

ADVANCE COPY

MEMORANDUM

TO : The Regional Executive Directors
DENR Regions CAR, I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, and VIII

FROM : The Director
In concurrent capacity as Assistant Secretary for
Policy, Planning, and Foreign Assisted and Special Projects

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR THE ORIENTATION ON
DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2022-04: ENHANCING
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN MINING OPERATIONS**

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) issued DENR Administrative Order No. 2022-04: “*Enhancing Biodiversity Protection and Conservation in Mining Operations*” on March 4, 2022 with the primary objective of providing adequate measure and guidance towards promoting environmentally sustainable development of the country’s mineral resources. Under the said DAO, mining companies are required to integrate biodiversity in their Environmental Protection and Enhancement Program (EPEP) and other plans related to environmental compliance.

The issuance of DAO No. 2022-04 is in pursuit of the objectives of the *Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan* to mainstream biodiversity in all sectors of the society, including the mining industry which often operates within or adjoining biodiversity rich areas of the country. The policy is also in accordance with Executive Order No. 79 of 2012 on ensuring environmental protection, responsible mining and enforcement of environmental standards in Mining.

To fully implement the said policy, the BMB and the Mines and Geoscience Bureau shall conduct a nationwide roll-out of the policy through a series of learning events involving DENR field personnel. The activity aims to provide adequate appreciation and understanding of the principles and measures for integrating biodiversity in the mining operations as well as provide an avenue for sharing experiences and best practices on mining rehabilitation. The participants are expected to enforce and cascade the new policy to mining companies within their management jurisdiction. The learning event for DENR personnel shall be conducted in clusters as follows:

Cluster	Regions	Schedule	Venue
Luzon	CAR, I, II, III, IVA, IVB	March 27-31, 2023	Santiago City
Visayas	V, VI, VII, VIII	April 17-21, 2023	Cebu City

Relative to this, may we request two (2) representatives from the Conservation and Development Division (CDD) to participate in the said activity. Attached herewith is the nomination form to be accomplished and submitted on or before February 20, 2023.

Further, as regional hosts and to highlight the significance of the event, may we request the Regional Executive Directors of DENR Regions II and VII to deliver a welcome message on March 28, 2023 and April 17, 2023, respectively. Moreover, we would also like to seek assistance from the two host Regions in the conduct of the event by arranging a site visit to a nearby Biodiversity Friendly Enterprise (BDFE) area in Santiago City and Cebu City on March 30, 2023 and April 20, respectively.

For inquiries and submission of the nomination form, your staff may kindly contact Mr. Kelvin Anthony Balaquit of Caves, Wetlands, and other Ecosystem Division (CAWED) of this Bureau at [kawed@bmb.gov.ph](mailto:cawed@bmb.gov.ph) cc: kelvin.balaquit@bmb.gov.ph.

Also attached is a copy of the tentative program for your reference and information.

For consideration.

MARCIAL C. AMARO, Jr., *CESO II*