

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

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MEMORANDUM (Ref. No. 2023-03-062)

FOR : Dir. Emmanuel H. Asis, *BFAR* RED Lormelyn E. Claudio, *DENR* Dir. Karl Caesar R. Rimando, *DILG* Dir. Mario S. Baquilod, *DOH* Dr. Azucena C. Pallugna, *DOT* Dir. Joe Amil M. Salino, *EMB* Engr. Rizal J. Victoria, *MARINA* Dir. Eugene G. Cabrera, *OCD*

SUBJECT : Invitation to the First Quarter RDC Full Council Meeting

DATE : 20 March 2023

- 1. This refers to the First Quarter Full Council Meeting of the Regional Development Council (RDC) MIMAROPA on 24 March.
- 2. One of the urgent matters to be discussed during the meeting is the oil spill incident from the sunken motor tanker MT Princes Empress in Oriental Mindoro. Based on reports, the incident has already affected Calapan City and nine municipalities in Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, and Visayas.
- 3. Most recent reports said that the oil spill has reached the waters of the Verde Island Passage (VIP). The VIP is located within the globally significant Coral Triangle and is considered the center of the world's marine biodiversity. It has a critical role in providing economic opportunities to more than two million people engaged in coastal tourism, fisheries, and shipping using the international ports of Batangas, Manila, and Subic.
- 4. Given that the VIP is being shared by the MIMAROPA and CALABARZON regions, RDC CALABARZON Chairperson and Batangas Governor Hermilando I. Mandanas, requested to discuss the possible collaboration between the two RDCs to address the possible impact of the oil spill in the VIP. Hence, it is included as one of the agenda of the RDC MIMAROPA meeting.
- 5. As such, we would like to request your presence during the First Quarter Full Council meeting on 24 March 2023 (Friday) 9:00AM at the Heritage Hotel Manila, Pasay City. Your personal attendance and inputs during the discussion will be highly appreciated.

Thank you and warm regards.

Truly yours,

GOV. JOSE R. R/ANØ RDC Chairperson and Governor, Province of Romblon

Designation	Initials	Date
ARD	AESP	03/20/2023
CEDS-PDIPBD	BAA	03/20/2023
SuEDS	JMC	03/20/2023
EDS II	CMB	03/20/2023

