Series of 2024

AN ORDER CREATING THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) FOR MINDORO BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR PROGRAM, PROVIDING FOR ITS FUNCTIONS, AND OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with support form the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), received in April 2020 the funding approval from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the project entitled "Integrated Approach in Management of Major Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines", otherwise known as the BD Corridor Project;

WHEREAS, the DENR, pursuant to Executive Order No. 192 dated June 10, 1987 is the primary Philippine government agency mandated to conserve, manage, develop and protect the country's environment and natural resources for the benefit of the present and future generations;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro is a local government unit mandated by the Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code, to share with the national government the responsibility in the management and maintenance of ecological balance within their territorial jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Cooperation on the "Integrated Approach In Management Of Major Biodiversity Corridors In The Philippines" otherwise known as the "BD Corridor Project" was signed between the DENR MIMAROPA and PGOM to further strengthen commitment to sustainable development;

WHEREAS, the primary objective of BD Corridor Project is to operationalize integrated management of biodiversity corridors to generate multiple benefits including effective conservation of globally threatened species and high conservation value forests, reduce deforestation and degradation and enhance local biodiversity-friendly livelihoods;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a Technical Working Group (TWG) to ensure effective coordination and collaboration among various stakeholders for the successful implementation of Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor in the province of Occidental Mindoro;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eduardo B. Gadiano, by virtue of the powers vested in me as the Governor of Occidental Mindoro, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1: Creation of the Technical Working Group (TWG). The Technical Working Group for the Biodiversity Corridor Project shall be composed of the following members:

Chairperson

Hon. EDUARDO B. GADIANO

Governor

Vice-Chairperson

CELSO B. ALMAZAR

OIC-Technical Services Division, PENRO

Members

IRENEO M. CORTUNA

ENRO

Engr. ANTHONY A. DANTIS
PPDC

Engr. ALRIZZA C. ZUBIRI OPA

MA. LUCILLE B. HERNANDEZ
Focal Person, Tourism Development

MA. CRISTINA I. TAJONERA LEDIPO

ADELFA D. HORDILLA PCDO

EMRITO CRISTALINO, EnP MPDO, Abra de Ilog

Engr. MANUEL ERWIN GAUPO MPDO, Paluan

ELSION GIRAO MPDO, Mamburao

Engr. RODRITO TAPALES MPDO, Sta. Cruz

LUZVIMINDA ALTO, EnP MPDO, Sablayan

CAROL AMURAO MPDO, Calintaan

RANDY RAMOS MPDO, Rizal

JOSEPH SALGADO MPDO, San Jose

LORD PRIAM CORDOVA, EnP MPDO, Magsaysay

ALAIN M. MAULION

Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor Project Manager

SECTION 2: Secretariat. The secretariat for the TWG shall be jointly handled by the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor (MBC) and the Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office (PGENRO). They shall be responsible for the administrative and logistical support necessary for the TWG's effective functioning.

SECTION 3: Functions and Responsibilities. The TWG shall perform the following functions and responsibilities:

- a) Coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor in the respective municipalities.
- b) Monitor the progress of activities related to the project and address any challenges faced during implementation.
- c) Facilitate communication and collaboration among various stakeholders involved in the project.
- d) Submit regular reports and updates to the Office of the Governor regarding the status of the project implementation.
- e) Draft policies, regulations, and approaches to improve in governance, planning, management, and financing of activities within the Occidental Mindoro biodiversity corridor;
- f) Strengthen community level mechanisms to incentivize conservation of biodiversity, benefit-sharing, promote sustainable natural resource utilization and biodiversityfriendly enterprises and monitor compliance;
- g) Facilitate the institutionalization of the IEM through drafting of policies, Executive Orders, resolutions, ordinances and other enabling laws, programs, and activities;
- h) Facilitate the revitalization and mobilization of a multi-sectoral enforcement and compliance teams e.g., *Bantay Gubat* to monitor and prevent destructive activities in the biodiversity corridor in Occidental Mindoro; and
- Develop a system of data and provide mutual access to such data to support the development of necessary conservation and management plans for the Occidental Mindoro Biodiversity Corridor.

Section 4. Meeting. The Technical Working Group shall convene on a quarterly basis, or as often as needed. There shall be minutes to be prepared on each meeting.

Section 5. Separability Clause. If any part of this order is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All prior orders, rules, regulations, and issuances or parts thereof, issued by the Province, that are inconsistent with this Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this <u>// +h</u> day of <u>January</u> 2024 at the Provincial Capitol, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro, Philippines.

