



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO : THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
DENR-Region IV-B MIMAROPA  
1515 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

**FROM : THE UNDERSECRETARY**  
Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment

**SUBJECT : PROVINCIAL RESOLUTION NO. 17440, SERIES OF 2022 ENTITLED, AUTHORIZING HONORABLE V. DENNIS M. SOCRATES, GOVERNOR, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, TO PROPOSE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) AND THE PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (PRA) THE REDUCTION OF THE AREA TO BE RECLAIMED UNDER THE CORON BAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (CBDP) FROM FORTY HECTARES TO TWENTY HECTARES, MORE OR LESS, CORRESPONDING TO THE ACTUAL RECLAIMED AREA JOINTLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF PALAWAN WITH ITS PRIVATE DEVELOPERS BCT TRADING AND CONSTRUCTION AND 428 HI-TECH GROUP, INC.**

**DATE : MAR 16 2023**

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This pertains to the letter dated 05 January 2023 of Mr. Raymundo G. Padrones, Jr., Supervising Administrative Officer, Office of the Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Palawan, addressed to the Honorable Secretary, received by this Office dated 23 February 2023, regarding the above-mentioned subject.

May we refer the matter for your comments or further appropriate action in accordance with the existing laws, rules and regulations. Directly reply to the parties concerned and copy furnish this Office of the action taken citing document tracking number DENR-ASRMD-2023-002965 for record and monitoring purposes.

For consideration.

  
**ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, CESO I**

Encls.: as stated

cc: Mr. Raymundo G. Padrones, Jr.  
Office of the Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Palawan  
[sp.secretariat\\_palawan@yahoo.com.ph](mailto:sp.secretariat_palawan@yahoo.com.ph)

Office of the Secretary  
DENR



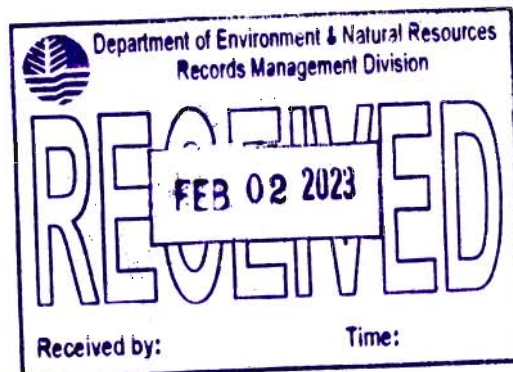
Republic of the Philippines  
Provincial Government of Palawan  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**



Records Control No. 01358-23

January 5, 2023

**MS. MARIA ANTONIA YULO-LOYZAGA**  
Secretary  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
2/F DENR Bldg., Visayas Avenue, Diliman  
Quezon City



Madam:

We are forwarding herewith a copy of Provincial Resolution No. 17440, series of 2022 of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Palawan, for information and appropriate action.

Very truly yours,

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN:

  
**RAYMUNDO G. PADRONES JR.**  
Supervising Administrative Officer



Republic of the Philippines  
Provincial Government of Palawan  
**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**  
Puerto Princesa City

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 44<sup>TH</sup>  
SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2022  
AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SESSION HALL,  
CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA**

**PRESENT:**

Hon. Leoncio N. Ola	Vice Governor & Presiding Officer
Hon. Marivic H. Roxas	Temporary Floor Leader
Hon. Rafael V. Ortega, Jr.	Asst. Floor Leader – 3 <sup>rd</sup> District
Hon. Nieves C. Rosento	S.P. Member – 1 <sup>st</sup> District
Hon. Ryan D. Maminta	S.P. Member – 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Hon. Al-Nashier M. Ibba	S.P. Member – 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Hon. Ariston D. Arzaga	S.P. Member – 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
Hon. Purita J. Seguritan	S.P. Member – IPM Representative
Hon. Ferdinand P. Zaballa	S.P. Member – President, Liga ng mga Barangay
Hon. Al-Shariff W. Ibba	S.P. Member – PCL Federation President
Hon. Anyatika R. Rodriguez	S.P. Member – SK Federation President

**ABSENT:**

Hon. Winston G. Arzaga	Sangguniang Panlalawigan Pro-Tempore
Hon. Roseller S. Pineda	Floor Leader
Hon. Juan Antonio E. Alvarez	S.P. Member – 1 <sup>st</sup> District
Hon. Maria Angela V. Sabando	S.P. Member – 1 <sup>st</sup> District

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**PROVINCIAL RESOLUTION NO. 17440**  
**Series of 2022**

**AUTHORIZING HONORABLE V. DENNIS M. SOCRATES, GOVERNOR, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, TO PROPOSE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) AND THE PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (PRA) THE REDUCTION OF THE AREA TO BE RECLAIMED UNDER THE CORON BAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (CBDP) FROM FORTY HECTARES TO TWENTY HECTARES, MORE OR LESS, CORRESPONDING TO THE ACTUAL RECLAIMED AREA JOINTLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF PALAWAN WITH ITS PRIVATE DEVELOPERS BCT TRADING AND CONSTRUCTION AND 428 HI-TECH GROUP, INC.**

