



Republic of the Philippines  
**Regional Development Council**  
MIMAROPA Region

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(EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND QUARTER RDC  
MIMAROPA FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 02, 2023  
IN PASAY CITY)

RDC Resolution No. 2023-082-1180

**APPROVING THE CREATION OF THE CORRIDOR ALLIANCE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAAC) FOR THE MINDORO BIODIVERSITY  
CORRIDOR PROJECT**

WHEREAS, in April 2020, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), received funding approval from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the project entitled "Integrated Approach in Management of Major Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines", otherwise known as the BD Corridor Project;

WHEREAS, one of the pilot sites of the project in the country is the Central Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor in the provinces of Occidental and Oriental Mindoro;

WHEREAS, the project aims to operationalize integrated management of biodiversity corridors to generate multiple benefits including effective conservation of globally threatened species and high conservation value forests, reduce deforestation and degradation, and enhance local biodiversity-friendly livelihoods;

WHEREAS, the project is deemed supportive of the priorities stipulated in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and MIMAROPA Regional Development Plan (RDP) 2023 to 2028, aligned with the strategic priorities of the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 15: Life on Land (sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss) and SDG 13: Climate Action (take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts);

WHEREAS, under the BD Corridor Project Document which was agreed upon and signed by the UNDP, DENR, and NEDA in 2021, a Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) shall be formed through the collaborative action of the Regional Offices of DENR, NEDA, and key Provincial Local Government Units (P/LGUs).

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WHEREAS, the DENR MIMAROPA, in a letter dated 30 January 2023, requested RDC approval of the proposed creation of CAAC for the Mindoro BD Corridor Project;

WHEREAS, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Executive Order No. 325 or the Reorganization of the RDCs provides that the RDC may create other ad hoc committees that it deems necessary based on its specific requirements or needs;

WHEREAS, the RDC recognizes the importance of creating the CAAC to strengthen the implementation of the BD Corridor Project and serve as a venue for a multi-sectoral forum in the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor;

WHEREAS, the Economic and Development Committee (EDC), during its second quarter meeting held on 04 May, reviewed and deliberated the Terms of Reference for the proposed creation of CAAC and recommended RDC approval (attached and forms part of this resolution is the terms of reference);

**NOW, THEREFORE, ON A MOTION DULY SECONDED, be it**

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** That the Council approves the creation of the Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) for the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor Project;

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** That CAAC shall further strengthen its composition through a bottom-up approach which includes the participation of local stakeholders such as the Protected Area Management Boards (PAMBs) and other local civil service organization for the operation of the CAAC;

**RESOLVED FINALLY,** That a copy of this resolution be provided to the members of the CAAC for reference and support.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Done this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three in Pasay City.

Certified Correct:

  
**APOLLO EDWIN S. PAGANO**  
Secretary  
Assistant Regional Director, NEDA MIMAROPA

Attested:

  
**AGUSTIN C. MENDOZA**  
Vice Chairperson  
Regional Director, NEDA MIMAROPA

Approved:

  
**GOV. JOSE R. RIANO**  
RDC Chairperson  
Governor, Province of Romblon



# **CORRIDOR ALLIANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAAC) FOR THE MINDORO BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR PROJECT**

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **A. Background**

In April 2020, the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR), with support from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) received funding approval from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the project entitled: Integrated Approach in Management of Major Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines, otherwise known as the BD Corridor Project. One of the pilot sites of the project in the country is the Central Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor in the provinces of Occidental and Oriental Mindoro.

The project aims to operationalize integrated management of biodiversity corridors to generate multiple benefits including effective conservation of globally threatened species and high conservation value forests, reduce deforestation and degradation and enhance local biodiversity-friendly livelihoods. The DENR serves as the lead executing agency of the project.

Among the strategies identified under Component 1 of the project is the proposed creation of a Corridor Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) which aims to serve as a venue to update the key stakeholders on the progress of the BD Corridor Project as well as address and resolve implementation issues and concerns.

### **B. Objective**

The main objective of the CAAC is to serve as venue for multi-sectoral forums, provide relevant perspectives, policy and technical guidance in response to the opportunities and challenges in the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor.

