



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26**  
**Series of 2021**

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING MEASURES IN ENHANCING THE OVERALL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND BETTER USE OF PUBLIC PARKS AND GREEN SPACES WITH EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY AND ITS LINK TO HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND GREEN RECOVERY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 7586 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992, and Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 mandate and state to protect and conserve biological diversity;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 1216 provides that there is a compelling need to create and maintain a healthy environment in human settlements by providing open spaces, roads, alleys and sidewalks as may be deemed suitable to enhance the quality of life of the residents therein;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 578 was implemented by the President of the Philippines establishing the national policy on biological diversity, prescribing its implementation throughout the country;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides in its general welfare clause that within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the government to create and maintain a healthy environment in human settlements by providing open spaces, roads, alleys, and sidewalks as may be deemed suitable to enhance the quality of life of the residents therein;

**WHEREAS**, the province of Occidental Mindoro aims the conservation of biodiversity and establish programs focusing on development of public parks and green spaces in harmony with human settlements;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDUARDO B. GADIANO**, Governor of the Province of Occidental Mindoro, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. POLICY AND MEASURES.**

In accordance with law, it is the policy of the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro to conserve biodiversity in harmony with human settlements and to provide measures to fulfill this goal, such as: enhancing programs focusing on development of non-functional open spaces into green open spaces, water pipelines, powerline easements, railway line buffer, linear parks, civic spaces, active-open spaces; increasing of green spaces using native and indigenous



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**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

flora and fauna species; establishment of nurseries of native and indigenous species; promoting flagship species; and, creating biodiversity-related jobs.

## **SECTION 2. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

In the fulfillment of the goal in the preceding section, the Provincial Government shall have the following functions:

1. Map all green spaces within the jurisdiction;
2. Coordinate with the local Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) for the programs on urban biodiversity conservation and management;
3. Secure site profile and assessment of all the green spaces;
4. Secure Localized Biodiversity Index;
5. Secure Biodiversity Management Plan approved by the local DENR;
6. Enact resolutions or ordinances adopting the Biodiversity Management Plan;
7. Conduct Urban Biodiversity programs which shall be included in the Annual Investment Plan (AIP); and,
8. Increase for at least five percent (5%) the green spaces/total natural areas within its jurisdiction.

## **SECTION 3. REPEALING CLAUSE.**

All executive orders, rules and regulation and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order, are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

## **SECTION 4. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.**

Any portion or provision of this Executive Order that maybe declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying its other portions or provisions, as long as such remaining portions can still be given effect.

## **SECTION 5. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.**

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until repealed or revoked.

**DONE** in the province of Occidental Mindoro, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021.

  
**EDUARDO B. GADIANO**  
Governor