



July 29, 2024

**Mr. Felix Mirasol**

***Regional Executive Director***

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MIMAROPA

Dear RED Mirasol,

Yakap Kalikasan is happy to share with you the news that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation's (FAO) awarded **Ms. Nida Collado** as its **2024 Wangari Maathai Forest Champion**. Ms. Collado is the President of the Macatumbalen Community-Based Forest and Coastal Management Association (MBFCMA) in San Vicente, Palawan, and President of the National Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) Federation with a membership of nearly 2,000 people's organizations all over the country.

Yakap Kalikasan nominated Ms. Collado as she embodies a strong and dynamic woman farmer leader with a firm stand, brave heart, non-negotiable integrity, and a nurturing principle over concerns related to sustainable environment. Ms. Collado won over 500 contenders around the globe for this award. She was awarded during the 27th Session of the Committee on Forestry and the World Forest Week 2024 in FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy. FAO Philippines is recognizing her with a special program on Friday, 2 August 2024.

It is with this good news that we are humbly requesting for DENR MIMAROPA's recognition of her as she lifted the CBFM banner and Region 4B in the global space. We are also requesting for a possible audience of Ms. Collado to your office on a date that can be arranged.

Ang karangalan na tinanggap ni Ms. Collado ay patunay na ang mga komunidad sa kagubatan ay tunay na kaagapay ng pamahalaan sa pagpapalago ng kagubatan. Ang parangal na tinanggap niya ay hindi lamang para sa kanya kundi ito ay karangalan ng ating bansa.

Attached are : (1) our nomination form of Ms. Collado to FAO, with pages 4-7 as the main descriptions of her advocacy and achievements; (2) FAO's letter of confirmation of Ms. Collado's winning, and (3) a short clip from the FAO of the awarding ceremony in this link: <https://x.com/FAOForestry/status/1815729218086384106>.

Maraming salamat po.

Sincerely,

JANET B. MARTIRES  
Associate Director