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Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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SPECIAL ORDER

No. 2004 – 121

SUBJECT: Creation of Inter-Agency Technical Working Groups for the Preparation of the Mineral Action Plan Pursuant to Executive Order No. 270

In the interest of the service and, pursuant to Executive Order No. 270, dated 16 January 2004, providing for the “*National Policy Agenda on Revitalizing Mining in the Philippines*”, particularly Section 4 thereof concerning the formulation of an Action Plan for Minerals Development, and in consonance with the agreements reached during the inter-agency meeting held on 11 February 2004 at Petrolab, Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), the following Inter-Agency Technical Working Groups (IATWG) are hereby created with its composition and the corresponding policy agenda to be tackled:

Policy Agenda/Guiding Principles	IATWG Composition
1. Pursuance of value-adding as a measure of optimizing benefits from minerals through the development of downstream industries	<i>Lead:</i> DTI-BOI <i>Members:</i> DENR-MGB DOST NEDA NAPC
2. Promotion of small-scale mining as a formal sector of the minerals industry and part of the development initiative for both downstream and upstream industries	<i>Lead:</i> DENR-MGB <i>Members:</i> DTI-BOI DILG NEDA DENR-EMB NAPC NCIP DENR-LMB LGU Leagues NRDC
3. Espousal of the ecological integrity of areas affected by mining operation, including biodiversity resources & small island ecosystem; and the pursuance of mining operations within the framework of multiple land-use and sustainable utilization of mineralized areas	<i>Lead:</i> DENR-OUPP <i>Members:</i> NEDA DILG DENR- PAWB DENR- MGB DENR-ERDB DENR-FMB DENR-LMB DENR-CMMO DENR-PPO NAPC LGU Leagues

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| <p>4. Accordance of top priority for the remediation and rehabilitation of abandoned mines to address the negative impacts of past mining projects</p> | <p><i>Lead:</i> DENR-MGB
 <i>Members:</i> NEDA
 DTI-BOI
 DILG
 DENR-EMB
 LGU Leagues</p> |
| <p>5. Equitable sharing by and among various units of government, as well as, the affected communities on economic and social benefits derived from mining</p> | <p><i>Lead:</i> NEDA
 <i>Members:</i> DBM
 DENR-MGB
 NAPC
 DOF-BIR
 DILG
 LGU Leagues</p> |

The MGB is hereby directed to coordinate closely with DOST in the preparation of the Action Plans on: (1) sustained mineral exploration program, responsive research and development priorities and capability building; and (2) the adoption of efficient technologies to ensure judicious extraction and optimum utilization of non-renewable mineral resources to enhance sustainability, per DENR Special Order No. 2004-40, dated 27 January 2004.


The following parameters shall be strictly adhered to in the preparation of the Action Plans:

1. Extensive consultation with all concerned agencies.
2. Action plans should include the following:
 - 2.1 Plans, programs, standards, rules and regulations, if applicable
 - 2.2 Responsible agencies, timetable of activities and resource requirements
3. Action plans should adhere to the following principles:
 - 3.1 Good governance – transparency, accountability, participation, equity, efficiency and sustainability
 - 3.2 Deregulation – streamlining, simplification, decentralization and evolution, use of market-based instruments, etc.

Each TWG shall formulate strategies in the implementation of their respective Action Plans. The TWGs may invite other Concerned Government Agencies during their deliberations to act as resource persons. Consultations with various stakeholders outside the government sector shall start in March 2004.

DENR Special Order No. 2004-40 on the preparation of the Mineral Action Plan pursuant to Executive Order No. 270 remains in force, as it covers solely the concerned DENR offices.

This Order shall take effect immediately.


ELISEA G. GOZUN
Secretary