Authored by:

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

**WHEREAS**, on November 5, 2009, the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) and the Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the reclamation and development of foreshore and offshore areas in Barangays Poblacion 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, including Barangay Tagumpay of the Municipality of Coron, Province of Palawan, otherwise known as the Coron Bay Development Project (CBDP);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the said MOA, PGP entered into a Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) with BCT Trading and Construction (BCT) and 428 Hi-Tech Group, Inc. (428-HTG) in 2019, for the reclamation and development of the 40-hectare area, adjoining the 10 hectares already reclaimed by PGP under the CBDP;

**WHEREAS**, on January 28, 2021, the DENR's OIC-CENRO for Coron, Palawan advised the PGP to "*temporary stop*" its reclamation activities until it has secured the required DENR Area Clearance. Thus, PGP and its Private Proponents immediately ceased its reclamation operations in February 2021;

**WHEREAS**, subsequently, the Regional Executive Director of DENR-MIMAROPA issued a Memorandum for the Secretary of DENR, thru the Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment dated November 24, 2021, recommending "*that the area clearance be issued in favor of the proponent, Provincial Government of Palawan for the Coron Bay Development Project in Barangays Poblacion 2, 3 and 5, in the Municipality of Coron, Province of Palawan;*"

**WHEREAS**, on March 24, 2022, the PRA issued a Cease and Desist Order against PGP, enjoining it from further undertaking reclamation activities pending compliance with all requirements, foremost of which is the Area Clearance from DENR;


**WHEREAS**, on May 19, 2022, the PGP received a copy of the Order of the EMB MIMAROPA Region, dated, dated May 12, 2022, the dispositive portion of which states that the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) for the year 2007 and 2009 issued for the CBDP were cancelled;

**WHEREAS**, a Partial Motion for Reconsideration was consequently filed by PGP but it was denied resulting to the filing of an Appeal before the DENR praying for the reversal of the Order cancelling the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECCX), issued in the year 2007 and 2009, for the CBDP. Presently, the same is pending resolution before the said Office;

**WHEREAS**, on June 16, 2022, the PRA issued Resolution No. 5541, series of 2022, which ordered the total forfeiture of the reclaimed area, with a total of twenty-two (22) hectares, more or less, in favor of the government;

**WHEREAS**, anent the order of the PRA, it is the position of the PGP that it is not bound by it since the proceedings for forfeiture did not comply with PRA Administrative Order No. 2021-01 which laid down proper procedure, to wit: a) Show-Cause Order; b) Cease and Desist Order; c) Notice to Comply; and d) 90 days to submit requirements from receipt of the Notice to Comply;

**WHEREAS**, considering that the cancellation of the ECC of CBDP is not yet final and executory and that the PRA Resolution No. 5541, series of 2022, was irregularly issued, it is the position of PGP that the MOA between the PGP and PRA, dated November 5, 2009, and Contractual Joint Venture Agreement between PGP and BCT and 428-HTGI executed in 2019 are still valid and subsisting and, hence may be subject to amendment and/or revision;



**WHEREAS**, after due consideration, the PGP has decided that it would be for the best interest of the stakeholders and the entire province to just conclude the reclamation activities only up to what was actually reclaimed (20 hectares more or less) should the cease and desist order be appropriately lifted;

**NOW THEREFORE**, upon motion of Honorable Marivic H. Roxas duly seconded, be it

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to authorize Honorable Governor V. Dennis M. Socrates to propose to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) the reduction of the area to be reclaimed under Coron Bay Development Project (CBDP) from Forty Hectares to Twenty Hectares, more or less, corresponding to the actual reclaimed area jointly undertaken by the Provincial Government of Palawan with its private developers BCT Trading and Construction and 428 Hi-Tech Group, Inc.;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that a copy of this resolution be furnished the Honorable Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 5 Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, 1128 Metro Manila; Atty. Janilo E. Rubiato, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer, Philippine Reclamation Authority, 7F Legaspi Towers 200 Bldg., 107 Paseo de Roxas St., Legazpi Village, Makati, 1226 Metro Manila; Honorable V. Dennis M. Socrates, Governor; the BCT Trading and Construction and the 428 Hi-Tech Group, Inc, all of Province of Palawan, for their information and appropriate action.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

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**I CERTIFY** to the correctness of the above-quoted resolution.

**ANGELA RODRIGUEZ-PEÑA**  
*Secretary to the Sanggunian*

ATTESTED:

**LEONCIO N. OLA**  
*Vice Governor & Presiding Officer*

APPROVED:

**V. DENNIS M. SOCRATES**  
*Governor*

**DECEMBER 29, 2022**  
*Date*

*This document is not valid without Sangguniang Panlalawigan Seal*