

November 8, 2021

**Ma. Lourdes G. Ferrer, CESO III**

Regional Executive Director, MIMAROPA

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

1515 L & S Building, Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila

Dear Ms. Ferrer,

Greetings of peace from the Non-Timber Forest Products – Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) Philippines! We are a network of non-government organizations and indigenous peoples organizations working to strengthen, develop and promote sustainable forest management strategies that are culturally-appropriate and gender-transformative, for future generations.

We are writing to you again upon the request for assistance of our partner organization, the **Samahan ng mga Palawano sa Amas Brooke's Point (SPABP)** in Brooke's Point, Palawan, to follow up on the status of their renewal application for Almaciga resin, OM License No. DENR MIMAROPA – 2019-002. SPABP's license renewal application was received by the DENR PENRO in Palawan last March 17, 2021. Your office also kindly acknowledged our request for action on the renewal of the permit via email last May 11, 2021.

Recently, the CENRO of Brooke's Point, Palawan has claimed that they are unable to find the receipt for the bond fee that was already paid for by SPABP, worth P1,200, with OR #4886760 E. Now they are billing SPABP for a bond fee worth P 246,000.00. **May we request for the bases and guidelines on the computation and mechanics of this bond fee?** SPABP also asks for consideration, as the amount is simply too heavy for their organization to bear, especially since they are unable to continue to operate their almaciga resin enterprise due to the complex process and the time it has taken for their license to be renewed.

We request for an update on the current status of their renewal application, clarification on the bond fee, and action on renewal of SPABP's permit. SPABP's almaciga resin enterprise is critical to the livelihoods of their organization and its members at this crucial time, and renewal of their permit would allow them to continue building up their livelihoods by resuming their operations.

As always, we deeply appreciate and are looking forward to your favorable response within 15 days of receipt of this letter. Thank you for your continued service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth P. Canlas".

Ruth P. Canlas  
Executive Director  
NTFP-EP Philippines