



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN



**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** **The Directors**  
Legal Affairs Service  
Policy and Planning Service  
Climate Change Service

**All Regional Executive Directors**

**All Bureau Directors**

**The OIC Director**  
Mines & Geosciences Bureau

**The Administrator,**  
National Mapping Resource and Information Authority

**The Officer-in- Charge**  
National Water Resource Board

**The General Manager**  
Laguna Lake Development Authority

**The Executive Directors**  
River Basin Control Office  
Manila Bay Coordinating Office  
Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office

**FROM :** **The Director**  
Legislative Liaison Office

**SUBJECT :** **INVITATION TO THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ON SENATE RESOLUTIONS NO. 1121 "INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF POOR AND INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE, FREQUENT POWER OUTAGES, AND INSUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLY ON THE TOURISM SECTOR"**

**DATE :** 21 August 2024

---

In reference to the email received by our Office, the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs joint with the Committee on Tourism; and Finance is inviting the Department to

the public hearing on 27 August 2024, Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. at Senator Tolentino Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Senate of the Philippines, to discuss the legislative measure:

- **Senate Resolution No. 1121**, "Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs to Conduct an Inquiry in Aid of Legislation on the Economic Impact of Poor and Inadequate Infrastructure, Frequent Power Outages, and Insufficient Water Supply on the Tourism Sector with the End in View of Fostering Economic, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth in the Tourism Industry by Integrating and Aligning Regional and National Economic and Development Planning and Budgeting." (Introduced by Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri)

In this regard, may we respectfully request for **comments/recommendations on the abovementioned resolution**, in anticipation of the Committee meeting, as requested by the Committee. Kindly send them on or before **26 August 2024, at 5:00 PM** via email at [denrlo@denr.gov.ph](mailto:denrlo@denr.gov.ph) Further, kindly inform us of the name/s of the representative/s from your office who will participate in the Committee meeting so we may include him/her/them as resource person/s.

Attached herewith are the Letter-Invitation and the Senate Resolution for your reference.

  
ROMIROSE B. PADIN

Cc:

Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs  
Undersecretary for Integrated Environmental Science  
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs



Republic of the Philippines  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

20 August 2024

**CARLOS PRIMO C DAVID**

*Undersecretary*

DENR - Water Resource Management Office

Dear **Undersecretary David**:

Please be informed that the Committee on Economic Affairs, joint with the Committees on Tourism; and Finance, will conduct a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, 27 August 2024, 11:00 a.m., at the Sen. Tolentino Room**, 2nd floor, Senate of the Philippines. The Committee will discuss **Senate Resolution No. 1121**, "Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs to Conduct an Inquiry in Aid of Legislation on the Economic Impact of Poor and Inadequate Infrastructure, Frequent Power Outages, and Insufficient Water Supply on the Tourism Sector with the End in View of Fostering Economic, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth in the Tourism Industry by Integrating and Aligning Regional and National Economic and Development Planning and Budgeting." (*Introduced by Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri*)

In this regard, may we invite you or your authorized representative (at least Undersecretary level) as a **Resource Person** to this Public Hearing. Your physical presence is earnestly requested. The Committee would also appreciate if you could provide us a copy of your **position paper/comments/presentation materials on or before 26 August 2024**.

May we also request for your confirmation of availability through this google form link: <https://bit.ly/3XanRkj>.

---

Legislative Committee Support Service for Economic and Socio-Cultural Concerns (LCSS-ESCC)

Tel. Nos.: (632) 8552 6601 loc. 3301, 3305; (632) 8552 6820

Website: [www.senate.gov.ph](http://www.senate.gov.ph) Email address: [senateeconaffairs.19thcongress@gmail.com](mailto:senateeconaffairs.19thcongress@gmail.com)

For any clarification on the matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned Committee Secretary at (02) 8552-6820, (02) 8552-6601 locals 3303, 3305 and 3306; or thru [senateeconaffairs.19thcongress@gmail.com](mailto:senateeconaffairs.19thcongress@gmail.com) and [econaffairs.senate@gmail.com](mailto:econaffairs.senate@gmail.com), or Atty. Ellainemor San Pascual at viber number 0956-8868728.

Thank you very much.

For the Chairperson:

**SEN. JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI**

  
**(MS.) JAMIE LYN DUQUE-DAILEG, MPP-NUS**  
*Committee Secretary*

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 1121

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF POOR AND INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE, FREQUENT POWER OUTAGES, AND INSUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLY ON THE TOURISM SECTOR WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FOSTERING ECONOMIC, SUSTAINABLE, AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY BY INTEGRATING AND ALIGNING REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND BUDGETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines, an archipelagic country with a rich cultural heritage and diverse natural attractions, has immense potential to become a top tourist destination in Asia and in the world;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Tourism (DOT) reported a total of 5,450,557 international arrivals in the country from January 1 to December 31, 2023, of which 91.80 percent are foreigners, surpassing the country's target of 4.8 million international visitors projected to visit the country for the entire year;

**WHEREAS**, the tourism sector contributed 8.6 percent to the Philippine economy in 2023, underscoring the importance of tourism as a key economic driver;

**WHEREAS**, the total Tourism Direct Gross Value Added (TDGVA) amounted to PHP2.09 trillion in 2023, higher by 47.9 percent compared to the PhP1.41 trillion TDGVA in 2022, the highest growth posted since 2000;

**WHEREAS**, the sector comprises 12.9 percent of the total employment in the country in 2023 or an estimated 6.21 million, higher by 6.4 percent compared to 5.84 million in 2022;

**WHEREAS**, international tourism receipts reached PHP482.54 billion from January 1 to December 31, 2023, more than double the PHP214.58 billion visitor receipts in 2022 and reaching the pre-pandemic level of PHP482.15 billion;

**WHEREAS**, in terms of tourism expenditures in 2023, inbound tourism expenditure posted the highest growth of 87.7 percent, amounting to PHP697.46 billion while domestic tourism expenditure grew by 72.3 percent, amounting to PHP2.67 trillion;

**WHEREAS**, despite these promising figures, the potential economic benefits are hampered by inadequate infrastructure, frequent power outages, and insufficient water supply, which adversely affect both domestic and international tourists' experiences, as well as the cost of doing business and ultimately, the cost to consumers;

**WHEREAS**, in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024, the Philippines' ranking went down two notches to rank 69th out of 119 countries from 67th in 2019, highlighting the significant challenges in the availability and quality of infrastructure and tourism services, including air and sea transport infrastructure, road and railroad network, ICT infrastructure, power and water supply, and medical facilities, among others;

**WHEREAS**, Philippine airports, in particular, have been the center of a Senate inquiry for persistent unresolved issues, such as malfunctioning equipment, poor maintenance of facilities, and lack of adequate accommodations such as public seating for travelers;

**WHEREAS**, early this year, the DOT unveiled its National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) 2023-2028, which include among its objectives the improvement of tourism infrastructure and accessibility, development of comprehensive digitalization and connectivity, and strengthening of tourism governance through close collaborations with national and local stakeholders, in order to transform the Philippines into a tourism powerhouse in Asia;

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon the Senate to ensure that infrastructure investments, and other programs and projects are funded and implemented in a timely manner;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to direct the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the economic impact of poor and inadequate infrastructure, frequent power outages, and insufficient water supply on the tourism sector with the end in view of fostering economic, sustainable, and inclusive growth in the tourism industry by integrating and aligning regional and national economic and development planning and budgeting.

**Adopted,**



**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**