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ADVANCE COPY

MEMORANDUM

FOR The Regional Executive Directors

DENR Regions III, MIMAROPA and XIII

ATTN: **Protected Area Superintendents**

Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape

Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park

Cleopatra's Needle Forest Reserve

FROM The Assistant Director

SUBJECT INVITATION TO THE INTER-AGENCY TECHNICAL WORKING

> GROUP (ITWG) FOR THE SUSTAINABLE INTERVENTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY, OCEANS AND LANDSCAPES (SIBOL) PROJECT

ON 11 APRIL 2022 AT SEDA HOTEL, QUEZON CITY

Pursuant to DENR Special Order No. 2021-664 creating the Project Steering Committee (PSC), Inter-Agency Technical Working Group (ITWG), National Project Coordinating Unit (NPCU), and Regional Project Management Committee (RPMC) for the Philippines Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscapes (SIBOL) Project, the SIBOL Project will be conducting its first ITWG Meeting on April 11, 2022, Monday, 9:00AM-4:00PM at Seda Hotel, Quezon City.

The said Meeting aims to attain the following objectives:

- 1. To orient members of the ITWG about SIBOL and present the workplan, progress report and immediate activities;
- 2. To orient them of their duties and responsibilities as well as their relationship with the Project Steering Committee (PSC), National Project Coordinating Unit (NPCU), and Regional Project Management Committee (RPMC); and,
- 3. To develop agenda for convening the first Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting.

The Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscapes (SIBOL) Project is a five-year project being implemented in partnership with the DENR, BFAR and the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development, along with the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and its consortium partners namely Resources, Environment and



Economics Center for Studies, Inc. (REECS), Center for Conservation Innovations (CCI), Forest Foundation Philippines (FFP), and Zoological Society of London (ZSL). It aims to

improve natural resources governance, sustainably manage natural resources, and reduce environmental crimes by promoting positive environmental behavior. It has field offices in Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape (SIPLAS) in Surigao del Norte; Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape (MMPL), the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) and the Cleopatra's Needle Critical Habitat (CNCH) in Palawan; and Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape (MOBPLS) in Zambales.

All expenses such as food, supplies and other allowable expenses to be incurred in the conduct of this meeting shall be charged to USAID SIBOL Project. Participants shall also ensure that COVID-19 minimum health and safety protocols issued by the IATF, DOH, concerned Local Government Units, and other relevant authorities are observed.

Please be informed that members of the ITWG are the PASus of abovementioned protected areas. Hence, we would appreciate receiving **confirmation of their attendance through bit.ly/ITWGMeet on or before 6 April 2022**. Attached is the copy of the SO 2021-664 and the provisional program.

For queries or clarifications, you may contact Mr. Mar Guidote, Deputy Chief of Party – USAID SIBOL Project, thru email (mguidote@ph-sibol.org) or Mr. Jobert John Bandol of the Bureau's National Parks Division thru email (jobert.bandol@bmb.gov.ph).

For information and consideration.

AMELITA DJ. ORTIZ