

DATE : 06 AUG 2019

DAY : Tuesday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE

Manila Standard

A6
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

06 AUG 2019
DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

Cimatu urges LGU leaders to address major issues

By Rio N. Araja

ENVIRONMENT Secretary Roy Cimatu has urged governors and mayors to show a “decisive environmental leadership” and sustain the gains fueled by President Rodrigo Duterte’s strong political will and commitment to address the most pressing environmental problems.

He met with 74 governors and 1,538 city and municipal mayors at the recent “The Assembly of Governors and Mayors” in Manila, where the President gave local executives his marching order to intensify the war against illegal drug, corruption, extremism and communist insurgency.

He reminded the governors and mayors to show political will and take the initiative, and not to wait for the national government to intervene.

He assured the governors and mayors support from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to capacitate their competence in addressing and implementing priority environmental concerns and projects within their jurisdictions.

“The DENR can and will provide technical support on a broad range of concerns from geohazard mapping to reforestation, to the management of solid waste and air and water pollution,” he said.

He prodded them not to balk from enforcing environmental laws, and that he is mobilizing the entire DENR workforce from the central, regional, provincial and community levels to assist them “as long as they do their part.”

He called on the local government units to help address the country’s vulnerability to climate change hazards through a convergence approach highlighting the key role of local authorities in the transition to more sustainable ways of environmental governance.

“You have control over business permits and land use and development,” Cimatu told the local officials.

He warned of adverse environmental impacts if such control is not properly exercised.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE



06 AUG 2019

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

DENR to LGU: Show decisive leadership

Cimatu reminded the LGU officials of their mandate to create conditions that can determine whether or not the pursuit of local development can or cannot be environmentally sustainable

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu is calling on all local chief executives in the country to show decisive leadership by enforcing environmental laws as failure to do so would result in consequences, including filing of charges.

During the recent "Assembly of Governors and

Mayors" in Manila, Cimatu stressed that by enforcing environmental laws, the local chief executives will help sustain the gains of the strong political will of President Rodrigo Duterte.

The meeting was attended by 74 governors and 1,538 city and municipal mayors.

Cimatu emphasized that the closure and rehabilitation of Boracay Island last year was a general warning to all officials who sacrifice sustainable development by failing to enforce environmental laws within their jurisdictions.

He prodded the officials not to balk from enforcing environmental laws, and that he is mobilizing the entire DENR workforce from the central, regional, provincial and community levels to assist them "as long as they do their part."

"This message was duly noted by local governments in Coron and El Nido in Palawan, Panglao Island in Bohol, and Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro, among others," Cimatu said.



Environmental leadership hiling ni Cimatú sa LGUs

HINIMOK ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatú ang mga local executives sa buong bansa na magpakita ng "environmental leadership" para suportahan ang ipinakikitang "political will" ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte upang mabigyan ng solusyon ang problema sa kapaligiran sa bansa.

Nakasama ni Cimatú ang 74 governors at 1,538 city at municipal mayors sa ginanap na "The Assembly of Governors and Mayors" na idinaos sa Maynila kamakailan.

Sa naturang okasyon, nagpaalala si Duterte sa mga namuno sa local government units na palakasin ang kampanya laban sa iligal na droga, korapsyon at mga komunistang grupo.

Ipinaliwanag pa ni Cimatú na ang desisyon ng Pangulo na ipasara at i-rehabilitate ang Isla ng Boracay ng anim na buwan ay isang babala sa LGUs na may "tourist destinations" na ipinagpapalit and sustainable development dahil sa kanilang kabiguan na ipatupad ang environmental laws.

Tiniyak nito sa mga gobernador at mga alkalde na buo ang magiging suporta ng DENR sa kanilang mga proyekto na may kinalaman sa pagsasaayos at pagbabantay sa kalikasan.

Partikular na binanggit nito ang mga lokal na pamahalaan ng Coron at El Nido sa Palawan, Panglao Island sa Bohol at Puerto Galera sa Oriental Mindoro.

Nanawagan din si Cimatú sa local executives na makipagtulungan sa bawat isa tungkol sa usapin ng kalikasan dahil wala itong kinikilalang "boundary" tulad ng isinasagawang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay.

Hinikayat din ni Cimatú ang LGUs na tumulong sa pagresolba sa problema sa climate change, lalo sa mga lalawigan ng Masbate, Sorsogon, Negros Oriental, Samar, Sarangani, Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte at Dinagat Islands. **SANTI CELARIO**



Cimatu hinimok ang mga local executive na magkaroon ng environmental leadership

Hinimok ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang mga local executives sa buong bansa na magpakita ng "environmental leadership" para suportahan ang ipinakikitang "political will" ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte upang mabigyan ng solusyon ang problema sa kapaligiran sa ating bansa.

Nakasama ni Cimatu ang 74 governors at 1,538 city at municipal mayors sa ginanap na "The Assembly of Governors and Mayors" na idinaos sa Maynila noong Hulyo 23. Sa naturang okasyon ay nagbigay din ng paalala si Duterte sa mga namumuno sa local government units (LGUs) na palakasin ang kampanya laban sa ilegal na droga, korapsyon at mga komunistang grupo.

Pinaalalahanan din ng environment chief ang mga gobernador at alkalde na magpakita ng political will sa pamamagitan ng pangunguna sa mga proyekto at huwag nang hintayin pa ang national government para umaksiyon.

Ipinaliwanag pa ni Cimatu na ang desisyon ng pangulo na ipasara at i-rehabilitate ang Isla ng Boracay ng anim na buwan ay isang babala sa mga LGUs na mayroong "tourist destinations" na ipinagpapalit and sustainable development dahil sa kanilang kabiguan na ipatupad ang mga environmental laws.

Ang pagpapasara ng Boracay ay nagresulta sa pagsasampa ng kaukulang kaso sa mga lokal na opisyal dahil sa kapabayaan nila sa kanilang tungkulin, pagdidiin ni Cimatu.

Siniguro naman nito sa mga gobernador at mga alkalde na buo ang magiging suporta ng DENR sa kanilang mga proyekto na may kinalaman sa pagsasaayos at pagbabantay sa kalikasan.

Nanawagan din si Cimatu sa mga local executive na makipagtulungan sa bawat isa tungkol sa usapin ng kalikasan dahil wala itong kinikilalang "boundary" tulad ng isinasagawang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay.

Aniya, hindi kinakailangang magdalawang-isip ang mga LGUs na ipatupad ang environmental laws dahil suportado sila ng buong DENR mula sa central office, provincial at community level lalo na kapag ginagawa lamang ng mga ito ang kanilang tungkulin. **(Riz Dominguez)**



DENR Sec. Cimatú hinimok ang mga local executives na magkaroon ng environmental leadership

MARIING hinimok ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatú ang mga local executives sa buong bansa na magpakita ng "environmental leadership" para suportahan ang ipinakikitang "political will" ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte upang mabigyan solusyon ang problema sa kapaligiran sa ating bansa. Nakasama ni Cimatú ang 74 governors at 1,538 city at municipal mayors sa ginanap na "The Assembly of Governors and Mayors" na idinaos sa Maynila noong Hulyo 23. Sa naturang okasyon nagbigay din ng paalala si Duterte sa mga namumuno sa local

government units (LGUs) na palakasin ang kampanya laban sa ilegal na droga, korupsiyon at mga komunistang grupo.

Pinaalalahanan din ng environment chief ang mga gobernador at alkalde na magpakita ng political will sa pamamagitan ng pangunguna sa mga proyekto at huwag nang hintayin pa ang national government para umaksiyon.

Ipinaliwanag pa ni Cimatú na ang desisyon ng pangulo na ipasara at i-rehabilitate ang Isla ng Boracay ng anim na buwan ay isang babala sa mga LGUs na mayroong "tourist destinations" na ipinagpapalit and sustainable development dahil sa kanilang kabiguan na ipatupad ang mga environmental laws.

Ang pagpapasara ng Boracay ay nagresulta sa pagsasampa ng kaukulang kaso sa mga lokal na opisyal dahil sa kapabayaan nila sa kanilang tungkulin, pagdidin ni Cimatú.

Siniguro naman nito sa mga gobernador at mga alkalde na buo ang magiging suporta ng DENR sa kanilang mga proyekto na may kinalaman sa pagsasabay at pagbabantay sa kalikasan.

"The DENR can and will provide technical support on a broad range of concerns from geohazard mapping to reforestation, to the management of solid waste and air and water pollution," ani ni Cimatú kasabay ng pagsasabi na buo ang suporta ng kagawaran sa mga lokal na pamahalaan ng Coron at El Nido sa Palawan, Panglao Island sa Bohol at Puerto Galera sa Oriental Mindoro.

(Boy Celario)



Magpakita ng 'political will' para sa kalikasan – Cimat **LOCAL EXECS HINAMON**

HINIKAYAT ni Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimat ang lahat ng local executives sa bansa na magpakita ng 'environmental leadership' para suportahan ang ipinakikitang 'political will' ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte upang mabigyan ng solusyon ang problema sa kapaligiran.

Nakasama ni Cimat ang may 74 governors at 1,538 city at municipal mayors sa ginanap na 'The Assembly of Governors and Mayors' kamakailan sa Maynila.

Sa naturang pagtitipon, nagbigay rin ng paalala si Duterte sa mga namumuno sa local govern-

ment units (LGUs) na palakasin ang kampanya laban sa ilegal na droga, korupsiyon at mga komunistang grupo.

