

Republic of the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City Tel Nos. 929-6626 to 29; 929-6633 to 35 926-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669

Website: http://www.denr.gov.ph / E-mail: web@denrgov.ph

SPECIAL ORDER No. 2021- 456

AUG 2 7 2021

SUBJECT: CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP TO COORDINATE WITH THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP)

In the interest of the service and to order come up with a policy direction and guidance in the issuance of a Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) within forestland areas covered by DENR Programs, Projects and Activities, and application for tenure instrument, a Technical Working Group (TWG) is hereby created to be composed of the following:

Chairperson - Atty. Michelle Angelica D. Go

Assistant Secretary for Legal

Vice-Chairperson - Atty. Norlito A. Eneran

Director, Legal Affairs Service

Members - Representative/s from the following:

Forest Management Bureau

Biodiversity Management Bureau

Land Management Bureau Mines and Geosciences Bureau

The Undersecretary for Indigenous Peoples Affairs and Mindanao Environmental Priority Projects and Undersecretary for Mining and Muslim Affairs shall act as adviser of the TWG.

The TWG shall coordinate with the NCIP to discuss and resolve issues and concerns pertaining to programs, projects and activities within forestlands that involves Indigenous Peoples welfare and ancestral domain claims. They shall also provide directions and guidelines in harmonizing policies and simplification of procedures on matters concerning conflicts with DENR laws/guidelines and the IPRA law.

All expenses to be incurred in relation to the performance of the TWG shall be charged against the funds of the Office of the Undersecretary for Indigenous Peoples Affairs and Mindanao Environmental Priority Projects subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

