

**UNESCO PROGRAMMES FOR PHILIPPINE NATURAL HERITAGE**

1 message

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Cc: Babylyn Cacao &lt;babylyn.cacao@bmb.gov.ph&gt;

Dear Ma'am/Sir,

Further to BMB Memorandum dated 14 August 2023 on the conduct of Orientation of UNESCO Programmes for the Philippine Natural Heritage, please be informed that the Orientation for the Visayas and Mindanao Cluster has already been conducted on 12-14 September 2023 in Davao City. The said Orientation provided a platform to discuss the salient features and nomination processes of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites (WHS), Man and Biosphere Reserves (MABR), and UNESCO Global Geopark Program (aUGGP).

While the Orientation for the Luzon Cluster will be scheduled in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of CY 2024, we are pleased to provide you the attached copy of the highlights of the discussions during the Visayas and Mindanao Cluster Orientation for your reference.

WHS are areas with Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) to humanity in terms of cultural, natural, or a combination of both aspects. Currently, the Philippines has 19 sites listed in the WHS Tentative List (TL) of which the following protected areas in Luzon were included:

Region/Protected Area	Date Listed in the WHS TL
<b>CAR</b>	
1. Mt. Pulag Protected Landscape	May 16, 2006
<b>Region 2</b>	
2. Batanes Protected Landscape and Seascape	August 15, 1993
3. Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park and outlying areas inclusive of the buffer zone	May 16, 2006
<b>MIMAROPA</b>	
4. Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park	May 16, 2006
5. Apo Reef Natural Park	May 16, 2006
6. Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape and Seascape	February 23, 2015

In view of the above, may we request updates on the status of their nomination along with the updated information/data using the attached Form that were submitted on the dates indicated above.

Further, it can be noted from the discussions during the Visayas and Mindanao Cluster that for aspiring sites to be eligible for nomination under the WHS program, they must first be included in the WHS TL. Hence, for aspiring protected areas within your respective Regions, please take note of the following deadlines and requirements:

Date	Activity	Supporting Documents
UNESCO World Heritage Sites Tentative List		
November 30, 2023	Deadline of submission of 5-pager WHS TL form including supporting documents to DENR through BMB	1. PAMB Resolution supporting/ endorsing the inclusion of the site to the WHS TL. 2. If available, Resolutions from concerned LGUs expressing support to the proposal. 3. Map reflecting the management zones and/or buffer zones based on the PA Management Plan. 4. If available, documentation of stakeholders consultations and 5. Photo documentation
January 15, 2024	Deadline of endorsement of DENR to UNACOM for aspiring sites to be included in the WHS Tentative List	
February 1, 2024	Deadline of endorsement of UNACOM to UNESCO for the updated WHS Tentative List.	
One year after inclusion in the Tentative List	Nomination of site for inscription in the WHS.	
UNESCO Global Geoparks		
End of May 2024	Deadline of submission of expression of intent with accomplished Self-Evaluation Checklist for aspiring aUGGP to DENR through BMB	1. Expression of interest. 2. PAMB Resolution supporting/ endorsing the nomination of the aUGGP. 3. If available, Resolutions from concerned LGUs expressing support to the proposal and 4. Application Dossier with complete annexes.
June 15, 2024	Deadline of endorsement of DENR to UNACOM for aUGGP.	
July 1, 2024	Deadline of endorsement of UNACOM to UNESCO aUGGP.	
Biosphere Reserves		
End of July 2024	Deadline of submission of nomination based on prescribed form for the proposed biosphere reserves (BR) to DENR through BMB	1. Letter of endorsement 2. Zonation map 3. PAMB Resolution supporting/ endorsing the nomination of the 4. Results of Consultations and if

Date	Activity	Supporting Documents
August 31, 2023	Deadline of endorsement of DENR to UNACOM for proposed BR.	available, Resolutions from concerned LGUs expressing support to the proposal and 5. Dossier for the nomination as BR
September 30, 2024	Deadline of endorsement of UNACOM to UNESCO for proposed BR.	

For information and appropriate action.

regards,

**National Parks Division**

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