Pinaalalahanan din ni Cimat ang mga gobernador at alkalde na magpakita ng 'political will' sa pamamagitan ng pangunguna sa mga proyekto at huwag nang hintayin pa ang national government na umaksiyon.

Ipinaliwanag ng DENR chief na ang desisyon ng Pangulo na ipasara at i-rehabilitate ang isla ng Boracay ng anim na buwan ay isang babala sa mga LGU na may tourist destinations na ipinagpapalit and sustainable development dahil sa kanilang kabiguan na ipatupad ang envi-

ronmental laws.

Ang pagpapasara sa Boracay ay nagresulta sa pagsasampa ng kaukulang kaso laban sa mga lokal na opisyal dahil sa kapabayaan sa kanilang tungkulin.

Tiniyak ng kalihim sa mga gobernador at mga alkalde na buo ang magiging suporta ng DENR sa kanilang mga proyekto na may kinalaman sa pagsasaayos at pagbabantay sa kalikasan.

"The DENR can and will provide technical support on a broad range of concerns from geohazard mapping to reforestation, to the management of solid waste and air and water pollution," wika ni Cimat.

BENEDICT ABAYGAR, JR.



PHILIPPINE COCKATOO

Endangered Samar species get help

By Elmer Recuerdo

GUIUAN, Eastern Samar – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Region 8 (DENR-8) has recommended the declaration of Homonhon Island in this town as a critical habitat for various endangered wildlife species.

Following consultations with stakeholders in Guiuan, particularly residents of three barangays on the island, the DENR-8 submitted its recommendation to higher authorities.

The recommendation was also based on the separate studies conducted by a team of experts and environmentalists from the Visayas State University and the non-government Philippine Misereor Partnership Incorporated.

Last June, the DENR-8 also sent its own team of experts to conduct a population count and conservation initiative to identify and verify sightings of the Philippine cockatoo, a species that is endemic in the island of Homonhon.

A report from the team confirmed sightings of the cockatoo and recorded six of its kind in Barangay Inapulangan alone.

The Philippine cockatoo is listed in the International Union for Conservation of Nature as a critically endangered species.

The DENR-8 also recorded sightings of Visayan tarctic hornbill, hooded pitta, bar-bellied cuckooshrike, yellowish bulbul, guaiabero and golden capped fruit bat, which are all said to be decreasing in number but endemic to the island.



TITLE:

Endangering the endangered Philippine Eagle

Based on newspaper accounts, 10 of the 15 Philippine Eagles so far released by the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) under its dispersal program have been confirmed or presumed dead with at least five of them shot with guns. The near certainty that the 10 precious eagles would still be alive today had they not been released does not cross the minds of the decision-makers in the PEF because they are obsessed by their belief that the best place for the birds is still in their natural habitat with little thought if the proper conditions exists or not.

Fending off criticisms over the shooting to death of "Pamana" in August 2015, PEF director for research and conservation Jayson Ibañez had denied the observation that Filipinos generally treat wild animals as food or something to be sold for quick money. So enamoured with the sight of eagles in their natural habitats, he wanted everyone to believe in the PEF myth that Filipinos have nothing to do with the inclusion of more than 40 species in the country in the critically endangered list. He and his colleagues in the PEF could not even see that the very existence of the PEF itself is a clear evidence of the predatory streak of Filipinos because why the need a special program to protect and conserve the Philippine Eagle if residents do not pose any danger to them?

Citing the alleged case of an eagle they released in 1999 which bred thrice in the wilds already, Ibañez claimed that keeping eagles in captivity would result to waste of reproductive potential. What he did not mention was that as of 2016, 27 eaglets were already born in captivity at the Philippine Eagle Center (PEC) in Malagos, Davao City. And fast forward, Ibañez just announced last month that seven pairs in their care are manifesting "signs of courtship rituals" ("7 Philippine eagle pairs show signs of breeding," *Manila Bulletin*, June 13, 2019). Needless to say, had the 10 that died in the wilds not been released, there would be more potential breeders.

Ibañez and the entire PEF block from their minds the reality that dead eagles could not breed such that even with the 10

eagles already sacrificed to their dispersal program, they are intending to return "Maslog E. S.", the eagle recovered from a chicken trap in barangay Carayacay, Maslog, Eastern Samar on June 17, 2019, to the Maslog forest when it is ready ("Phl eagle rescued from chicken trap in Eastern Samar forest," *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, July 10, 2019). How the PEF could declare the area safe for eagles is a failure of common sense considering the fact that the bird was trapped there.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is not smarter than the PEF in this respect. The agency released Philippine Eagle "Agawid" to the Aurora Memorial National Park (AMNP) in Aurora on Oct. 4, 2017 and it was there where the bird was recovered from a monkey snare more than a year earlier! ("2 Philippine Eagles flown to Singapore sanctuary," **Philippine STAR**, June 5, 2019) Have the people living in the vicinity of the AMNP foresworn their practice of hunting wildlife since "Agawid" was caught? The DENR people may point out that the bird has been in the park for two years unharmed little realizing that the bird was approximately three years old when trapped, meaning it stayed in the forest longer than the two years after its release before disaster struck.

The fact that only last month, the agreement between the PEF and the Wildlife Reserves Singapore for the loaning of eagles to the latter has been consummated resulting to the delivery of a male and female pair of Philippine Eagles to Jurong Bird Park in Singapore last month ("2 Philippine eagles fly to Singapore," *Business Mirror*, June 5). This is a safe and sane way of conserving the endangered species and at the same time insures the survival the species against any natural calamity that might wipe out the captive eagle population in the PEC. The park which is known to have successfully bred other endangered bird species will also try to breed the birds. Recently, DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu also informed that a similar arrangement is being discussed with an American wildlife

conservation entity.

The PEF and DENR should immediately stop eagle dispersal program until such time there are forests in the country declared safe for the birds by objective, competent and responsible authorities if ever such an occasion will come. The corporate sponsors of the eagles in the care of the PEF should also make it a condition that the bird not be released in any open space in the country until warranted. Until then, all recovered and bred Philippine Eagles should be kept at the PEC or loaned to foreign conservation entities because the reckless loss of the 10 is more than enough to prove that ironically, the PEF dispersal program is doing more harm than good to the efforts to preserve the critically endangered species and is tantamount to an act of sabotage. — ESTANISLAO ALBANO JR., casigayan@yahoo.com



Groups back proposed shift to paperless Congress

By RHODINA VILLANUEVA

Several environmental groups have thrown their support behind a proposed shift to paperless transactions at the House of Representatives.

Senior deputy majority leader and Cavite 7th District Rep. Crispin Remulla had earlier announced that the chamber's leadership is pushing for a paperless Congress to reduce paper costs, estimated at P9 million a year, and to digitize the legislative process.

This is among the reforms being considered by the House leadership under the new rules of the 18th Congress to be adopted this coming December, after the approval of the 2020 national budget.

Jovito Benosa, Zero Waste campaigner, EcoWaste Coalition, said, "We welcome the chamber's planned switch to paperless transactions as this will surely cut the costs for procuring paper and for the printing of voluminous legislative documents such as bills that do not necessarily become law. This will reduce long-term resource use and associated costs and bring greater transparency to the lawmaking process."

Meanwhile, Sonia Mendoza, chair of the Mother Earth Foundation, said, "A paperless Congress should improve legislative efficiency, while cutting the expenses not only for bond paper, but also for folders, inks, toners and other supplies. The savings can be used instead for meaningful programs to meet our people's basic needs."

"Congress going paperless as main method of communication should be definitely supported. Hopefully, this reform will enhance legislative transparency," said Beau Bacongus, Plastics campaigner, Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives-Asia Pacific, and Asia Pacific coordinator of Break Free From Plastic.

She adds, "But there should be some room for flexibility to print if needed as not everyone, especially the basic sectors, may have access to digital information. We hope other government offices will go paperless as well."

Esther Pacheco, president of Concerned Citizens Advocating Philippine Environmental Sustainability, agreed, saying, "OK let's go paperless. But when needed, only use paper for emergency and urgent communication."

For his part, Rene Pineda, president of Consumer Rights for Safe Food, said, "Aside from reduced paper use and waste, going paperless will cut storage space for legislative documents that are often printed in multiple copies, as well as cut staff time in maintaining such documents."

He added, "With more efficient operations, we can hope for faster

deliberation of important bills, particularly strategic environmental

and health measures such as those banning single-use plastics, foreign

waste importation and hazardous chemicals, products and processes."



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXHIBIT OF THE PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1800

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

6
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

HEADER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

06 AUG 2019

DATE

Bonzai pine trees planted on street islands in Baguio City

By **ZALDY COMANDA**

BAGUIO CITY — In line with the local government's continuing environmental and beautification campaign, and in pursuance of the Duterte administration's

National Greening Program, the City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO) have planted about 130 bonsai pine tree saplings on street islands located in various areas of the Summer Capital, including on Upper and Lower Session Road.

Mayor Benjamin Magalong has also made environmental protection and re-greening of the city among his core priorities, and part of his 10-point agenda in achieving a "better Baguio" for everyone.



AAMININ ko. Matagal na akong hindi bumibisita sa Baguio City. Kilalang-kilala ang nasabing siyudad bilang 'The Summer Capital of the Philippines' dahil malamig ang panahon doon buong taon.

