

DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 22

SUBJECT: **Guideline for the Implementation of the
"Adopt A Tree, Adopt A Mining Forest
Movement"**

This Guideline covers the details of the criteria, procedure and other mechanism for the effective implementation of the Adopt a Tree, Adopt a Mining Forest Movement.

I. **OBJECTIVE OF THE MOVEMENT**

The Movement calls for the establishment of a mining forest within a specified area by qualified participants, starting in June 1988 and culminating in a Best Mining Forest Contest in June, 1989 and every year thereafter.

II. **AREA QUALIFICATION**

To be qualified in the Movement, the area to be adopted as a mining forest must satisfy the following criteria:

- a. It must be covered by mining claim/s owned by, assigned to or under an operating agreement with the participant; Provided, That in the case of mining claim/s assigned to or under an operating agreement with the participant, there shall be a written permission from the claimowner/s stating that no objection is being posed to the area's participation in the Movement; Provided, further, that in the case of mining claim/s not owned by, assigned to or under an operating agreement with the participant, a written permission by the claimowner and operator to the same effect shall likewise be presented;
- b. It must be a denuded/sparsely vegetated area or, preferably, a mined-cut or mine wastes/tailings – covered area;
- c. It must have a minimum area of 5 hectares and not exceeding 5,000 hectares in one contiguous group of mining claims;
- d. In the case of an area with surface ownership, there shall be a written permission of the surface owner to the same effect;

In this regard, each DENR field office from regional to community levels are required to form a Mining Forest Assistance Team that will extend the above-needed assistance and, for the duration of the Movement, render free technical assistance in forest maintenance to the participants as may be requested by the latter.

A Application for Accreditation

The interested participant shall file the application for accreditation with the concerned CENRO by submitting the following documents:

- a. Basic letter application;
- b. Topographic map on a convenient scale showing the position of the area to be adopted in relation to the mining claim/s and location of operating area;
- c. Copy of mining lease contract, permit, license or any documents showing propriety of rights to the mining claim/s constituting the area to be adopted;
- d. Written permission from the claimowner and/or operator, as may be applicable per Item No. IIa hereof; and
- e. Written permission from the surface owner, as may be applicable per Item No. II d hereof.

Four (4) copies of the above documents shall be required.

Acceptance of applications for accreditation shall be open

B. Processing of Application for Accreditation

The concerned CENRO shall process the application for accreditation, based on the qualification criteria for area, participant and tree/seedling species as herein provided. Processing should be done and completed within two (2) weeks starting upon receipt of an application.

After the above processing, the CENRO shall endorse the application to the concerned RED, thru the PENRO, for accreditation.

In cases where an application is found deficient, the CENRO shall inform the applicant about such deficiency and allow the latter to rectify the same; Provided, That deficient applications shall be given a rectification period of two (2) weeks starting upon receipt of notice.

C. Accreditation

The RED shall notify the applicant immediately as to the accreditation of the application and at the same time, serve notice that the adoption movement can be already pursued.

One (1) copy each of the notice of accreditation and all document pertinent thereto shall be furnished by the RED to the Technical secretariat of the Movement, c/o Mines and Geo-Sciences bureau, MGB Compound, North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

D. Maintenance

The participant will plant the qualified trees/seedlings on the designated area and make the necessary proper identification of their adoption. Thereafter, the participant shall undertake the necessary maintenance of the planted trees/seedlings and, if possible, plant more trees for the duration of the Movement.

III. *BENEFITS*

Participants to the Movement shall be entitled to the following benefits:

- a. Qualification as participant to the "Best Mining Forest" contest; the winners of which shall be recipients of a Presidential trophy to be awarded by the President of the Republic of the Philippines;
- b. Inclusion to the Agroforest Farm and/or reforestation/afforestation programs of the DENR covering the adopted area;
- c. Free technical assistance in forest maintenance by the DENR; and
- d. Expenses for establishing and maintaining the adopted forest are allowed to be charged as operating expenses for income tax purposes.

IV. *MANAGEMENT OF THE MOVEMENT*

There shall be created a committee to be headed by the Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau which will manage the Movement to ensure its effective implementation and success. This committee shall also formulate soonest the criteria, in coordination with other DENR offices, for the selection of winners and awarding scheme in the Best Mining Forest contest.

V. *GUIDELINE DISSEMINATION*

This Guideline shall be distributed to all offices/bureaus/agencies and the DENR offices and interested parties.

VI. *EFFECTIVITY*

This Guideline takes effect immediately and supersedes regulations previously issued.

APPROVED:
Quezon City, Philippines

VICTOR O. RAMOS
Acting Secretary

Signed on March 22, 1989