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Item No.: 16  
Date: APR 18 2023

Office of the Vice Governor

**Received**

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
Baras, Palo, Leyte

Email: [penroleyte@yahoo.com](mailto:penroleyte@yahoo.com) Telephone No.: (053) 832-4283/ (050) 323-7485

By: Ken  
Date: LEYTE 4/17/23  
Time: 4:20 pm  
SP-284/17/23

04 April 2023

**HON. LEONARDO JAVIER, JR.**  
Vice Governor  
Province of Leyte  
Leyte Provincial Government Complex  
Palo, Leyte

DENR PENRO LEYTE  
RELEASED  
DATE: 4/17/23  
BY: [Signature] 11:53

Dear Hon. Javier:

Environmental greetings!

The DENR Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), in its capacity as the National Focal Agency for the ASEAN Task Force on Peatlands (ATFP), with the support from the Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH will be implementing the ASEAN-EU-GIZ Sustainable Use of Peatlands and Haze Mitigation (SUPA) Country Project entitled "Ensuring Sustainable Benefits from Peatland through Protection and Wise Use (ESBenePeat)". The project is covered by a Grant Agreement by and between the DENR-BMB and GIZ, with the implementation period of 2 years from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023. Its primary purpose is to ensure the provision of the ecological functions and services of the Philippines' peatlands, including the Leyte Sab-a Basin Peatland (LSBP), through its protection and sustainable management. Under its Work Package 4: Protection and Rehabilitation of Peatlands, one of the activities is to initiate the establishment of the peatland as a local conservation area (LCA).

In connection to this, we would like to appeal to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan for the formulation of a provincial ordinance declaring LSBP as an LCA. Our office will support the necessary steps for this undertaking such as organizing meetings to have this ordinance enacted. Per information, Hon. Board Member Atty. Ronnan Christian Reposar, in his capacity as representative of the Environmental Legal Assistance Center, Inc. (ELAC) during the time of the implementation of the SUPA Component 2 under the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), has already started coming up with a peatland conservation ordinance which includes the declaration of LSBP as an LCA.

Thank you for your continued support and we are hoping for your favorable action towards this undertaking.

Sincerely yours,

**Forester ALEJANDRO K. BAUTISTA**  
OIC, PENR Officer



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE LEYTE**  
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DENR PENRO LEYTE  
RELEASED

DATE: 4/11/23  
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