Noong bata pa ako, palagi kaming dinadala sa Baguio City ng aming mga magulang tuwing bakasyon sa panahon ng tag-init. Kung minsan din ay pumasyal kami roon sa buwan ng Enero o Pebrero kung saan dito mararamdaman ang pinakamalamig na panahon sa Baguio City. Masarap pumasyal sa Baguio noon. Malamig. Masarap ang simoy ng hangin. Malinis. Maganda. Subalit pagkalipas ng ilang dekada, tila unti-unti nang nawawala ang ganda at ningning ng Baguio City.

Ang huling akyat ko sa Baguio ay mahigit 10 taon na ang nakararaan. Iba na ang Baguio. Siksi-kan na ang mga tao at sasakyan. Dumami na ang mga iskwater o illegal settler sa paligid ng bundok ng Baguio City. Matrapik. Dumami ang mga FX na hindi kondisyon ang mga makina kaya naman nagbubuga ng maitim na usok.

Datirati, matapos mong maglakad sa labas ay hindi amoy diesel ang iyong damit. Subalit ganoon na ngayon sa Baguio. Ni hindi ka na masaya maglakad sa Session Road!

Kaya naman tila pagtutuunan na ng administrasyong Duterte ang pagsasaayos ng Baguio City. Tulad ng ginawa nila sa isla ng Boracay at sa El Nido, mukhang napapanahon na rin na magkaroon ng seryosong 'urban planning' ang Baguio City. Kailangang mag-isip na ang national at local government kung paano palalawakin ang development sa mga paligid ng Baguio City upang tumanggap sa dumaraming residente at sa dumaragsang turista.

Ayon sa isang opisyal ng Baguio City, maglalabas daw ang Malacañang ng moratorium sa konstruksiyon ng mga gusali at pagputol ng mga puno sa nasabing lungsod.

Bago na ang mayor ng Baguio City. Siya ay si PNP Ret. Gen. Benjamin Magalong. Dati siyang hepe ng CIDG. Mas kilala siya bilang pinuno sa imbestigasyon

PANAHOON NA UPANG AYUSIN ANG BAGUIO CITY

noong 2015 Mamasapano Massacre kung saan 44 SAF troopers ang pinatay ng mga terorista sa Mindanao. Ito yata ang dahilan kaya hindi siya naisama sa listahan ng susunod na PNP chief noong panahon ni PNoy.

Pero balik tayo sa Baguio. Tila si Mayor Magalong ay tulad din ng mga bagong mayor sa Metro Manila na nais ng tunay na pagbabago. Dati kasi ang mga developer sa Baguio ay nakakukuha ng permiso sa DENR at DPWH kagapag hindi sila makakuha ng permiso sa lokal na

pamahalaan ng Baguio.

Kaya naman humingi si Mayor Magalong sa Malacañang na maglabas ng executive order na magpapatigil sa ganitong maling kalakaran. Nais ni Magalong na mabigyan sila ng isang taon sa pagbabawal ng pagbibigay ng building permit at permiso sa pagputol ng mga puno upang maayos nila ang isyu ng pagbaha at rehabilitasyon ng Baguio City.

Plano rin ng administrasyon ni Magalong na ipagbawal na ang mga matataas na gusali sa Baguio City tulad ng mga

high-rise condominium upang makaiwas sa trahedyang tulad ng nangyari noong ika-16 ng Hulyo, 1990 na tinamaan sila ng 7.7 magnitude na lindol. Madadamay rin ang mga informal settler na nagtayo ng kanilang bahay sa mga matatarik na lugar na maaaring mabiktima ng landslide.

Sana ay magtagumpay ang pamahalaan ni Mayor Magalong. Sana sa aking muling pagbisita sa Baguio City ay maranasan ko muli at bumalik ang dating malinis at magandang Baguio City.



STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATION
INITIATIVES
SERVICE



06 AUG 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

P28 M giant clams seized in Negros Occidental

BACOLOD CITY – Around seven tons of giant clams, locally known as *taklobo* or *manlot*, were seized in Escalante City, Negros Occidental on Friday.

The giant clams have an estimated value of P28 million. The endangered species is reportedly sold for P1,000 per kilo.

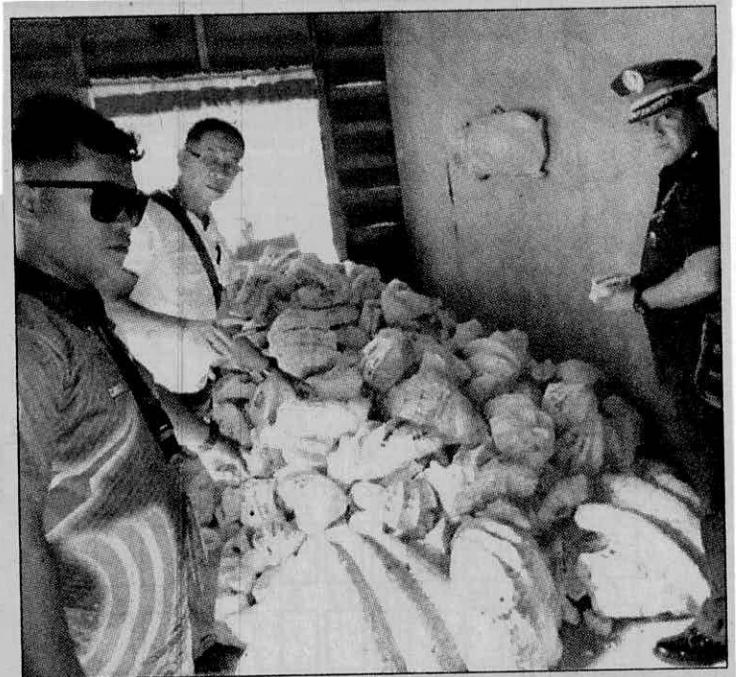
Police officers and personnel of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources discovered the fossilized giant clams during a raid on the house of Jasper Bacaron in Barangay Washington.

Bacaron claimed a certain Nexon Aurelio, a resident of Barangay Vito in Sagay City, is the owner of the giant clams.

It is illegal to gather, sell, purchase, possess, transport or export those listed as endangered species.

Violators face fine of up to P5 million and prison term of up to 20 years.

– Gilbert Bayoran



Handout photo provided by the police shows the fossilized giant clams seized in Escalante City, Negros Occidental on Friday.



P.1

1/2

SBMA joins Arbor Day celebration, volunteers for the environment

EMPLOYEES and community volunteers of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority took part in various environmental programs including tree planting and coastal cleanups.

A total of 150 trees and 2,500 bougainvillea were planted during the Arbor Day celebration at Subic Bay Freeport Zone. The annual event is in compliance with Proclamation No. 643 which seeks to pro-

mote a healthier ecosystem through the rehabilitation and re-greening of the environment by planting trees and ornamental plants across the country.

Turn to C2

SBMA chairperson Wilma Eisma leads the agency during the tree planting activity at Subic Bay Freeport Zone.





2/2

P2

SBMA...

From C1

Leading the activity was SBMA chairperson and administrator Wilma Eisma, supported by deputy administrator for engineering Marco Estabillo, DA for business Kenneth Rementilla, DA for administration Ruel John Kabigting, and senior deputy administrator for regulatory services and Ecology Center manager Amethya dela Llana.

Aside from the Arbor Day, the government agency also joined the Dive Heroes Festival-Scubasurero where volunteer scuba divers did underwater cleanup, the International Coastal Cleanup, and the Recyclables Collection event. The latter is a semi-annual activity which encourages stakeholders to help keep the Freeport clean by collecting recyclable materials and bringing them to accredited waste handlers for recovery and upcycling.

Moreover, the SBMA has partnered with the Magbukun Ayta tribe to protect and preserve their indigenous environ-



The government agency has partnered with the Magbukun Ayta tribe to help protect and preserve the latter's indigenous environment and culture.

ment and culture under the United Nations Development Programme's Indigenous Communities Conservation Area,

with the support of the municipal government of Morong and the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development.



SBMA OBSERVES ARBOR DAY. Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) chairman and administrator Wilma Eisma (center) led the SBMA employees and community volunteers in the recent nationwide observance of Arbor Day at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone. A total of 150 trees and 2,500 bougainvilleas were planted during the annual event which is in compliance with Proclamation No. 643 which seeks to promote a healthier ecosystem through the rehabilitation and re-greening of the environment by planting trees and ornamental plants across the country. Joining her in the massive tree-planting activity are SBMA deputy administrator (DA) engineering Marco Estabillo, DA for business Kenneth Rementilla, DA for administration Ruel John Kabigting, and senior deputy administrator for regulatory services and Ecology Center manager Amethya dela Llana. Arbor Day is a commitment of the SBMA because environmental protection is a fundamental advocacy of the government agency, being home to one of few remaining tropical rainforests in the country. The SBMA chief has also banned single-use plastics in workplaces at SBMA, in addition of the ban on plastic bags and styrofoam packaging, and has also issued Office Order No. 2018-10-0420 creating the SBMA Anti-Littering Task Force.



A waste-to-energy power plant to rise in Catanduanes



OPUS Energy Solutions Inc. and the local government of Catanduanes partners up to solve power problems that the province is currently experiencing. Both parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the province's waste to energy project

The MOU was signed by OPUS President and CEO, Esberto B. Eubra Jr., Congressman Hector S. Sanchez, Project Manager Sun Peng of AVIC-INTL Project Engineering Company and Ng Hua Chong, the Principle Consultant from the Singapore Management Consultancy LLP.

