

**DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM**  
**OFFICE: DOT MIMAROPA REGION**



Meeting Report					
Subject/Title: <b>MIMAROPA Regional Tourism Committee (MRTC) and Regional Ecotourism Committee 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Meeting</b>					
Date	<b>December 13, 2021</b>	Time Started	<b>1:00 pm</b>	Time Finished	<b>3:40 pm</b>
Location/ Venue	<b>Virtual Meeting via the Zoom Application</b>				
Attendees:					
Members					
1. MS. GLADYS A. QUESEA - DOT / MRTC Chairperson					
2. DIR. MA. LOURDES G. FERRER – DENR					
3. MS. PAMELA DE TORRES – NEDA					
4. MS. GEMMA P. RIVERA – DBM					
5. MS. CHARLOTTE PIZARRAS – DOST					
6. MR. JOEMER SAMONG – NCIP					
7. MAJ ALLAN MANUEL – PPA PALAWAN					
8. MS. BLESSED MONTAÑO – OCC. MINDORO PROVINCE					
9. MR. DON STEPHERSON V. CALDA – ORIENTAL MINDORO PROVINCE					
10. MS. MARIBEL C. BUÑI – PALAWAN					
11. MR. DEMETRIO ALVOR – PUERTO PRINCESA CITY					
Guests					
12. MS. JOSEFINA M. LOPEZ – DAR					
13. MS. MARIA GRACIELA BUCAD – DICT					
14. MS. RAIZA JOYCE MENDOZA - DICT					
15. MR. REYNALDO GATCHALIAN – DOTR					
16. MR. JAMES GONZALO - DOTR					
17. MR. LAY-AR DELA PEÑA - DOTR					
18. MR. LEMUEL JOHN SILVA – LTFRB					
19. ENGR. LOWELL L. LOZANO – NIA					
20. SSG. JONAH F LANDAGAN – PA					
21. MR. ALVIN REQUIMIN – MGB					
22. DIR. MARY QUIENG - PSR PAI-KVS					
23. SSG JONAH F LANDAGAN – PA (OS)					
24. MR. JHONADHEL A. JACABAN-HERNANDEZ – BLGF					
25. MR. KEITH XYRUS A. REAL – BLGF					
26. MS. YOLANDA CABIGAO - DOT					
27. MS. MARIA ELIZABETH VIRAY - DOT					
Secretariat					
1. Ms. Faye Angeli Reyes					
2. Ms. Jay De Guzman					
3. Ms. Pauline Lacap					
4. Ms. Danica Alea					
42% of MRTC member agencies were present during the meeting. (11 out of 25)					

Summary of Points Discussed	
Opening Statement	<p>Ms. Gladys A. Quesea acknowledged the partners for the joint meeting with the Regional Ecotourism Committee (REC) headed by DENR Regional Director Ma. Lourdes Ferrer. She expressed her gratitude for her temporary appointment as Officer-In-Charge of the MIMAROPA's Regional Office. She also mentioned the ongoing gradual reopening of the tourism industry in concurrence with the local government units (LGU) and with the easing of travel restrictions in the region.</p> <p>She discussed the topics tackled from the previous MIMAROPA Regional Tourism Committee (MRTC) and Regional Ecotourism Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Meeting, wherein she highlighted the Demographics of MIMAROPA Indigenous Peoples which Mr. Joemer Samong will continue to discuss due to his presentation, was cut short from the previous meeting because of a bad internet connection.</p> <p>And she informed the group of the meeting's agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demographics of MIMAROPA Indigenous Peoples</li> <li>Tourist Transport – Franchise Requirements and Process</li> </ol>
Demographics of MIMAROPA Indigenous Peoples	<p>Mr. Samong, from NCIP - MIMAROPA discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Brief information about the twenty-one (21) indigenous groups in MIMAROPA. It comprises nine (9) groups from Palawan, nine (9) from the islands of Mindoro, and three (3) from Romblon.</li> <li>➤ For the implementation of Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA) Law, there are thirty-six (36) mandated Rights determined by the constitution. These rights are divided into four (4) bundles; Right to Ancestral Domains / Lands, Right to Self-governance and Empowerment, Right to Social Justice and Human Rights, and Right to Cultural Integrity.</li> <li>➤ For the engagement strategy, NCIP has eleven (11) Building Blocks of Resilient, Responsive, and Relevant ICCs / IPs Ancestral Domains which also specify the different hubs.</li> <li>➤ Furthermore, their Strategic Workflow Framework for the project implementation and collaborations with other agencies and private stakeholders.</li> <li>➤ The Indigenous Political Structures (IPS) Confirmation in MIMAROPA has only nineteen (19) in process for recognition and no confirmation for the whole region.</li> <li>➤ For the Indigenous People's Organization (IPO) Accreditation and Registration, three (3) are confirmed, one (1) in process, and one hundred thirty-nine (139) not yet processed.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) Delineation Process, seven (7) are registered with Land Registration Authority (LRA), sixteen (16) are presented in the Commission En Banc (CEB) and approved, ninety-five (95) are on-going delineation and seventeen (17) still have no applications.</li> <li>➤ For Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (APP), twelve (12) are confirmed, nine (9) are in process and one hundred eleven (111) are not yet processed.</li> <li>➤ Community Royalty Management Development Plan (CRMDP) is commonly known as the Royalty Management Plan of the Indigenous Community. Groups that are in the industry of mining and have energy generation facilities have CRMDP.</li> <li>➤ Twenty-nine (29) Certificate of Non-Overlap (CNO) and fifty-seven (57) Certificate of Precondition (CP) are issued for different projects within and outside the Ancestral Domains with impact on the life and culture of IPs in respective communities.</li> <li>➤ For the Indigenous People Mandatory Representations (IPMR) in the Local Legislative bodies, three hundred twenty-three (323) seated IPMRs with Certificate of Affirmation (COA).