

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference Meeting ID No. 822 6360 6418
24 September 2021

1. Call to Order. Atty. Adelina B. Villena, PCSDS representative, was elected to preside over the meeting. After the presence of a quorum was determined, the meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

Present:

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| 1. Atty. Adelina B. Villena, PCSDS | Presiding Officer |
| 2. RED Ma. Lourdes G. Ferrer, DENR-MIMAROPA | Member |
| 3. BGen. Sharon G Gernale PAF, WESCOM | Member |
| 4. CDR Severino B Destura PCG, CGD-Pal | Member |
| 5. Ms. Katherine P. Custodio, WWF-Phils | Member |
| 6. Atty. Vicente V. Escala, PGP | Member |
| 7. Hon. Sergio S. Tapalla, LGU-Cagayancillo | Member |
| 8. Mr. Romel L. Carbonell, Saguda Palawan | Member |

Guest:

- Ms. Marivel P. Dygico, WWF-Phils
- Capt. Brendo Casaclang PN (GSC), NFW
- Ms. Rhodora Ubani, DENR-PENRO
- Dr. Hilly Ann Roa-Quiaoit

2. Review of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising Out of the Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting was reviewed and adopted. Below are the highlights and discussions on the previous meeting:

Highlights/Major Concerns	Actions Taken
PCSDS Request for Donation	Approved, replacement patrol boat for TRNP not yet available
Release of Cagayancillo 2021 Tourism Share	Waiting for fund utilization report and proposal from LGU
Letter of BFAR regarding FMA5	PASu authorized as representative
Jimenez Group offer of support	Jimenez Group to give 500K this year and propose MOA signing on the first week of October
Absences of TMO Staff Due to Covid	ExeCom approved full payment of salaries, no sick leave deductions, for humanitarian reasons

3. Agenda

3.1 Cash advances of TMO personnel under DENR contract. The PASu requested that the six TMO personnel under Job Order (JO) contract with the PENRO and seconded to TMO be authorized to receive cash advances for travel and other purposes. The legality of giving cash advances to personnel who are technically not employed by TMO may cause an issue with the COA in the future, although the budget for such cash advances is in the 2021 Work and Financial Plan. The Committee instructed the PASu to seek COA advice on the matter.

3.2 ADB Coral Reef Insurance Project. Dr. Hilly Ann Roa-Quiaoit presented the Asian Development Bank-Global Environment Facility (ADB/GEF) project, Partnerships for Coral Reef Finance and Insurance in Asia and the Pacific. The project aims to increase climate resilience through an innovative coral reef financing and insurance model. She said that in the Philippines, Coral and El Nido have been selected as study sites.

The project explores the approach of insuring nature through a public-private partnership. The concept has been proven to work in the case of Quintana Roo, Mexico, where hurricanes repeatedly hit the tourism area. Part of the coast and reef was subject to parametric insurance, with payouts depended on the parameters set by the parties, e.g., for storms 100-130 knots, or more than 160 knots.

The ADB/GEF project in Asia and the Pacific includes Indonesia, Philippines and the Solomon Islands. In the Philippines, El Nido and Coron are included in the project. The hazards in both places were determined to be increased sea surface temperature causing bleaching, typhoons, storm surge and coastal flooding.

There is still opportunity to include Tubbataha as a study site as modifications to the project could still be introduced until the following week. The relevant activities within the project are:

- i) loss and damage assessment,
- ii) ecosystems valuation of the TRNP,
- iii) post storm response capacity and methods, and
- iv) policy / governance analysis and sustainable financing mechanisms.

Dr. Quioit added that the case of Tubbataha will likely be different from the other sites because hazards in the area is mostly from sea temperature rise causing bleaching rather than typhoons, which is the common hazard in other areas. With in-depth studies it is possible to negotiate an insurance based on those terms.

The Committee deliberated upon the project with discussions revolving around who will pay the premium for the insurance and whether the TPAMB could afford it. It was resolved that based on the four project activities, the Committee will request the ADB to include Tubbataha in the relevant activities within the project.

3.3 UNESCO Jakarta Disaster Risk Management Project. The PASu informed the Committee that UNESCO Jakarta approved the TMO proposal on 'Piloting Integrated Disaster Risk Management Plan in UNESCO-Designated Sites'. She explained that during the 86th TPAMB meeting held on 30 July 2021, BGen Gernale, WesCom, recommended changes to TRNP Contingency Plan and suggested that a tabletop exercise be conducted to test the efficiency of the plan. The objectives of the project are as follows:

1. Assess, review, and evaluate the draft Tubbataha Contingency Plan to form part of the General Management Plan;
2. Conduct workshop for policy makers, technical staff, experts, and practitioners to develop, enhance, and/or strengthen DRR and/or DRM in Tubbataha;
3. Engage experts group consultation meetings to develop guideline, manual, standard operation procedures, for the Tubbataha Reefs;

The project starts immediately and ends on 30 November 2021 and has a budget of Php500,000.00. The PASu said that savings are expected from the project because the Contingency Plan has already been formulated thereby expenditures will be less. She added that savings from the project could be used to fund other activities, such as satellite tagging of seabirds.

BGen Gernale expressed that the support of WesCom is standing and that the Command's Training Officer has already been instructed to help organize the tabletop exercise. Cdr Destura also expressed the support of the Coast Guard District-Palawan for the project.

3.4 Update on Jimenez Group partnership. Mr. Benjamin Jimenez, representative of Mr. Menardo Jimenez, considered a MOA signing in Puerto Princesa. The PASu advised against it due to the rising Covid cases in the City. Ms. Katherine Custodio suggested an online MOA signing instead.

The Jimenez Group will provide a grant of ₱500,000.00 for the last quarter of 2021, covering mostly ranger allowances and supplies. The MOA for the partnership has not been forwarded to TMO yet.

Other Matters

4.1 Endorsement of Construction of Ranger Station, Phase I. MAMSAR Construction and Industrial Corporation is requesting for a formal endorsement from the TPAMB of its construction of Phase I of the ranger station. The document is required by TIEZA for the release of the second

tranche of its ₱40M grant for the project. The PASu requested that a post-dated one be issued to satisfy the TIEZA requirement. Since the construction project was actually discussed during the previous meetings, the Committee agreed to the issuance of an endorsement.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Prepared by:


ANGELIQUE M. SONGCO
Secretary

Attested by:


ATTY. ADELINA BENAVENTE - VILLENA
Presiding Officer