In response to President Duterte's call

in his fourth SONA in which he mentions that Filipinos should "take extra steps in enforcement of laws in protection of our environment," OPUS aims to help the government and country to find a solution to decades of wastes and electricity issues. They share their vision to expand renewable and sustainable sourcing of energy.

Despite the passage of Ecological Solid Waste Management Act or Republic Act (RA) 9003, which states that the state must "adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste management program", the Philippines is still looming with garbage disposal problems.

Solid waste is directly sent to different dumpsites and landfills and the problem with this is that these sites not only pollute the air but also these are hazardous to our health.

In response to this, OPUS's project that will take these waste from the landfills and transform them to energy through a WtE (Waste-to-Energy) Power Plant that combusts waste to produce energy. Constructed in Finland, this replicated technology will be the main source of electricity in Catanduanes soon. It has an expected payback in 8 years time after the estimated timeline of power plant construction which will take 2.5 to 3 years.

Waste from various dumpsites will be collected and delivered to the power plant. It will then be transformed into a recycled heat through the use of water energy broilers. The steam from these broilers will drive a turbine which generates electricity that will be transported to different parts of the province.

"As a country, we need to do something now before it's too late. The purpose of us being here and building this partnership and collaboration is to eradicate and find the best solution. Now, we cannot eradicate the problem, but we can use the problem as part of the solution." said CEO Esberto B. Eubra Jr. (Faith P. Buenaventura)



SONAsaan na ba talaga tayo ngayon? At hindi SONAsaan na tayo? — 2

(Second of two parts)

During President Rodrigo R. Duterte's the State of the Nation Address (SONA) on July 22 he asked: "So where are we (the Philippines) really now today?"

I will now quote parts of the President's speech and give my own (right or wrong) unsolicited insights.

1. "Wala akong kaibigang mayaman. Ayaw kong kaibigan ng mayaman because pagka mayaman ka, tatabi ka lang sa akin, pati ako napahiran na ng kung ano-anong hingiin mo sa gobyerno." (I have no rich friends. I do not like rich friends because if you are rich, you will just stay beside me and even I will be overwhelmed by whatever you ask of the government.)

If the Marcoses, the Villars, the (Bong) Gos, the Revillas, the Estradas, the Macapagal-Arroyos, the (Dennis) Uys, the Quiboloyos, and others as among the President's closest friends are not rich (millionaires and billionaires), then how will he categorize the rest of the Filipinos?

2. "On Jan. 27, 2019, we officially started the Manila Bay rehabilitation. Though we have a long way to go, we are encouraged by the test results of the waters near Padre Faura. We will relocate informal settlers — I hope it can happen during my time — along the waterways and shut down establishments that continue to pollute and poison our waters."

Highly commendable as well, just like the Boracay clean-up. However, rumors of impending new reclamation areas in Manila Bay (like the influx of Chinese establishments in Boracay, the flattening of the mountain and the flood) if true, will negate such a clean-up. And then there is this

University of the Philippines study in 2017 aptly titled "Manila: A Capital is Sinking" and whose starting message goes:

"In the last 50 years the sea level has increased more than 80 centimeters, according to our map. In 10 or 20 years, coastal areas around the city, home to millions of people, will be permanently underwater, according to research by the University of the Philippines."

3. "We also paved the way for the entry of third telecommunications provider... I challenge this new player to fulfill its commitment to provide fast and reliable telecommunication services to our people, especially in the underserved areas. DICT Secretary Honasan will be the lead man in this endeavor."

With the Philippines ranked first in world social media use for the 4th consecutive year, and Filipino users increasing from 67 million to 76 million this year (2019), all I can say is "Everybody's waiting!"

4. "After almost two decades of peace negotiation, the Bangsamoro Organic Law was finally passed and ratified."

Another highly commendable achievement of the Duterte Administration, with many hoping (and praying), including me, that it will succeed this time around.

5. "Poverty incidence fell from 27.6% in the first half of 2015 to 21% in the first half of 2018. The most important number, though, is the six million Filipinos we need to pull out from poverty. Kindly help me on this." [Applause]

The figures compare the first semester of 2015 to the first semester of 2018, but not annual figures. Researching for annual figures, I found the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) recorded poverty incidence in 2015

BLUEBOARD BENJAMIN ROBERTO GOMEZ BARRETTO

at 21.6% from 25.2% in 2012 (during the Benigno Aquino, Jr. Administration.) I was trying to get the 2017 annual poverty incidence figures to compare "apples with apples" but the PSA does not seem to have such statistics.

6. "On the matter of the Philippine — West Philippine Sea. The avoidance of conflict — armed conflict and protection of our territorial waters and natural resources, compel us to perform a delicate balancing act. A shooting war is grief and misery multiplier. War leaves widows and orphans in its wake.

"Our ownership of the Philippine West Philippine Sea is internationally recognized. However, both the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Arbitral Award in the case of People — "Republic of the Philippines vs. People's Republic of China" — recognize instances where another state may utilize the resources found within the coastal state's Exclusive Economic Zone."

As stated earlier, no applause nor laughter. One or two curses. And no matter what the President says, what this government's rhetorical statements on "rumors of wars" and so on are, Vietnam, Indonesia, South Korea, and even far away Argentina have defended their territorial waters. China has yet to go to war with or drop its nuclear bomb on any of these brave countries defending their sovereignty.

The fact remains (and you can check our Philippine Constitution), culpable violation of the Constitution, treason, and betrayal of public trust are all grounds for impeachment.

7. "And you know, as I said, corruption is everywhere. You are free to investigate. I don't take offense. If there is anything wrong in my department, the Executive, you are free to open the investigation anytime."

The question in people's mind is why not arrest Imelda Marcos who was convicted by the court? Why release those who have been accused in the pork barrel scam?

"I don't take offense," he said. "But I will make sure to find a way to arrest you like Leila De Lima" seems to be the message from the government. By the way, the president also said: "You file an impeachment (which is a Constitutional right) against me, I will arrest you."

8. "I have prohibited it in Davao. And at 12 (midnight), as you see, Davao is quiet because everybody is resting already. Be it in the memorial parks, cemetery, or in the comfort of their homes."

Nothing short of or simply a case of "curfew in disguise" — shades of Marcos' Martial Law.

9. "I once again urge both Houses of Congress to pass a more responsive version of the bill establishing the Coconut Farmers' Trust Fund to ensure the accelerated utilization of coco levy funds for the well-being and empowerment of the coconut farmers."

Tell this to the Marines — *este*, the coconut farmers. A "Coconut Farmers' Trust Fund" is simply the "Coco Levy Fund" from the Martial Law era. During the campaign for president, Mr. Duterte promised the farmers he would give them back their hard-earned coconut levy money worth P100 million — and they voted for him.

10. "Our goal for the next three years is clear: a comfortable life for everybody, all Filipinos... I dream of glowing days ahead for every



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPORT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1800

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

4
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

HARRIER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

06 AUG 2019

DATE

MERRY-GO-ROUND

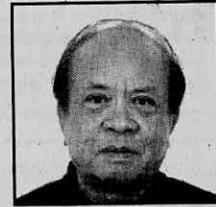
Philippines as archipelagic state

By **FLORO L. MERCENE**

THE Philippines, unlike its Asian neighbors, has a unique geographical location that former ambassador and academician Alberto Encomienda calls a mid-ocean archipelago. It is distinguished by the fact that its main islands "are closely grouped together and interspersed with rocks, low-tide elevation, reefs, and other marine geological features."

In a blue paper he wrote, the former ambassador to Greece, Malaysia, and Singapore points out the various implications of our country's unique position, thus avoiding the current impassioned arguments that shed more heat than light on the issue.

It is Encomienda's view that Filipinos must learn exactly how we stand in the world vis-à-vis our special location, and thus his highly technical paper — which we tried to reduce to layman's term — shed more light than heat on our foreign policy stand.



As an archipelagic state, under the definition of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Philippines, he said, "is accorded a special international legal regime thereat." This has given the country exclusive sovereign rights to explore and exploit marine and seabed resources, whether living or non-living, including energy, in an exclusive economic zone (EEZ), the Continental Shelf, and an extended continental shelf, which are novel maritime jurisdictions.

