



MEMORANDUM

SEP 18 2023

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR-MIMAROPA
1515 DENR by the Bay Bldg., Roxas Boulevard,
Brgy. 668, Ermita, Manila

FROM : The OIC Assistant Director
In concurrent capacity as Chief, Coastal and Marine Division

SUBJECT : **AGREED-UPON ACTIONS BY DENR TO THE EMERGING
ISSUES ON THE CONSERVATION OF PHILIPPINE
COCKATOO IN PALAWAN**

This pertains to the meeting between the DENR and Katala Foundation, Inc. (KFI) on 29 August 2023 at the Office of Senator Zubiri in Pasay City. The meeting was attended by DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, Mr. Maximo C. Landrito, OIC Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services of DENR MIMAROPA, Ms. Armida P. Andres, Assistant Director of BMB and Mr. Anson M. Tagtag, Chief of the Wildlife Resources Division of BMB.

During the meeting, KFI presented an overview of the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Program and highlighted the emerging issues and challenges related to the conservation of the Philippine cockatoo in Palawan that require immediate attention and action from the DENR, as follows:

Issues	Agreed-upon Action by DENR
1. The need for legislation of Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary as a protected area under E-NIPAS	DENR MIMAROPA to initiate the process of legislation and to engage support of legislators to facilitate the process in coordination with the National Parks Division of this Bureau.
2. Certain IPS asserts ancestral domain rights over the island	PENRO Palawan to verify the claims of IP groups over the island.
3. The conservation of Philippine cockatoo and other wildlife in Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm (IPPF) faces challenges due to unclear mandates, inadequate enforcement, and	PENRO Palawan and PCSD to establish clear arrangements on the monitoring of the IPPF in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, as well as the implementation of enforcement activities to prevent encroachments not only by IPs but also by poachers in general,



encroachment issues involving IPs within the Penal Reservation; and,	in coordination with the IPPF management body.
4. Pandanan and Bugsuk Islands in Palawan, a vital habitat for the Philippine cockatoo and other wildlife, remains unprotected/unmonitored and habitat may be comprised by land development being a private property.	DENR MIMAROPA to coordinate with KFI and explore collaboration with the organization to establish partnerships with resort developers operating in the area, including the San Miguel Corporation. This initiative can also be positioned as a valuable component of the corporation's corporate social responsibility efforts.

The Secretary affirmed the commitment of DENR to address the above concerns raised by KFI. Given that the Region holds jurisdiction and responsibility for overseeing and facilitating biodiversity conservation efforts in the above-mentioned areas, the Region is requested to facilitate the execution of the agreed-upon actions. We would appreciate receiving updates on the progress of action on these issues.

For information and consideration.


ARMIDA P. ANDRES

cc : Katala Foundation, Inc. (idlacerna@gmail.com; widpeter@yahoo.com)