</li> <li>➤ In the monitoring of the programs that are currently under the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC), forty-four (44) are confirmed and thirty-five (35) are on process and being assisted by NCIP for joint monitoring.</li> <li>➤ And under the Socio-Economic Establishment in partnership with diff. Investors, Companies and Institutions, NCIP have Agricultural Production, Ecotourism and Harvesting of Non-Timber Products and Handicrafts.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Quesea requested the detailed map of NCIP in MIMAROPA for the concerned tourism establishments which are built within the ancestral domains. Mr. Samong answered that he will email all the available resources and map needed by the regional office and that the map is undergoing a continuous update. He also clarified that seven (7) CADTs have complete documents and a copy of the registered Ancestral Land Title.</p> <p>Ms. Quesea added on how the DOT – MIMAROPA will reach out to the IPs if they want to implement projects such as</p>
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	<p>Tourism Awareness and Skills Trainings. Mr. Samong answered that the main concern of the IPs is the sensitivity. Most IP groups do not allow numerous tourist visitations that may cause disturbance to their lands and culture. The easiest way to reach out to them is to involve them from the start and planning process to get their consent and have a smooth implementation of the projects. NCIP also ensures that they will assist the concerned agency as long as it does not have negative effects on the communities since there is overlapping of Protected Areas and Ancestral Domains. He added that the projects should be in line with their Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP).</p> <p>Mr. Demetrio Alvior, City Tourism Officer of Puerto Princesa, requested a copy of the map in Puerto Princesa City. Mr. Samong said that he will send the map for the whole MIMAROPA region for guidance.</p> <p>Ms. Maribel Buñi, Provincial Tourism Officer of Palawan, asked about the scope of the Royalty Management Plan. She wants to know if the services provided by the CADT / CADC are included. Mr. Samong clarified that CRMDP covers different industries with income-generating projects within ancestral domains. He also mentioned the inclusion of Energy Facilities such as the hydropower facility of Lions Heart Agro in Rizal, Palawan. For the management, it will be community-based.</p> <p>Ms. Buñi added a query about the income system in Coron for CADT / CADC tourism purposes if it is covered with CRMDP or for individual consumption of each family. Mr. Samong answered that it will be a case-to-case basis if it is considered as community-identified land and included in their ADSDPP if the utilization of that specific land is only for one family or community.</p> <p>Ms. Quesea asked if the map had coordinates for the CADT / CADC. Mr. Samong reassured that all maps have coordinates since it was also approved by DENR, DAR, and LRA; and if DOT – MIMAROPA need specific information that is not included in the map, all requested information may be sent to the official email of NCIP: region4b@ncip.gov.ph.</p>
<p>Tourist Transport – Franchise Requirements and Process</p>	<p>On behalf of RADM Loumer P. Bernabe PN (RET.), Mr. Lemuel John Silva presented the Tourist Transport – Franchise Requirements and Process. The following were mentioned in his presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The basic requirements for applying for New CPC for tourist Transport Service: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Notarized Application / Petition</li> <li>2. Certificate of Registration</li> <li>3. Latest Official Receipt of Registration</li> <li>4. Proof of Filipino Citizenship</li> <li>5. Proof of Existence and Sufficiency of Garage</li> <li>6. Proof of Financial Capability</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. LTFRB Motor Vehicle Inspection Report</li> <li>8. LTFRB Garage Inspection Report (If applicable)</li> <li>9. Passenger Personal Accident Insurance (PPAI)</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Additional Requirements for Tourist Transport Service (TTS) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Certificate of Business / Trade Name</li> <li>2. Valid Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Transportation (DOTr) Endorsement Letters</li> <li>4. Undertaking to comply with the Tree Planting Requirement</li> <li>5. Valid Concessionaire Agreement</li> </ol> </li> <li>➤ The LTFRB New CPC Process Flow: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receiving and Evaluation</li> <li>2. Assessment of Filing Fees</li> <li>3. Receiving of Payment</li> <li>4. Pre-hearing and Procedures</li> <li>5. Hearing</li> <li>6. Preparation of Decision / Order</li> <li>7. Regional Director's Approval</li> <li>8. Post Docketing</li> <li>9. Releasing of Decision / Order</li> </ol> </li> <li>➤ For the fees to be paid in applying, Php 510.000 is for the two (2) units and Php 70.00 per unit for the succeeding units. For the LRF, Php 10.00; and for the inspection of units, Php 50.00 per unit with a gross weight not exceeding 4,500 kg or Php 100.00 per unit with a gross weight exceeding 4,500 kg.