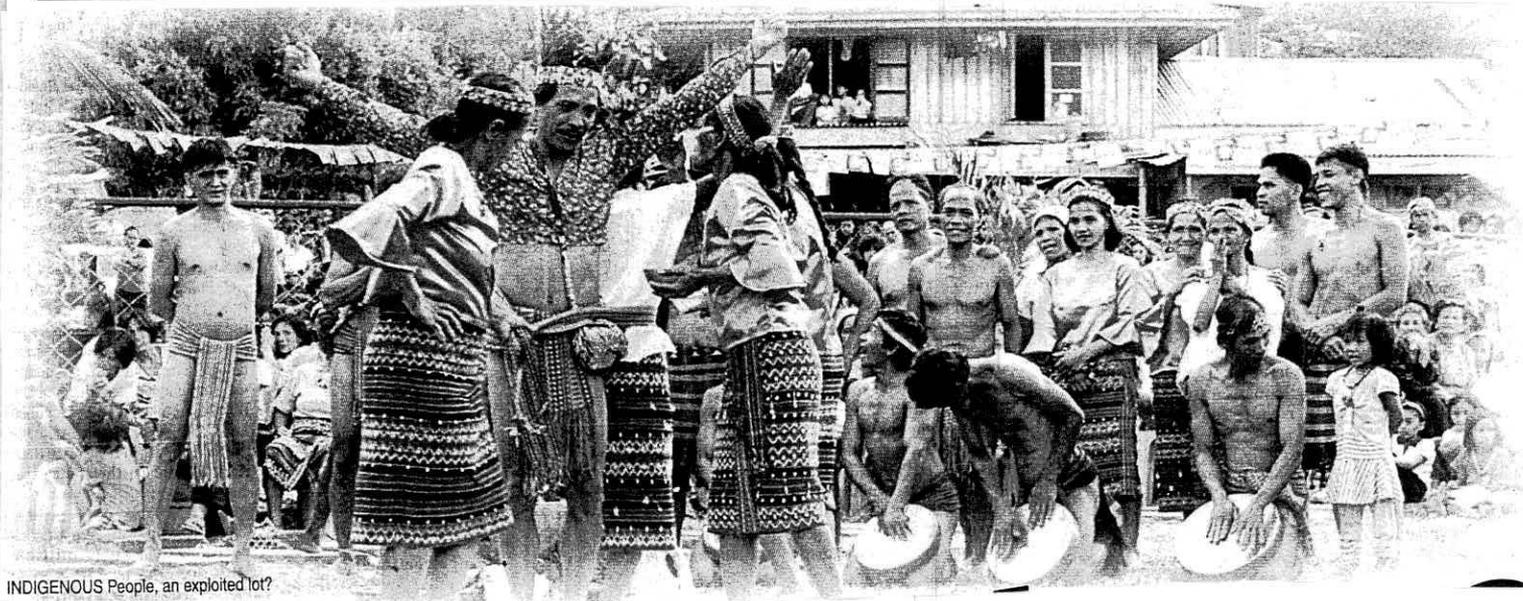
Although the country has pioneered framing the political/legal concept of the archipelagic state, "the essential defining work remains to be done related to the application, implementation, and interpretation of accompanying rights, obligations, and duties."

To achieve that goal, the former head of Maritime and Ocean Affairs Center in the Department of Foreign Affairs said the Philippines must initiate the creation of a "Caucus of Archipelagic States to serve as a 'marketplace' and 'clearing house' of ideas to galvanize a common position that would

make for state practice leading to customary international law, especially when there are perceived gaps in the UNCLOS affecting archipelagic states."

Encomienda said the situation in the South China Sea issues and ocean governance concerns is the "volatile,

uncertain, complex, and ambiguous setting of Philippines permanent national interests, foreign policy, and international relations imbued with delicate geo-strategic/geopolitical/geo-economic balancing and rebalancing; in a strategic foreign policy vacuum."



INDIGENOUS People, an exploited lot?

IP money missing?

P300 M embezzled?

By Mario J. Mallari

TUBA, Benguet – Tribal minorities affected by mining concessions are recipients of huge amounts intended to help improve their conditions, but internal wranglings are denying them of their rightful share from releasing their ancestral lands

for exploration.

Seven years after being accused of embezzling funds, former officers of the Indigenous Peoples Organization of Alang, Pokis, Sabian, Sta. Fe, Olibba and Loakan (IPO APSSOL) are reportedly still yet to account for the more than P300 million

EXCLUSIVE

Organization of Alang, Pokis, Sabian, Sta. Fe, Olibba and Loakan (IPO APSSOL) are reportedly still yet to account for the more than P300 million

Turn to page A2

Despite an order from the Cordillera Administrative Region-Regional Hearing Officer of the NCIP, Ventura's group failed to account for the P311 million royalties released by Philex Mining Corp.

From page 1

royalties from mining operations in the province.

Worse, the same officers led by one Adam Ventura are supposedly trying to force their way back to the IP group and are allegedly backed by Commissioner Gaspar Cayat of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

In an exclusive interview with the *Daily Tribune*, Rafael Fernandez, current president of IPO APSSOL, denounced Cayat's attempt to reinstate the group of Ventura.

Ventura was charged in 2012 with malversation and was eventually expelled from IPO APSSOL.

Fernandez said that despite an order from the Cordillera Administrative Region-Regional Hearing officer of the NCIP, Ventura's group failed to account for the P311 million royalties released by Philex Mining Corporation (Philex) from 2008 to 2012.

In January 2008, IPO APSSOL entered into a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with Philex, giving its consent for the conduct of mining operations by the company within their ancestral

domain, while the company will grant the group 1.25 percent of its gross receipts as royalty.

The group then opened a trust account with a bank where the company deposited the agreed upon royalty for the IP. It was from this account where the funds were previously drawn for various IP projects.

The subject mining site is at Barangay Camp 3, Tuba, Benguet, comprised of 96 hectares.

Trust issue on leader

"Mr. Cayat, contrary to expectations, wants to reinstate the unseated officers, Adam Ventura, former president of IPO APSSOL, and Felimon Aliado, former treasurer, despite their unexplained withdrawals," Fernandez said.

The group then opened a trust account with a bank where the company deposited the agreed royalty for the IP.

"The two (Ventura and Aliado) were ordered to render an accounting. Until now, however, they have not complied," he added.

Fernandez, who was a member



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

2/2

of IPO APSSOL during Ventura's tenure, said his group lost trust in Ventura's leadership after the questionable utilization of the royalties given to the Kalanguya clans who are the rightful IP groups recognized by NCIP and Philex.

He lamented that due to the irregularities during the term of Ventura, the release of royalties was stopped by NCIP pending compliance with the conditions of the MoA signed by IPO APSSOL, NCIP and Philex in 2008.

Based on the MoA, the IPO APSSOL shall craft a community royalty development program (CRDP) where the royalties will be allotted for the benefit of all the clans.

Probe on

Fernandez, however, said no CRDP was implemented during the time of Ventura, and the funds were released as payment for damages to individual families.

"We have formally requested Mr. Cayat to investigate Mr. Ventura and his group over the misappropriated P300 million royalties. However, because said personalities are behind his appointment, he is sitting on our request," he added. "This is a clear manifestation of his intent to reinstate subject officers."

Fernandez, along with other officers of IPO APSSOL, are now working to gain recognition from NCIP to avail of the royalties held since 2012 after the alleged embezzlement by Ventura's group.

Last 11 July, a general assembly was held by officers and members of IPO APSSOL attended by 2,500 members and observed by NCIP representative.

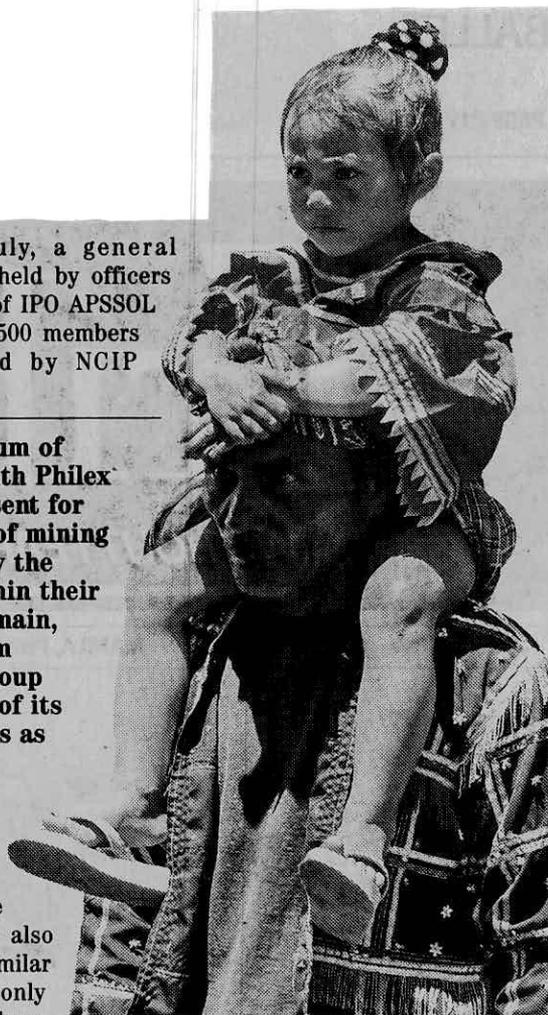
A memorandum of agreement with Philex gives its consent for the conduct of mining operations by the company within their ancestral domain, while the firm grants the group 1.25 percent of its gross receipts as royalty.

Eduard Guiniguin, one of the elders, said the Ventura group also called for a similar assembly and only about 40 members attended. They were mostly non-members.

Freda Diway, current secretary of IPO APSSOL, stressed that they are not out for the money, but are working to protect the clans from outside interests.

It was from this account where the funds were previously drawn for the various IP projects.

"Many people want to grab our land because they after the



LIFT is given an IP child by her father. YUMMIEDINGDING

royalty. They are interested in the money. But we want only justice for our ancestors and protection for the future of our children," Diway said.

"To NCIP, hopefully the commission will listen to us now," she added.

Daily Tribune tried to reach Cayat and the Ventura group for comment but to no avail.

(To be continued)



Philippines' First Peoples

Indigenous Peoples, or the IP as we know them, are also sometimes called Aboriginal Peoples or Native Peoples

They are known as the First Peoples, although they go by many names.

Indigenous Peoples, or the IP as we know them, are also sometimes called Aboriginal Peoples or Native Peoples.