### **C. Composition and Membership**

The CAAC mirrors the composition of the National Project Board of the Biodiversity Corridor Project. The CAAC shall be chaired by the Regional Executive Director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) MIMAROPA. The following is the proposed structure of the CAAC:

Chair : Department of Environment and Natural Resource  
(DENR) MIMAROPA

- In the absence of the appointed Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will act as presiding officer for the duration of the meeting



- In the absence of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, the CAAC members will appoint a presiding officer among the members for the duration of the meeting

Co-Chair : Senior Political Representative from the Regional Development Council (RDC) MIMAROPA

Members :

1. Senior Representative from the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro
2. Senior Representative from the Provincial Government of Oriental Mindoro
3. Senior Representative from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) MIMAROPA
4. Senior Representative from the Department of Agriculture (DA) MIMAROPA
5. Senior Representative from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) MIMAROPA
6. Senior Representative from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
7. Senior Representative from the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD)
8. Senior Representative from the Department of Tourism (DOT)
9. Senior Representative from Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) MIMAROPA
10. Senior Representative from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) MIMAROPA
11. Senior Representative from the League of Municipalities (LMP) from the Province of Occidental Mindoro and Oriental Mindoro
12. Representative from the Civil Society Organization (CSO)
13. Representative from the Indigenous Peoples (IP)
14. Representative from the Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) National People's Organization Federation

The membership of the CAAC may be increased or decreased, as the exigencies of its work require. The CAAC may invite experts and/or resource persons to participate in topic-specific meetings to offer more specific input and expertise as needed.

#### D. Roles and Functions

The CAAC shall be created under the RDC. The roles and functions of the CAAC shall include, but are not limited to the following:

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- a. Ensure commitment, support, and participation to the BD Corridor Project especially on activities where a specific member agency/ies is/are needed;
- b. Develop a common understanding of strategic issues and opportunities in the Mindoro corridor and provide guidance on the resolution of issues identified during the implementation of the BD Corridor Project
- c. Develop consensus on outstanding vision priorities, strategies and actual conservation targets based on situational analysis that use updated information on environment and natural resources trends;
- d. Adopt a recommended land use framework and high conservation value (HCV)-based integrated ecosystem management (IEM) implementation plan for the corridor that will guide the development of mandated regional or provincial land use plans;
- e. Leverage funding, co-financing, and private sector and impact investments in the Mindoro corridor consistent with the HCV-based IEM framework and implementation plans;
- f. Recommend activities, interventions, and mechanisms towards the attainment of the BD Corridor Project's objectives;
- g. Launch a corridor advocacy campaign for multi-sectoral corridor alliance to achieve corridor targets.

#### E. Quorum

Quorum is reached when majority (50 percent plus one) of the CAAC members are present. In the absence of a quorum, the members present in the meeting may proceed with the discussions, but final decisions in the form of Resolution shall be passed in the next meeting when quorum is achieved.

#### F. Secretariat

The DENR MIMAROPA, through the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor Project Management Unit (CPMU), shall provide secretariat functions to the CAAC.

- a. *Notice of Meeting.* Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time, and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed and supporting papers will be shared with each member of the CAAC and any other person required to attend by the Secretariat, no later than fifteen working days before the date of the meeting.
- b. *Reports.* The Secretariat will support the CAAC in its tasks and will report on decision items promptly after the meeting.

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## G. Meetings

- a. The CAAC may decide the frequency of the meeting but a quarterly meeting or a frequency of four (4) times a year is recommended.
- b. The meeting(s) can be conducted virtually, in-person, or a combination of in-person and virtual meeting.
- c. If in-person meetings are held, travel funds are available for CAAC Members upon request. To save on travel costs and emissions, in-person or hybrid meetings may be held back-to-back with key meetings or events.
- d. Other than the regular meetings, each member may request that a special meeting be held with at least one month's notice and a proposed agenda.

## H. Subcommittees

- a. The board may, from time to time, appoint such other subcommittees as it may deem advisable, but the functions of any other subcommittees shall be advisory only.
- b. A Technical Subcommittee may be created and shall be comprised of representatives from the different government agencies and representatives from CSOs.
- c. The CAAC may also establish its own Convenor Subcommittee that can convene more frequently than the full CAAC and provide programmatic advice to the DENR and CPMU. The proposed members of the subcommittee are:
  - i. DENR
  - ii. DA
  - iii. NCIP
  - iv. DILG
  - v. Another member to be identified/recommended by CAAC

## I. Changes to the Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference may be amended or revised upon review and consultation, and as may be agreed by the CAAC members.