</li> <li>➤ The fees for Garage Inspection will depend on the number of units per garage: 1-10 units:140php, 11-30 units:200php, 31-50 units:500php and above 50 units:1000php.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Maria Elizabeth Viray, Supervising Tourism Operations Officer (TOO) of DOT 4B – Tourism Regulation Division (TRD), asked if there are instances wherein LTFRB issued a franchise to any Tourist Transport without DOT's endorsement. Mr. Silva stated that based on their new Citizen's Charter, there are no such cases wherein LTFRB issued a franchise with incomplete requirements, particularly in the assessment proceedings.</p> <p>Mr. Alvior asked how many months is the process if the applicant has complete requirements. Mr. Silva answered based on their Citizen's Charter, if the applicant is intraregional then all processes should be finished within sixty-nine (69) days. For interregional, it must be within one hundred thirteen (113) days.</p> <p>Mr. Alvior added his query about how much is the total cost of payment for applying for a franchise and if multiple owners for ten (10) units are allowed. Mr. Silva reiterated that it will depend on the number of units the applicant owns. There is no</p>
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	<p>maximum number for Tourist Transport, as long as the minimum number is ten (10) units. This is also in line with compliance with the DOT's policy. Based on the new Citizen's Charter, multiple owners may file as long as there is an undertaking that within six (6) months of filing, the ownership will be transferred to one entity.</p> <p>Mr. Alvior mentioned in Puerto Princesa City it takes about a year to process the application and the cost is around Php80,000.00 – 100,000.00 for an individual vehicle. He asked if LTFRB has an existing satellite office in PPC. Mr. Silva stated that there is a bill for the implementation and building of the said office, however, it is still under review due to the available lease of lot or space in Puerto Princesa City Hall. For the long process of the franchise, the problem started when Region IV was not yet divided. The delay starts with the hearing process because of scheduling. Rest assured, the new Citizen's Charter will speed up the process and implement a more smooth transaction.</p> <p>Ms. Yolanda Cabigao, Supervising TOO of DOT 4B – Tourism Development Division (TDD), asked if the franchise for Tourist Car and Tourist Transport Service is different and with regards to the multiple owners if there is a cooperative, should they still transfer the Certificate of Ownership. Mr. Silva clarified that Tourist Car is an old term for the Tourist Transport Service. For the cooperative, the transfer is still required to the corporation. It will be processed if the applicant has an undertaking within six (6) months from the date filed of application they will transfer the ownership. The Land Transportation Office (LTO) is responsible for the transfer of ownership. If it is not transferred within the given time, the cooperative will not be given an order/decision since it must go through a hearing wherein they will oversee if the transfer is made.</p> <p>Ms. Viray asked if there is a Tourist Transport applied for DOT's endorsement, should the ownership be under the name of the cooperative. Ms. Silva answered that the requirements he mentioned are based on the LTFRB's policy. He suggested that it is better to be in line with the guidelines of LTFRB.</p> <p>Ms. Quesea asked about the duration process of endorsement from DOTr to LTFRB and the availability of the online application for franchising. Mr. Silva clarified that the applicant will be the one to forward the endorsements to LTFRB. There is no online platform because of the strict payment process and receipts. Hence, they allow the applicants to email all the requirements first for checking before they proceed to the main office to apply.</p> <p>Ms. Cabigao added if there are any instances wherein LTFRB knows how long LTO processes the transfer of ownership to a company. Mr. Silva reiterated that they can accept the application for multiple owners as long as there is an undertaking that within six (6) months of filing, the ownership</p>
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	<p>will be transferred to one entity. If there will be a lapse, they can file a motion for extension. For the pending applicants, they will be given a provisional authority to operate for ninety (90) days, which they can only extend once.</p> <p>Mr. Alvior asked about the distance policy of a sixty (60) km radius of the operation. Mr. Silva clarified that only operations of UV express have that maximum limit. None for any Tourist Transport Services.</p> <p>Ms. Quesea mentioned franchising in the islands of Mindoro and Romblon &amp; Marinduque going to NCR since the provinces are neighboring each other. Mr. Silva clarified that for interregional, the application should be done in LTFRB's Central Office.</p>
Next Steps/Remarks	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The NCIP's Ancestral Domain Vicinity Map of MIMAROPA to be emailed to DOT 4B.</li> <li>2. Implementation of systematic assessment of applicants before releasing endorsement letters to the concerned agencies for LTFRB Franchise Application.</li> <li>3. Turnover of Regional Ecotourism Committee (REC) Chairmanship to DOT.</li> </ol>	

Prepared by: MRTC Secretariat