The Philippines has an estimated 14 to 17 million IP belonging to 110 ethno-linguistic groups.

Northern Luzon, or the Cordillera Administrative Region, hosts 33 percent of the total IP population. Mindanao has the largest concentration of different IP groups with a 61 percent share, with the Visayas – first site of the spread of Spanish influence – enjoying a sprinkling of IP communities as well.

IP rights are protected by the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which recognizes diversity, and under the framework of national unity and development, mandates state recognition, protection, promotion and fulfillment of the rights of the IP, who are mandated by Republic Act 8371 (Indigenous Peoples Rights Act) of 1997, which recognizes their right to manage their ancestral domains.

The Philippines has an estimated 14 to 17 million IP belonging to 110 ethno-linguistic groups.

✓ Worldwide, IP communities are threatened by development, with their ancestral domains targeted by big business operations, including mining, water and hydro-electric dams and logging, which are driving them out of their territories.

The Philippines's IP consist of a majority of whose languages are Austronesian in origin.

Many of them have converted to Christianity soon after the arrival of Spanish colonizers. Mostly those from the lowland coastal nations have adopted foreign elements of culture.

Ethnolinguistic nations include the Ivatan, Pangasinan, Kapampangan, Tagalog, Bicolano, Visayans (Masbateño, Hiligaynon, Cebuano, Waray, Butuanon, Romblomanon, Kamayo, Cuyonon and Surigaonon), Zamboangueño and Subanon.

While Christianity is prevalent in Luzon and the Visayas, Islam is practiced in western Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago.

In the Agusan Marsh and the highlands of Mindanao, there are native ethnic groups collectively known as the Lumad, many of whom maintain their animistic beliefs and traditions, though some of them have converted to Christianity as well.

Many of them, however, are threatened by internal strife between the government and the others are influenced by Maoist insurgents belonging to the Communist Party of the Philippines-New Peoples' Army.

The earliest humans to settle the Philippines were the Negrito, while first known were the people of the Tabon man remains. Their tribal groups include the Ati and the Aeta.

Editorial

Time to remove the masks in climate change masquerade

THE contradictions, uncertainties and deceptions in the United Nations' climate change agenda are coming to a head.

In a two-fisted report published in October last year, the *Washington Post* lifted the lid on the real score in the ambitious plan to combat climate change. The paper reported that only a few countries are meeting their commitments under the Paris climate agreement concluded in December 2015.

Under the Paris agreement, it was argued that the world has only a decade to take "unprecedented" action to cut carbon emissions and hold global warming to a moderate level.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned that nearly every country will need to significantly scale up the commitments made under the 2015 Paris climate accord if humans hope to avoid disaster. Under the agreement, 195 countries pledged to cut their greenhouse gas emissions to try to keep global warming under 2 degrees Celsius.

But, the *Post* said, it's hard to imagine that will happen, as almost no country is doing a good job meeting the relatively modest goals in place. (The United States was a signatory of the 2015 Paris Agreement, but in 2017 President Trump announced that Washington was pulling out of the pact.)

The Climate Action Tracker reports that most major polluters are making few, if any, efforts to meet their goals. Only seven countries have made commitments or efforts that would achieve the goal of the Paris accord.

Last Friday, on the eve of a crucial climate action summit in New York next month, a UN official declared that the battle to combat climate change will "succeed or fail" in Asia, where growing energy needs are increasing demand for fossil fuels.

Ms. Rachel Kyte, a UN special representative for the UN secretary-general, contended that commitments from countries in Asia to move towards carbon-neutral economies will be crucial.

"It is really in this region where we will succeed or fail in the energy transition in order to be able to meet our climate change goals."

Kyte elaborated on this point as follows:

"Southeast Asia is one of the fastest growing economic regions in the world. This is where population and urbanization mean that electricity demand is expected to triple between 2015 and 2040," warned Kyte.

"In order to meet this, Southeast Asia is currently turning to fossil fuels, many countries are."

New coal plant projects continue throughout the region, particularly in Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines, and countries, including Japan, are funding their construction despite criticism from climate groups.

A key part of the climate summit's success will be China, which remains both a leading emitter and also a key financier of coal plants in the region.

The Philippines should take more than routine interest in the evident plan to place the burden on Asia to meet the UN's ambitious agenda.

We are one country that earnestly signed the Paris pact, and is moving resolutely to honor its commitment.

On Oct. 1, 2015, the Philippines submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), where the country manifested to undertake a 70-percent reduction in GHG emissions from its 2000 levels by 2030 entirely conditional on external support.

The following year, the country inked the Paris Agreement, which establishes a global warming goal of below 2 degrees Celsius from pre-industrial averages and requests, upon ratification, for a definite voluntary pledge on emission reduction as the signatory country's NDC.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed the Instrument of Accession to the Paris Agreement on Feb. 28, 2017, which was unanimously concurred in by the Senate on March 14, 2017, thereby completing the ratification process.

The President has ordered the Department of Energy to transition into cleaner energy alternatives, including solar and wind, and reduce the country's dependence on coal.

Now, it's time for our government to ask, do other countries take their pledges under the Paris pact seriously? Will the climate summit next month make any difference at all?

In September, the masks in this climate masquerade should come off.



US State Department daunted to use 'concerning' on PH drug war

More evidence man-made 'climate change' is hype

By email, I received from a reader timely information on the climate change debate. It consisted of a report on how a scientist of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the US has switched sides from climate alarmist to climate-change denialism.

Headlined, "More evidence man-made 'climate change' is hype," the report read:

"A former NOAA scientist with more than 50 years' experience in weather and climate research reports censoring evidence at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has now crossed to the other side and become a climate-change denier.

"There is a darker — much darker — reason behind those who push man-made climate change.

"Censoring evidence, 'fiddling' with data and silencing skeptics were part of life at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, according to Rex Fleming, a former NOAA scientist who no longer believes carbon dioxide is causing catastrophic climate change.

"Rex Fleming admitted that while he worked for NOAA, he attributed global warming to carbon dioxide despite 'having doubts.'

"Eventually I just read enough to realize it's a totally wrong

direction,' he said in a podcast interview July 25 with British journalist James Delingpole.

"And so, in the past 10 years, I'd say, I've been on the other side.'

His conversion, however, has shut him out of academic journals, despite his Ph.D. in atmospheric science.

"The author of *The Rise and Fall of the Carbon Dioxide Theory of Climate Change*, Fleming told Delingpole he had to travel to Europe to have his 2018 paper on climate change peer-reviewed and published.

"The 'deniers' have so much evidence,' he said, while the global-warming believers 'bring nothing to the table of scientific proof.'

"All they have is hearsay. All they have is media coverage. All they have is government people saying it's true,' said Fleming.

"He said more scientists would abandon the theory, but they are in 'this groove of getting funds for huge, bigger computer systems to run these massive climate models.'

"And they want their salaries to increase. They don't want to change,' he said, describing it as 'a wonderful gravy train.'

"Fleming agreed with Delingpole that carbon dioxide levels historically have risen due to warm temperatures rather than the other way around.

"Past climates have been warm and cold and warm and cold with no changes in carbon dioxide,' he said. 'How can that be a cause when there's no correlation?'

"Fleming said that one of the reasons proponents of the theory of man-caused climate change target the fossil fuel industry is to push socialism.

"They're using a calamity as a measure to get people's attention,' he said. 'So, the climate is a good one to use. Because the media and scientists have wrongly, without any proof, assumed this is the problem.'

"Fleming has more than 50 years of experience as a scientist and manager in weather and climate research, noted Climate Depot."



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXHIBENT OF THE PHILIPPINE PROGRESS SINCE 1900

MANILA BULLETIN
 THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

1
 PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
 STORY

BANNER
 STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

06 AUG 2019
 DATE



SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION

WEEKLY ENVIRONMENT WATCH

July 29-August 4, 2019

San Miguel Corporation's Limay CFB (Circulating Fluidized Bed) power plant undergoes daily emission testing. Average results for the week show its emissions are way below Department of Environment and Natural Resources and World Bank limits.

World Bank limit
 700 PPM



Sulfur Oxide

DENR limit
 487 PPM

World Bank limit
 365 PPM



Nitrogen Oxide

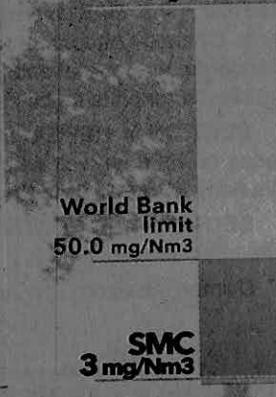
DENR limit
 400 PPM



Carbon Monoxide

DENR limit
 150.0 mg/Nm3

World Bank limit
 50.0 mg/Nm3



Particulate Matter (Dust)



TITLE:

PUNO ng masaker ang Amerika mula kay dating Pangulong Barack Obama hanggang sa kasalukuyang Pangulo na si Donald Trump.

Pero ang binibira ng isang dyaryo, ang New York Times, ay ang pamahalaang Pilipinas sa sulsol ng mga kritiko ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Sinasabi ng New York Times na isa sa pinakamapanganib na bansa ang Pilipinas dahil umano sa sari-saring patayan, lalo na ang kaugnay na giyera sa droga at ukol sa pagmamay-ari at paggamit ng lupa.

