard to the biodiversity in the Pag-asa Island.</li> <li>• Clarify with UP MSI asap the boundaries of the proposed protected area based on ecological consideration, to be used in establishing the DENR's position.</li> <li>• The base map to be generated by the NAMRIA should use the ecological boundaries of BMB as reference. Withhold the release of maps to Congress, until such time that the maps are finalized by NAMRIA, in consultation with BMB and UP MSI.</li> <li>• Should the UP MSI define the areas for ecological</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Peter N. Tiangco, Asec. Marcial C. Amaro, Jr.</p>	<p>2nd Week of September</p>

	<p>protection, the Red line for conservation should be determined.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BMB to revise the presentation, indicate the dates and provide a full chronology of events.</li> <li>• Draft a Memo on the protocol for releasing data/information on the House Bill, both for NAMRIA and DENR as well as other Offices.</li> </ul>	Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh	
<p><b>2. Discussion on the Preparations for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN General Assembly by Asec. Noralene M. Uy and Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal</li> <li>• COP-28 by Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For discussion in the next Execom Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Asec. Noralene M. Uy, Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal</p> <p>Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh</p>	
<p><b>3. Reports on the Official Trips Attended:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7<sup>th</sup> GEF Assembly by Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh and Asec. Noralene M. Uy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the Secretary with the details of the NESTLE Integrated Program on Plastic.</li> <li>• Provide the Secretary with the full scope of the “Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystems Support Services (PRICELESS)” project and the “Blue Nature Alliance to Expand and Improve Conservation of 1.25 billion Hectares of Ocean Ecosystems” project implemented by Conservation International Philippines (CI-P).</li> <li>• Schedule a meeting between the Secretary and Ms. Milagros Dulnuan, a PO Member regarding the GEF Gender Partnership in Action.</li> <li>• Schedule a discussion with the BMB focal person regarding the immediate (today) crafting of a statement on the 30x30 Biodiversity Agreement (Campaign for Nature).</li> </ul>	Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Asec. Noralene M. Uy	05 September 2023

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and Related Meetings by Usec. Jonas R. Leones and Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the Secretary with a copy of the Draft ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to UNFCCC COP-28, including a summary of the statement.</li> <li>Provide the Secretary with a copy of the Draft Concept Note for the Strategic Program for ASEAN Climate and Environment (SPACE).</li> <li>Provide the Secretary with a copy of the draft MOU between the DENR and EPA regarding air quality monitoring.</li> <li>Finalize the draft MOU with the EPA and NASA</li> <li>Set the date for the signing of the MOU with the Secretary present.</li> <li>Include the EMB Legal and Air Quality Divisions in the review of the Establishment Agreement (EA) for the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC).</li> <li>Establish what will be expected from the DENR in the implementation of the EA, i.e., equipment, investments. Coordinate with Usec. Cuna and Asec. Gonzales on these concerns.</li> <li>Emphasize the PPS role in coordination with concerned Offices and Bureaus in facilitating and establishing the baseline on the inventory of ASEAN-related past and on-going projects.</li> <li>Define the strategic milestones in the ASOEN and the tasks leading up to the 2024 meeting.</li> <li>Discuss the way forward for the ASOEN with other officials concerned. Include in the discussions the Draft ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to UNFCCC COP-28.</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Jonas R. Leones, Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal</p>	
<p><b>4. Preparations for the Supreme Court Oral Argument regarding the Manila Bay</b> by Usec.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft an MOU asap and organize a team for the cumulative impact assessment of reclamation in Manila Bay. The team shall assist the DENR in performing its mandate per the Mandamus ruling by applying science- or nature-based</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Jonas R. Leones, Usec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, Usec. Ignatius Loyola A. Rodriguez</p>	

<p>Jonas R. Leones, Usec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, and Usec. Ignatius Loyola A. Rodriguez</p>	<p>solutions (i.e. physical oceanography). The MOU should stipulate that the data shall include a recent hydrographic survey of the Manila Bay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DENR shall not process the ECCs unless there is a drafted MOU.</li> <li>• PPS to coordinate with Usec. Leones and Usec. Rodriguez regarding the review of the MOU</li> </ul>	<p>Director Cheryl Loise T. Leal</p>	
<p><b>5. Report on the Interagency Meeting re ICJ Advisory Opinion Proceedings</b> by Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh and Usec. Jonas R. Leones</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For discussion in the next Execom Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Usec. Jonas R. Leones</p>	
<p><b>6. Updates on the Issues Raised by Congress</b> by Usec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna and Usec. Joselin Marcus E. Fragada</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the Secretary with information on the main issue/s with NCIP. The topic shall be discussed in the next Execom Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Juan Miguel T. Cuna, Usec. Joselin Marcus E. Fragada</p>	
<p><b>7. Other Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Defense Schedule by Usec. Jonas R. Leones and Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For discussion in the next Execom Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Usec. Jonas R. Leones</p>	

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Prepared by:

Policy and Planning Service - Policy Studies Division