



JUL 08 2024

**SPECIAL ORDER**  
**No. 2024 - 394**

**SUBJECT : CREATION OF THE BIODIVERSITY MULTI-SECTORAL  
ADVISORY COUNCIL (BMSAC) TO ASSIST THE DENR ON  
CRITICAL ISSUES AFFECTING BIODIVERSITY AND  
PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM OF THE COUNTRY**

In the interest of the service, and pursuant to Section 8 (J) of Republic Act (RA) 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas Systems Act (NIPAS), as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded-NIPAS, the DENR Secretary is empowered to call on any agency or instrumentality of the Government as well as academic institutions, NGOs and the private sector, as may be necessary to accomplish the objectives and activities of the System. In this regard, the Biodiversity Multi-Sectoral Advisory Council (BMSAC) is hereby created which shall provide technical inputs and expert advice to the Department on critical issues and matters affecting biodiversity and the governance of the integrated protected areas system of the country.

The following experts coming from civil society organizations and the academe shall comprise the BMSAC:

- 1. Forest Foundation Philippines**  
Atty. Jose Andres Canivel
- 2. Philippine Eagle Foundation**  
Mr. Dennis Salvador
- 3. National Academy of Science and Technology**  
Dr. Arvin Diesmos
- 4. ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity**  
Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim
- 5. University of the Philippines Diliman Institute of Biology**  
Prof. Ian Kendrick Fontanilla
- 6. University of the Philippines Los Baños, Interdisciplinary Studies Center  
for Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Management**  
Prof. Juan M. Pulhin
- 7. University of the Philippines Diliman, Marine Science Institute**  
Dr. Laura David  
Dr. Fernando Siringan

The members of the BMSAC shall be provided with the necessary support from senior officials of the Department in all deliberations, discussions, and meetings with regard to biodiversity conservation and protected area governance.

The BMSAC shall continuously monitor and evaluate the status of both emerging and ongoing critical issues on biodiversity and the integrated protected areas system of the country for immediate resolution, through coordination with the concerned parties, as well as the relevant offices of the Department. Further, it shall convene when exigency requires and upon call of the Secretary. It shall submit a report narrating updates on the ongoing or emerging complex or critical issue to the Office of the Secretary after every deliberation.

The Forest Foundation Philippines (FPF) shall serve as the Secretariat to support the DENR thru the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) and assist in the conduct of meetings and related activities of the BMSAC. It shall also be responsible for the documentation of agreements, issuance of advisories for meetings and other arrangements.

Expenses to be incurred for the Secretariat work of the BMSAC shall be sourced by the FPF, with support from DENR funds, as necessary, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order takes effect immediately and shall remain in force unless revoked in writing.

  
MARIA ANTONIA YUNO LOYZAGA  
Secretary

