



Republic of the Philippines
(Republic Act No. 7611)

PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STAFF

PCSD

April 28, 2022

LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO

CESO IV

Regional Executive Director

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (MIMAROPA)

Dear Ma'am:

Greetings from the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff!

This pertains to the draft Memorandum of Agreement to be entered into between the DENR, the Natural Resources Development Corporation (NRDC), the Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP), the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), and the Palawan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) for the retrieval, processing, and disposition of fallen/uprooted trees in typhoon Odette affected areas in Palawan. Please find hereunder our comments regarding the contents of the MOA:

Indeed, typhoon Odette has made enormous damages all throughout the Province of Palawan. As a display of resiliency, it is a vital task of both the government and private entities to come hand in hand to expeditiously rehabilitate typhoon-hit communities in the province and to efficiently cater to the immediate concerns of the residents. We see that the primary objectives of the subject MOA consist of retrieval operations, processing and disposition of fallen/uprooted trees, and covering of forestlands in the northern part of Palawan.

A perusal of the roles and responsibilities of the PCSD shows nothing that is inconsistent with our laws. Section 4(a) of the MOA finds basis under Section 9 of Republic Act No. 9175, otherwise known as the Chainsaw Act of 2002, which empowers the PCSD to implement the provisions of said law in the Province of Palawan. Moreover, the same Section is further reinforced by PCSD Administrative Order No. 07 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Chainsaw Act. Among others, it provides that the PCSD is sanctioned to process and issue chainsaw registration/permits required for the retrieval and processing of felled trees. As to the issuance of the necessary clearances for the project, the PCSD is authorized under PCSD Administrative Order No. 6 or the Guidelines in the Implementation of the SEP Clearance System, to issue permits, licenses, contracts, agreements or other similar instruments for all projects being or intended to be implemented in Palawan.

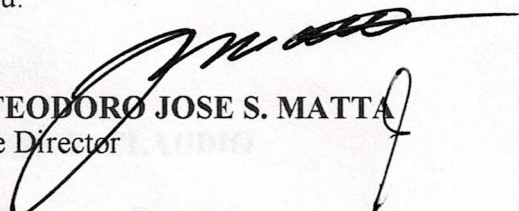
On the other hand, Section 4(b) of the MOA is supported by Section 19 paragraphs 4 and 5 of the SEP which provides that the PCSD Staff may perform related functions which shall promote the development, conservation, management, protection, and utilization of the natural resources of Palawan and all other powers and functions as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of the SEP.

Vision: Palawan, an innovative and dynamic global center of sustainable development.

Mission: PCSDS as the driver of environmental conservation and inclusive development in Palawan, a biosphere reserve and science-for-sustainability site, guided by the Strategic Environmental Plan.

Finally, as to the other contents of the MOA, we do not see any provision which needs to be added, deleted or modified.

Thank you.


ATTY. TEODORO JOSE S. MATTA
Executive Director

Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-ANR/DPA)

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff.

This is in relation to the Draft Memorandum of Agreement to be entered into between the DENR, the Palawan Branches Development Corporation (NBDC), the Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP), the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), and the Palawan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) for the removal, processing, and disposition of fallen/uprooted trees in typhoon Odette affected areas in Palawan. Please find herewith our comments regarding the contents of the MOA.

Indeed, typhoon Odette has caused enormous damages all throughout the Province of Palawan. As a display of efficiency, it is a great test of both the government and private bodies to come hand in hand and expeditiously rehabilitate typhoon hit communities in the province and to efficiently cater to the immediate concerns of the residents. We see that the primary objectives of the subject MOA consist of removal operations, processing and disposition of fallen/uprooted trees, and covering of forelands in the northern part of Palawan.

A review of the roles and responsibilities of the PCSD shows nothing that is inconsistent with our laws. Section 4(a) of the MOA finds basis under Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9173, otherwise known as the Chainsaw Act of 2002, which empowers the PCSD to implement the provisions of said law in the Province of Palawan. Moreover, the same Section is further reinforced by PCSD Administrative Order No. 97 on the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Chainsaw Act. Among others, it provides that the PCSD is sanctioned to process and issue chainsaw registration/permits required for the removal and processing of felled trees. As to the issuance of the necessary clearances for the project, the PCSD is authorized under PCSD Administrative Order No. 6 or the Guidelines in the Implementation of the SEP Clearance System, to issue permits, licenses, contracts, agreements or other similar instruments for all projects being or intended to be implemented in Palawan.

On the other hand, Section 4(b) of the MOA is supported by Section 19 paragraphs 4 and 5 of the SEP which provides that the PCSD Staff may perform related functions which shall promote the development, conservation, management, protection, and utilization of the natural resources of Palawan and all other powers and functions as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of the SEP.

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