Kaiba sa New York Times, sinasabi naman ng Los Angeles Times na ang mapanganib talaga ay ang Amerika.

At tingnan natin ang mga nagaganap ayon sa ulat ni Carolina Miranda na staff writer ng Los Angeles Times.

2 PINAY, 42 IBA PA

Nitong nagdaang mga araw lang, sunod-sunod ang mga masaker na isinagawa ng isang racist o teroristang Kano at may galit sa mga dayuhan.

Unang minasaker ni Patrick Crusius ang 20 kataong magkahalong dayuhan at Mehikano sa Walmart supermall sa El Paso, Texas at nasa border ng America at Mexico at makaraan lang ng 13 oras, pinatay rin ng Kanong si Connor Betts ang 9 katao sa Dayton, Ohio.

Isingit na rin natin ang pagpatay ng dalawang Kano na durugista at selosong matanda sa kanya-kanyang asawa na Pinay sa Texas nitong nakaraang linggo lamang.

Nakilala ang mga Pinay na sina Jacqueline Rose Nicholas at Alyssa Mejia-Rogers.

Nitong nakaraang Mayo 31, minasaker ang 12 empleyado ng munisipyo ng Virginia Beach, Virginia ni DeWane Craddock, civil engineer.

2018: 50

MINASAKER

Patay naman ang 50 katao sa masaker na ginanap sa iba't ibang lugar.

Niratrat ng dating sundalong si Ian David Long ang 12 katao sa Thousand Oak noong Nobyembre 2018.

Minasaker naman ni Robert Bowers, isang



Ni BENNY ANTIPORDA

NEW YORK TIMES, MASAKER SA USA ANG INTINDIHIN NINYO

truck driver, ang 11 Hudyo sa loob mismo ng synagogue o simbahan sa Pittsburgh isang buwan bago ang pagpatay ni David.

Mayo 2018 naman nang masakerin ni Dimitrios Pagourtzis ang 10 niyang kaeskwela na nagtitipon-tipon upang kunin ang kanilang mga diploma sa pagtatapos ng high school sa Texas.

In-expel naman sa iskul si Nikolas Cruz kaya umuwi at pagbalik nito, minasaker na niya ang 17 kapwa niya estudyante sa Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parklang Florida.

134 PATAY SA 2 MASAKER

Noon namang Nobyembre 2017 sa Sutherland Texas, minasaker ni Devin Patrick Kelley, beterano ng US Air Force ang 26 kataong nagsisimba sa First Baptist Church.

Oktubre 2017 naman nang masakerin ni Stephen Paddock ang 58 kataong nagtipon-tipon at nanonobd ng music festival sa Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino sa Las Vegas.

Noong Hunyo 2016 sa Orlando, Florida, minasaker naman ni Omar Mateen ang pagtitipon at sayawan ng mga bading sa isang klab.

48 PATAY SA 4 MASAKER

Noon namang 2015, magkakasunod ang mga masaker na ikinamatay ng 48 katao.

14 ang namatay sa San Bernardino nang pagbabarilin sila ng mag-asawang sina Syed Rizwan Farook, health inspector, at Tashfeen Malik ang kanilang mga kasamahan na nagpa-party noong Disyembre.

Minasaker naman ni Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer, na galit sa mga relihiyoso, ang 9 niyang kaeskwela sa Oregon sa buwan ng Oktubre.

Hindi natin isinama ang iba pang mga masaker na mahigit lima lamang ang biktima.

KALAHATING TOTOO
Reklamo ng ating pa-

mahalaan, kung magla-bas ng ulat ang New York Times, tanging ang mga propaganda lang ng oposisyon ang inilalabas.

Lahat ng pagpatay ay iningunguso sa administrasyong Duterte.

Hindi inilalabas, halimbawa, ng nasabing diyaryo ang katotohanang may mga pagpatay rin mismo ng mga rebeldeng grupo sa mga sibilyan at maging sa mga forest guard.

May mga pagpatay rin ang mga awtoridad noong nakaraang mga administrasyon sa mga kasabwat nila sa droga upang hindi sila mabuko pagdating ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa eksena.

NADATNAN NI DIGONG

Nadatnan ni Pang. Duterte ang mga iskalar na galamay ng droga at iba't ibang krimen na talaga namang pumapatay para tumahimik ang mga testigo laban sa kanila.

At hindi rin isinasama ang mga napapatay na mga pulis at sundalo ng rebeldeng sangkot sa droga at mayayaman at maimpluwensiyang gumagamit ng dahas para mapanatili o maangkin nila ang mga lupaing pinagkakakitaan nila ng limpak-limpak na salapi.

Hindi rin isinasama ng nasabing dyaryo na marami ang napapatay sa mga armas na benta ng mga Kano sa mga naglalaban-laban na pwersa sa Pilipinas.

Kaya naman, maliban sa pagiging sinungaling sa pagsasabi ng kalahating katotohanan at kasinungalingan, kitangkita rin ang pagiging ipokrito ng nasabing diyaryo at kawalan nito ng patas na pag-uulat na siyang isang malaking pamantayan ng tamang pagdidiyaryo.

Anomang reaksiyon o reklamo ay maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa banti-porda@yahoo.com.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
MANILA 1099

July 26, 2019

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO)
NO. 38-2019

SUBJECT: INSTITUTIONALIZING AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION IN THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

WHEREAS, the Basel Convention controls the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6969, the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1999 directs regulatory government agencies including the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to assist the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in monitoring and preventing the entry, even in transit, of hazardous and nuclear wastes;

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Customs, under Republic Act No. 10863 entitled "Customs Modernization and Tariff Act", is mandated among others, to prevent and suppress smuggling and other forms of customs fraud;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Unit under the Enforcement and Security Service was created pursuant to Customs Special Order No. 12-1996 with limited duties and functions;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish, in accordance with law, a permanent and specialized unit known to be known as Environmental Protection and Compliance Division (EPCD) in order to address the unlawful entry of hazardous and other form of waste.

Section 1. SCOPE AND COVERAGE. This CMO covers all importation, whether for consumption, warehousing, transit, or for admission to Free Zones as defined in Section 102 (w) of the CMTA, and all exportation of shipments subject to permitting requisites of RA 10863 and other related laws, rules and regulations.

Section 2. OBJECTIVES.

- 2.1. To institutionalize a specialized unit in the BOC whose primary focus is environmental protection;
- 2.2. To provide uniform guidelines in containing the illicit traffic of hazardous substances and wastes, nuclear wastes, and other chemicals or substances that have adverse effects on the environment; and
- 2.3. To rationalize the procedure in the clearance of shipments containing chemicals or articles regulated by agencies under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) including other chemicals or substances regulated by other government agencies except those falling within the jurisdiction of Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB).

Section 3. STRUCTURE. There shall be created a permanent Environmental Protection and Compliance Division under the Enforcement and Security Service (ESS), Enforcement Group (EG). The EPCD shall be headed by a Senior Officer from the ESS and composed of other ESS Personnel who will be selected by the ESS Director, subject to the approval of the Deputy Commissioner of EG.

Section 4. REALIGNMENT OF CENTRAL ALARM STATION MONITORING UNIT (CASMU) TO EPCD: All Central Alarm Station Monitoring Units established at the Port of Manila, Manila International Container Port and Port of Cebu to ensure the accomplishments of the objectives of MEGAPORTS Initiative Project pursuant to CMO No. 14-2007 are hereby placed under the supervision and control of the Chief, EPCD.

Section 5. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- 5.1. **Alert Order (AO)** - shall refer to a written Order issued by the Commissioner of Customs, District Collector, or other customs officers authorized in writing by the Commissioner after the Lodgment of Goods Declaration and before their actual release from customs custody, on the basis of Derogatory Information (must be in writing and must state the suspected violations and other necessary specifics thereof) regarding possible non-compliance with the CMTA and other laws, rules and regulations enforced by Customs, pursuant to CAO No. 07-2019, entitled "Pre-Lodgement Control Order and Alert Order".
- 5.2. **Certificate of Registration as Importer/Dealer of Imported Wood Materials** - a certificate issued by DENR authorizing person to import logs, lumber, veneer, plywood, other wood based panels, poles and piles, pulpwood, and wood chips pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 99-46, otherwise known as the "Revised Regulations Governing the Entry and Disposition of Imported Logs, Lumber, Veneer, Plywood, Other Wood Based Panels, Poles and Piles, Pulpwood and Wood Chips.
- 5.3. **Chainsaw** - shall refer to any portable power saw or similar cutting implement, rendered operative by an electric or internal combustion engine or similar means that may be used for, but is not limited to, the felling of trees or the cutting of timber.
- 5.4. **Hazardous Substances** - are substances which present either:
 - a. Short-term acute hazard such as acute toxicity by ingestion, inhalation or skin absorption, corrosivity or other skin or eye contact hazard or the risk of fire or explosion.
 - b. Long-term environmental hazard, including chronic toxicity upon repeated exposure, carcinogenicity (which may in some case result from acute exposure but with a long latent period), resistance to detoxification process such as biodegradation, the potential to pollute underground or surface waters, or aesthetically objectionable properties such as offensive odors.

5.5. **Hazardous Wastes are:**

- a. Substances that are without any safe commercial, industrial, agricultural or economic usage and are shipped, transported or brought from the country of origin for dumping or disposal into or in transit through any part of the territory of the Philippines.
- b. By-products, side-products, process residues, spent reaction media, contaminated plat or equipment or other substances from manufacturing operations and as consumer discards of manufactured products which present unreasonable risk and/or injury; to health and safety to the people or to the environment.

