

Absent

1. DDG Augusto B. Santos - Member  
Deputy Director General, NEDA

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**PCSD RESOLUTION NO. 06-274**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED JOINT NCIP-PCSD  
MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR ON THE HARMONIZATION OF THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS ACT (IPRA)  
AND THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN FOR PALAWAN ACT**

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**WHEREAS**, R.A. 7611, otherwise known as the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan, which took effect on 19 June 1992 provides that the SEP shall serve as the framework to guide the government agencies concerned in the formulation of plans, programs and projects affecting the environment and natural resources of Palawan;

**WHEREAS**, Section 7 of R.A. 7611 provides that the SEP shall establish a graded system of protection and development control over the whole of Palawan, including its tribal lands, forests, mines, agricultural areas, settlement areas, small islands, mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds and the surrounding sea known as the Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN);

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous People Rights Act of 1997, was passed into law to recognize, protect and promote the rights of the indigenous people by instituting and establishing the necessary mechanisms to enforce and guarantee the realization of these rights, taking into consideration their customs, traditions, values, beliefs, interests and institutions, and to adopt and implement measures to protect their rights to their ancestral domains;

**WHEREAS**, both the PCSD and the NCIP adhere to the Strategic Environmental Plan as the comprehensive framework for the sustainable development of Palawan and recognize the preferential rights of ICCs/IPs to benefit from the natural resources within their ancestral lands;

**WHEREAS**, in order to enhance the delivery of public service to the indigenous people in the province of Palawan, there is a need to clarify the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the NCIP and the PCSD with respect to ancestral domains/ancestral lands;

**WHEREAS**, the PCSD Legal Committee, which has been reactivated on June 19, 2002 in order to serve as the Council's (PCSD) legal body for legal matters brought before it, endorsed for approval the proposed Joint NCIP-PCSD Memorandum Circular on the "Harmonization of the Implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act and the Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan";

**WHEREAS**, this Council adheres to the general policy of the state to promote and protect the rights of the Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous People to their ancestral domains and agrees to the importance of promoting indigenous ways for the sustainable management of the natural resources;

**WHEREFORE**, on motion duly seconded, be it **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, that the proposed Joint NCIP-PCSD Memorandum Circular on the "Harmonization of the Implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act and the Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan" be approved;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that copies of this resolution be furnished to the agencies concerned for their information and appropriate action.

**ADOPTED** and **APPROVED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006 in Puerto Princesa City.

I hereby certify to the correctness and accuracy of the above-quoted resolution.

**ROMEO B. DORADO**  
Secretary

APPROVED:

  
**ABRAHAM KAHLIL B. MITRA**  
PCSD Chairman