



FEB 20 2023

## MEMORANDUM

TO : **The Regional Executive Director**  
DENR CALABARZON  
647h+3f6, Mayapa Road (along SLEX)  
Brgy. Mayapa, Calamba, Laguna

**The Regional Executive Director**  
DENR MIMAROPA  
1515 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila

ATTN: Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services  
PENRO Batangas  
PENRO Marinduque  
PENRO Occidental Mindoro  
PENRO Oriental Mindoro  
PENRO Romblon  
CDD Chief with CRFMS & PAMBCS Chiefs

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

SUBJECT : **INVITATION TO THE IN PERSON MEETING WITH  
MALAMPAYA FOUNDATION, INC. FOR THE PROPOSED  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE (VIP)  
UNDER R.A. 7586 OR THE NIPAS ACT OF 1992 AS AMENDED  
BY R.A. 11038 OR THE ENIPAS ACT OF 2018 ON MARCH 2,  
2023 IN BATANGAS CITY**

This has reference to the result of the Small Group Blended (In Person and Online) Meeting held on 08 August 2022 conducted by this Office basically to a) develop a national road map on how to proceed with the establishment of the VIP AS A Protected Area under the System; b) provide an overview of the draft Bill on VIP; and c) encourage support from NGOS, CSOs and Academe on this said undertaking.

It was during this Meeting that our former Director Natividad Bernardino instructed the BMB-CMD to facilitate the immediate conduct of the PASA for all the provinces until the end of CY 2022. It was reiterated that despite limited resources, the BMB can tap into foreign-assisted projects, NGOs, CSOs, the Academe and other organizations in the conduct of Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) of VIP. CMD should also prepare a Work and Financial Plan to identify possible areas of collaboration with the stakeholders involved. In addition, the following next steps, among others, were identified:



- a) Circulate results of the Meeting and the attachments
  - Reference materials with the attachments
  - Draft VIPPS Bill and Road Map
  - Letter for CSOs providing potential areas for collaboration
- b) DENR CALABARZON and MIMAROPA to prepare a political map of all the LGUs surrounding the VIP whether they concur or disagree or are unwilling to answer in regard to the establishment of the VIP as a protected area under the System

Following the instruction of former Director Bernardino, we prepared letters to the CSOs, in consideration of their initial expression of support to this initiative. As a response to our letter, a message was received by CMD that Malampaya Foundation, Inc. is inviting the BMB, CALABARZON and MIMAROPA for a meeting on March 2, 2023 (exclusive of travel dates) in Batangas City to discuss the support they will be providing us and for the activities entailed in the conduct of PASA for the 5 provinces surrounding the VIP.

Relative to this, may we invite you to attend the said meeting. In addition, may we also invite the Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services, CDD with CRFMS & PAMBCS Chiefs, PENRO Batangas, PENRO Marinduque, PENRO Occidental Mindoro, PENRO Oriental Mindoro, and PENRO Romblon with one (1) key Technical Staff from each PENRO in consideration that the VIP is under your area of jurisdiction/concern.

Your attendance to this meeting is highly appreciated. Exact venue shall be announced as soon as finalized.



MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR.



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU



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