



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Romblon
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FERNANDO

**TASK FORCE PANGANGASIWA NG KAPALIGIRAN
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON**

RESOLUTION NO. 05

Series of 2022

December 2, 2022

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) TO EXPEDITE THE ASSESSMENT OF THE REMAINING
WATERSHEDS AND RIVERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FERNANDO, ROMBLON
AND TO DECLARE THESE AS PROTECTED AREAS**

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act. No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 states that "every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare. Within their respective territorial jurisdiction, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants";

WHEREAS, Sibuyan Island, composed of three (3) municipalities, Magdiwang, Cajidiocan and San Fernando, nicknamed the Galapagos of Asia, features flora and fauna found nowhere else on the planet. It is where the world's densest forest flourishes in which the National Museum identified, in a single hectare, 1,551 trees comprising 123 species, of which 54 were endemic. Primary forests cover 120 sq. km., which is 26% of the land area. Orchids abound, as do other vascular plant species; *Nepenthes sibuyanensis*, a pitcher plant species, is endemic, as its scientific name suggests. There are 131 species of birds that share the skies with ten species of fruit bat; the plethora (nobody knows quite how many) of land-dwelling mammals, reptiles, and rodents include at least five species of endemic mammals;

WHEREAS, the Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) No. 304-2009-IVB was granted to Altai Philippines Mining Inc. (Altai) on December 23, 2009, pursuant to Republic Act No. 7942, the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 and its implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through its Decision dated September 9, 2021, has lifted the September 19, 2011, Cease-and-Desist Order suspending the exploration activities under MPSA No. 304-2009-IV-B granted to Altai. The application for the first renewal of the Exploration Period of MPSA No. 304-2009-IVB was filed by Altai at the Mines and Geosciences Bureau-Central Office (MGB-CO). The MGB-CO granted the first renewal of the Exploration Period under MPSA No. 304-2009-IVB as per July 12, 2022 letter addressed to Altai;

WHEREAS, due to the apparent threat of emerging large-scale mining activities in the municipality, there is a public outcry among its constituents raising concerns over the impact of mining activities on the environment and the human life;

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2022, the Task Force Pangangasiwa ng Kapaligiran in the Municipality of San Fernando, Romblon, was created as a proper venue or platform where consultation, coordination, monitoring, reporting, dialogue, decisions, and resolutions shall be made as a collective action of the municipal government whenever issues and concerns arise with respect to environmental management;

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2022, during the Meeting of Task Force Pangangasiwa ng Kapaligiran, the DENR Personnel reported that only the IPIL RIVER WATERSHED is included as a protected area in San Fernando, Romblon, which covers Barangay Taclobo, Pili, Panangcalan, and Campalingo. Also during the said meeting, it has been discussed that it is crucial to expedite the assessment of the remaining rivers and watersheds located in the municipality and to declare these as protected areas to ensure that our waters are free from any destructive human intervention because new mining companies are applying for an exploration permit in the municipality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Task Force Pangangasiwa ng Kapaligiran of the Municipality of San Fernando, Romblon, after a thorough discussion on the matter and upon the motion of Hon. Romel R. Repil and duly seconded by Hon. Cynthia R. Rios approves to request the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to expedite the assessment of the remaining rivers and watersheds located in the municipality and to declare these as protected areas to ensure that our waters are free from any destructive human intervention for there are new mining companies applying for exploration permit in the municipality.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this Resolution be widely disseminated to all concerned agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for their information and appropriate action.

APPROVED during the Meeting of the Task Force Pangangasiwa ng Kapaligiran of the Municipality of San Fernando, Romblon, held on December 2, 2022, on the 4th Floor, New Municipal Building of San Fernando, Romblon.


NANETTE B. TANSINGCO, M.D.
Municipal Mayor / Chairperson
of the Task Force Pangangasiwa ng Kapaligiran