5.6. **Importation Clearance for Chemicals under Chemical Control Orders** - a clearance issued to importation in multiple shipments of chemicals under DENR Chemical Control Orders, specifically: *mercury and mercury compounds* (DAO 1997-38); *cyanide and cyanide compounds* (DAO 1997-39); *asbestos and asbestos compounds* (DAO 2000-02); and *lead and lead compounds* (DAO 2013-24). This type of clearance is issued by DENR to limit and regulate the use, manufacture, import, transport, processing, storage, possession and wholesale of the said chemicals.

5.7. **Importation Clearance for Recyclable Materials Containing Hazardous Substances** - an importation clearance issued by DENR, through the Hazardous Waste Management Section, EMB for single or multiple shipments of recyclable materials containing hazardous substances contained in Columns 1 and 2, Table 10.1, Chapter 10 of DENR Administrative Order No. 2013-22 otherwise known as the "Revised Procedures and Standards for the Management of Hazardous Waste".

5.8. **Mineral Ore Export Permit (MOEP)** - a permit issued by DENR for the transport/shipment outside the Philippines of all mineral ore(s), including tailings, by permit holders and other mining rights holders, including small scale mining permits pursuant to R.A. 7942, otherwise known as the "Philippine Mining Act of 1995".

5.9. **Nuclear Wastes** - are hazardous wastes made radioactive by exposure to the radiation incidental to the production or utilization of nuclear fuels but do not include nuclear fuel, or radioisotopes which have reached the final stage of fabrication so as to be usable for any scientific, medical, agricultural, commercial, or industrial purpose.

5.10. **Ozone-Depleting Substances or ODS** - any substance which is controlled under the Montreal Protocol and its amendments. ODS includes CFCs, HCFCs, halons, carbon tetrachloride, methyl chloroform, hydromofluorocarbons, bromochloromethane, and methyl bromide. ODS has an ozone-depleting potential greater than zero (0) and can deplete the stratospheric ozone layer.

5.11. **ODS Alternative substance** - a replacement of ODS with zero Ozone Depleting Potential, such as Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

5.12. **Permit to Import Chainsaw** - a permit issued by DENR authorizing person to import chainsaw pursuant to R.A. 9175, entitled "Chain Saw Act of 2002".

5.13. **Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances (PICCS)** - a list of all existing chemicals and chemical substances, approximately 44,000 chemicals that are used, sold, distributed, imported, processed, manufactured, stored, exported, treated or transported in the Philippines. This includes both hazardous and non-hazardous substances updated by DENR as a result of PMPIN process that will be further reviewed for regulation.

Customs Memorandum Order
No. 38-2019

P2

2/2

- 5.14. **Pre-Manufacturing Pre-Importation Notification (PMPIN Compliance Certificate)** - a certificate issued by DENR through the EMB for new substances not listed on PICCS as authorized by R.A. 6969.
- 5.15. **Pre-Lodgment Control Order (PCLO)** - shall refer to a written Order issued by the Commissioner of Customs, District Collector, or other customs officers authorized in writing by the Commissioner before Lodgment of Goods Declaration or when no Goods Declaration is lodged, on the basis of grounds stated in Section 5.1.1 of CAO No. 07-2019.
- 5.16. **Pre-Shipment Importation Clearance (PSIC) of ODS** - an importation clearance issued by DENR, through the Philippine Ozone Desk, EMB prior to the entry of each ODS and its alternative shipment within the Philippine territory pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 2013-25, entitled "Revised Regulations on the Chemical Control Order for ODS", and EMB Memorandum Circular No. 2005-03 entitled "List of Alternatives to Ozone Depleting Substances".
- 5.17. **Priority Chemical List (PCL) Compliance Certificate** - a certificate issued by DENR, through the Chemical Management Section, EMB to importation of chemicals and chemical substances listed under the DENR Administrative Order No. 2005-27 entitled "Revised Priority Chemical List", and except those chemicals that are already covered by Chemical Control Orders as mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Chemicals under PCL have been determined by DENR to potentially pose unreasonable risk to public health, workplace, and the environment.
- 5.18. **Small Quantity Importation Clearance** - an importation clearance issued by DENR to chemicals which are exempted to the PMPIN Process. It is required prior to importation of less than 1,000 kg/year of pure chemical substances or component chemicals in percentage by weight of product, mixtures not listed in the PICCS.
- 5.19. **Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD)** - shall refer to an order in writing, issued in the name of the Republic of the Philippines and signed by the Collector of Customs, directing a Customs Officer to seize and detain any vessel, aircraft, cargo, goods, animal or any other movable property when the same is subject to forfeiture pursuant to Section 1113, Chapter 4, Title XI of the CMTA.
- 5.20. **Wildlife** - wild forms and varieties of flora and fauna, in all developmental stages, including those which are in captivity or are being bred or propagated.
- 5.21. **Wildlife Export Permit** - a permit issued by DENR authorizing an individual to bring out wildlife from the Philippines to any other country pursuant to R.A. 9147, entitled "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act".
- 5.22. **Wildlife Import Permit** - a permit issued by DENR authorizing an individual to bring in wildlife from another country pursuant to R.A. 9147.
- 5.23. **Wildlife Re-export Permit** - a permit issued by DENR authorizing an individual to bring out of the country a previously imported wildlife pursuant to R.A. 9147.

Section 6. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. The EPCD shall have the following powers and functions:

- 6.1 Monitor the processing of shipments of hazardous substances, wastes products, nuclear wastes, recyclable products, and all other chemicals, products or substances under the regulatory control of DENR, including other chemicals or substances regulated by other government agencies except those falling under the jurisdiction of PDEA and DDB.
- 6.2 Recommend the issuance of Alert Order (AO) and Pre-Lodgment Control Order (PLCO) against shipments suspected of containing goods in violation of CMTA provisions and Environmental Laws.
- 6.3 Investigate cases involving violations of Environmental Laws and to make recommendations for prosecution of violations of the CMTA in relation to Environmental Laws and other applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- 6.4 Collaborate with the Piers and Inspection Division or its equivalent unit in each Port of Entry and prevent the unloading of cargoes from the carrying vessel containing hazardous substances without the requisite permit from DENR.
- 6.5 Coordinate with the X-ray Inspection Project (XIP) in the scanning of cargoes suspected to contain hazardous substances and wastes, recyclable materials, and other similar items.
- 6.6 Represent the BOC in all activities regarding environmental protection conducted by other government agencies and non-government organizations whether local or foreign based institutions.
- 6.7 Represent the government exclusively in all seizure and forfeiture cases and other proceedings within BOC involving Environmental issues.

Section 7. OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS.

- 7.1. All District/Port Collectors shall strictly implement the "No Importation Clearance, No Unloading Policy under Republic Act 6969 and The Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal".
- 7.2. During Boarding Formalities pursuant to Sections 1202, 1203 and 1204 of RA 10863, the Boarding Officer on duty or any Customs Officer acting as such assisted by an EPCD personnel shall not allow the unloading of the following: 1. Hazardous Wastes, 2. Nuclear Wastes, 3. Recyclable Materials containing hazardous substance not covered by Pre-Shipment Importation Clearance (PSIC).
- 7.3. For Break and Break Bulk Cargo shipments of those enumerated in the preceding paragraph, the concerned District/Port Collector shall not issue a Permit to Discharge.
- 7.4. For the effective implementation of this Order, the importers of recyclable materials containing hazardous substances covered with PSIC shall be responsible for the advance submission of the same to the EPCD Central Office at least three (3) days prior to the arrival of the carrying vessel.
- 7.5. The Boarding Officer on duty or any Customs Officer acting as such shall make a report of the shipments to be re-exported and submit the same to the concerned District Collector. The issuance of a Re-Exportation Order is without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal cases pursuant to the applicable provisions of RA 6969, RA 10863, and other related penal laws.
- 7.6. For shipments processed at the Formal Entry Division (FED) and Informal Entry Division (IED), which requires the presentation of the appropriate permits or clearances from the DENR, the assigned Customs Operations Officer (COO) III shall forward the importation documents and permits or clearances to the Office of the EPCD for verification and recordation purposes. For shipments without the required DENR permit or clearance, it shall not be issued a Final Notice of Assessment by the concerned COO V and referred to the EPCD-ESS for the issuance of Alert Order.
- 7.7. For all other shipments processed thru different customs channels and falling under the permitting requirements of the DENR, the concerned COO III or any other customs officer responsible for the examination of goods shall forward the importation documents and permits or clearances to the office of the EPCD for verification and recordation purposes.

Section 8. PENAL PROVISION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTION. Violations of this CMO committed by any person, officer or employee shall be penalized in accordance with Title XIV of the CMTA and other applicable penal provisions in addition to the administrative sanctions that may be imposed by the BOC.

Section 9. ADDITIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS. The Commissioner of Customs may issue additional rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Order.

Section 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. This CMO amends or repeals CSO 12-1996 and all other Orders, Memoranda, Circulars or parts thereof which are inconsistent herewith.

Section 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. In the event that any legislation, governmental regulation or court decision causes invalidation of any part, article or section of this issuance, all other parts, articles and sections not so invalidated shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 12. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect upon publication.

REY LEONARDO B. GUERRERO
Commissioner of Customs
AUG 01 2019

