



**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION ON THE
OPERATIONALIZATION OF DENR-DILG-LGU PARTNERSHIP IN
FOREST MANAGEMENT**



KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION, made and executed by and among:

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
Visayas Avenue, Diliman
Quezon City

The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);
A. Francisco Gold Condominium II
EDSA Corner Mapagmahal St.
Diliman, Quezon City

The League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP);
Unit 2803 Summit I Tower
Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP); and
Suite 1209 Cityland 10 Tower II
Corner Valero MHV Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

The League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP)
#265 Ermin Garcia St.,
Cubao, Quezon City

-WITNESSETH-

WHEREAS, to implement the provisions of RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, on the devolution of forest management functions from the DENR to the LGUs, the DENR and the DILG have issued joint circulars as follows:

- a) DENR-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular No. 98-01 entitled "Manual of Procedures for DENR-DILG-LGU Partnership on Devolved and Other Forest Management Functions"; and
- b) DENR-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2003-01 entitled "Strengthening the DENR-DILG-LGU Partnership on Devolved and Other Forest Management Functions."

[Handwritten signatures of representatives from DENR, DILG, LPP, LCP, and LMP]

WHEREAS, there is now an urgent need to put in operation the devolution of forest management functions from the DENR to the LGUs and strengthen and institutionalize the partnership among DENR, DILG and LGUs in forest management;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, parties hereinto hereby enter into this Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) under the following terms and conditions:

I. Operationalization of National Steering Committee (NSC)

With this MOC, the NSC is hereby made operational.

a) Functions

Subject to the powers and limitations of each agency's mandates, the NSC shall:

- Set the over-all direction for the DENR-DILG-LGU devolution, partnership and co-management in forest management;
- Assist in the identification, establishment of linkages and generation of resources for the partnership and co-management initiatives; and
- Select, recognize and provide incentives to best practices in the DENR-DILG-LGU partnership.

b) Officers / Meetings / Funding




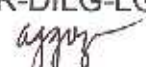
The NSC shall be chaired and co-chaired by the DENR and DILG Secretaries, respectively.

The NSC shall meet at least twice a year. Expenses for the meetings shall be borne by the agency hosting the meeting.

c) Functions / Responsibilities of Partner Agencies

DENR

Issue guidelines and instructions to its field offices that will redound to the devolution of forest management functions and the strengthening and institutionalization of DENR-DILG-LGU partnership.

by-    

DILG

Issue guidelines and instructions to its field offices to support the empowerment of the LGUs and ensure effective collaboration with DENR in furtherance of the partnership.

Leagues of Provinces / Cities and Municipalities

Issue guidelines to their respective LGUs on how to effectively collaborate with DENR field offices to expedite the devolution of forest management functions, and to strengthen and institutionalize partnership and co-management with DENR.

II. **Operationalization of the National Technical Working Group (NTWG)**

The NTWG as called for under DENR-DILG JMC 98-01 and 2003-01 is also hereby made operational.

a) **Functions**

- Act as the Secretariat of the NSC;
- Initiate policies and policy amendments to hasten the devolution, partnership and co-management of forest resources, for consideration and approval of the NSC;
- Assist in the formation of Regional Steering Committees and oversee the operations of the same;
- Formulate pro-forma MOAs on the partnership, the devolution of forest management functions and co-management, specifying therein the roles and responsibilities of each of the parties. All documents of partnerships, devolution and co-management in the field shall be furnished the NTWG for monitoring and record purposes;
- Prepare regular status reports on the partnership, devolution and co-management, highlighting lessons learned, and best practices;
- Maintain data base for the DENR-DILG-LGU Partnership;
- Prepare appropriate communications for regional, provincial, municipal/city DENR, DILG and LGU offices that will facilitate and strengthen partnership, devolution and co-management;
- Bring to the attention of the NSC matters requiring immediate attention and resolution; and

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Middle: a signature.
Right side: a signature and the word "agreed" written above it.

- Perform such other functions as may be mandated by the NSC.

b) Organization / Meetings / Funding

- The NTWG shall be chaired by the Director, FMB and co-chaired by the Directors of the Bureau of Local Government Development and the Bureau of Local Government Supervision. The various Leagues shall designate their permanent representatives to the NTWG;
- The NTWG shall meet at least quarterly or as often as necessary for the performance of its functions.
- Funding for meetings shall be shouldered by the agency hosting the meeting or as may be agreed upon.


III. Effectivity / Amendments


This Memorandum of Cooperation shall take effect upon the signing hereof by the parties, and may be amended by mutual written agreement of all the parties hereto.

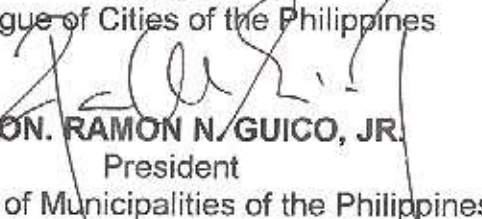
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our signatures, this _____ at _____.


HON. ELISEA G. GOZUN
DENR Secretary


HON. JOSE D. LINA, JR.
DILG Secretary


HON. RODOLFO P. DEL ROSARIO
President
League of Provinces of the Philippines


HON. FRANCIS N. TOLENTINO
President
League of Cities of the Philippines


HON. RAMON N. GUICO, JR.
President
League of Municipalities of the Philippines