

Minutes of the 92nd TPAMB Meeting
28 February 2023
Zoom Meeting ID: 817 9940 9432

1. Call to Order. Mr. Niño Rey C. Estoya, PCSDS, presided over the meeting. Upon determining the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.

Present:

1.	Mr. Niño Rey C. Estoya, PCSDS	Presiding Officer
2.	Mr. Marco Angelo J. Ancheta, PCSSD	Member
3.	Ms. Katherine Custodio, WWF-Phils	Member
4.	Dr. Roger Dolorosa, Western Philippines University	Member
5.	Dr. Ronald A. Ona, Palawan State University	Member
6.	Ptr. Jehu Cayaon, Tambuli ta mga Kagayanen	Member
7.	Mr. Zanie Seracarpio, 1 st District	Member
8.	Atty. Allyzza Mae Ora, 3 rd District	Member
9.	Mr. Marlon Javier, Committee on Appropriations	Member
10.	Ms. Elizabeth Sabando, PGP	Member
11.	Ms. Rhodora Ubani, DENR	Member
12.	Capt. Brendo J Casaclang PN (GSC), NFW	Member

Absent:

1.	Mr. Jerry Buncag, ENR Com- Cagayancillo	Member
2.	Hon. Ryan D. Maminta, SP ENR Committee	Member
3.	Ms. Angelica Querubin, Saguda Palawan	Member
4.	VADM Alberto B Carlos PN, WesCom	Member
5.	Capt. Dennis Rem C Labay, CGD-Pal	Member
6.	Mr. Mario C. Basaya, BFAR	Member
7.	Mr. Enriquez Nunez, CI- Phil	Member
8.	Hon. Sergio P. Tapalla, LGU-Cagayancillo	Member
9.	Hon. Jose CH. Alvarez, 2 nd District	Member

Guest:

1.	Ms. Cristy Barramedas, PCSSD
2.	Ms. Marjorie Ortega, DENR
3.	LTJG Jemar A Talingting, CGD-Pal
4.	LTC Isagani G Nato, WesCom

2. Review of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising Out of the Minutes. The minutes of the 91st TPAMB meeting held on 7 December 2022 was approved. The highlights of the previous meeting and actions taken were reported as follows:

TMO Annual Report	Presented
2023 Work and Financial and APP	Approved
New Signatories to TRNP Trust Fund Account	New signatories appointed
Renewal of Contract of PASu	Approved
Approval/comments on General Management Plan	Approved
For ratification: Policy on the Use of TRNP Logo	Approved
For ratification: Increase of MPR Subsistence Allowance	Approved
For ratification: Increase of TMO Travel Allowance	Approved

For ratification: Establishing of the TRNP Scientific Advisory Body	Approved
Research: Gombessa Expeditions	Approved
Resolution of Sanguniang Panlalawigan congratulating Tubbataha	Thank you letter sent to the Office of BM Maminta

3. Agenda

3.1. Turtle Study of NOAA. TMO plans to conduct a census and laparoscopy of marine turtles this year with funding from DENR and partners. The National Oceanographic Atmospheric Association (NOAA) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SFSC) requested to join the trip to do a field validation of the new method they are developing. The NOAA study, *‘Establishing novel methods for determining the reproductive status of green turtles: A field validation in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park’*, will include the collection of turtle blood and skin samples.

The Board approved the conduct of the study on the condition that TMO and NOAA SFSC enter into a memorandum of agreement articulating the role of each party. The MOA should mention the ownership of data, publication of results, acknowledgments, and/or inclusion of TMO representative/s as co-author. The MOA will be required for the approval of NOAA's application for Gratuitous and Transport Permits with PCSDS.

3.2. e-DNA Project with UNESCO. UNESCO launched a global collaborative environmental DNA (eDNA) project in World Heritage marine sites to measure species diversity, estimate the vulnerability of species to climate change, inspire and educate the next generation of ocean scientists, showcase how eDNA can revolutionize marine biodiversity monitoring, and promote the standardization of eDNA sampling and analysis protocol. Tubbataha was chosen to be one of the pilot sites for the project. UNESCO will send all the materials with specific instructions and TMO will collect the samples and apply for permits with PCSDS.

The Board approved the conduct of the study on the condition that a memorandum of agreement is made between TMO and UNESCO to cover the details of the collaboration. The MOA will be required prior to the issuance of the Gratuitous and Transport Permits by the PCSDS.

The members of the Board unanimously resolved that PASu Angelique Songco is authorized to sign a MOA with both the NOAA-SFSC and UNESCO.

3.3. Closure of Landbank Dollar Account. The Landbank dollar account of the TPAMB was closed in December 2022. The Php3.9M in the account was transferred to the DBP TRNP Trust Fund account as per instructions of COA.

3.4. TMO Administrative Matters. The PASu reported that TMO is preparing the documents for its institutional standing and the application of plantilla positions with the DBM. Atty. Adelina Villena and Mr. John Carlo Roquid of PCSDS are advising and helping TMO in writing the proposals. The PASu said that they are targeting the middle of March to submit the papers. The TPAMB instructed the TMO to call a special meeting to discuss the application before it is submitted to the Office of the President.

The PASu apprised the TPAMB that she will retire soon, therefore TMO needs an Assistant PASu in preparation for 2026. She said that Ms. Maria Retchie Pagliawan, TMO Research Officer, will be promoted to Assistant Protected Area Superintendent (APASu) for a smooth transition.

3.5. UNDP ENMAPS Project. The UNDP staff presented the ENMAPS Project during the December meeting of the TPAMB. The project involves three countries and five sites within the Philippines. It will include funding for research, information and education, resource mobilization, and procurement of enforcement equipment. One such equipment is the outboard engine of the patrol boats which needs to be changed every three years.

The TPAMB is required to submit a co-financing commitment addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Finance and to the UNDP in the total amount of USD 500,321.45 for five years. The draft letter was shown on screen. The Board resolved to authorize the PASu to sign the co-financing commitment on behalf of the TPAMB.

4. Other Matters:

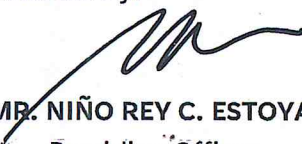
4.1. Inspection Trip. 16-19 June 2023. The PASu informed the Board that an inspection trip to Tubbataha is scheduled for 16-19 June 2023. She recalled that the TPAMB assigned the Executive Committee to conduct the inspection. It may be possible to dovetail the trip with the PCG patrol in the area so that the whole Board could join the trip. A formal invitation will be sent to the members of the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

Prepared by:


ANGELIQUE M. SONGCO
Secretary

Attested by:


MR. NIÑO REY C. ESTOYA
Presiding Officer