



Republic of the Philippines
(Republic Act No. 7611)

PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Excerpts from the Minutes of the 259th PCSD Regular Meeting
Hue Hotel, Puerto Princesa North Rd, Bgy. San Manuel,
Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
9:00 a.m., October 24, 2019

Present:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Hon. Jose Ch. Alvarez, Governor of Palawan | Chair |
| 2. Vice Gov. Victorino Dennis M. Socrates, Sangguniang Panlalawigan | Vice Chair |
| 3. Dir. Nelson P. Devanadera, Executive Director, PCSDS | Secretary |
| 4. Usec. Rodolfo C. Garcia, DENR | Member |
| 5. VADM Rene V Medina, WESCOM Commander | Member |
| 6. Mr. Bobby L. Castro, Private Sector Representative | Member |
| 7. Hon. Mayor Amy R. Alvarez, President, LMP | Member |

Represented:

- | | |
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| 8. Usec. Adoracion M. Navarro, Deputy Director General, NEDA | Member |
| Represented by Mr. Bernardino Atienza | |

Absent:

- | | |
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| 9. Mayor Lucilo R. Bayron, Puerto Princesa City | Member |
| 10. Hon. Ferdinand D. Zaballa, Liga ng mga Barangay | Member |
| 11. Atty. Jansen Jontila, NGO Representative | Member |
| 12. Usec. Ariel T. Cayanan, DA | Member |

PCSD RESOLUTION NO. 19-684

“ENDORISING THE ENACTMENT OF THE REVISED NATIONAL LAND USE ACT (NaLUA) SUBJECT TO CONFORMITY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7611 OR THE STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN (SEP) FOR PALAWAN ACT”

WHEREAS, R.A. 7611, otherwise known as the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan, took effect on 19 June 1992 and Section 6 of the said law 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;

Vision: Palawan, an innovative and dynamic global center of sustainable development

Mission: PCSDS as the driver of environmental conservation and inclusive development in Palawan, a biosphere reserve and science-for-sustainability site, guided by the Strategic Environmental Plan

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WHEREAS, Section 7 of the same provides that the SEP shall establish, as its main strategy, 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), and which shall ensure the following: forest conservation and protection; protection of watersheds; preservation of biological diversity; protection of tribal people and the preservation of their culture; maintenance of maximum sustainable yield; protection of the rare and endangered species and their habitat; provision of areas for environmental and ecological research, education and training; and provision of areas for tourist and recreation;

WHEREAS, Section 16 thereof provides that the governance, implementation and policy direction of the SEP shall be exercised by the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD);

WHEREAS, Section 19 of RA 7611 provides that the PCSD shall (5) Recommend to the Congress of the Philippines such matters that may require legislation in support of the objectives of the SEP; (8) Adopt, amend and rescind such rules and regulations and impose penalties therefore for the effective implementation of the SEP and the other provisions of this Act; (9) enforce the provisions of this Act and other existing laws, rules and regulations similar to or complementary with this Act; (10) perform related functions which shall promote the development, conservation, management, protection, and utilization of the natural resources of Palawan; and (11) perform such other powers and functions as may be necessary in carrying out its functions, powers, and the provisions of this Act;

WHEREAS, during the 257th PCSD meeting, NEDA Assistant Secretary (ASec) Mercedita Sombilla presented before the Council the background and salient features of the proposed national land use act (NaLUA);

WHEREAS, as presented by ASec Sombilla, the National Land Use Council (NLUC) initiated in 1995 the national land use act (NaLUA) advocacy with the goal of providing legal basis for the formulation of national framework for physical planning;

WHEREAS, from the 10th to the 17th Congress, various versions of the NaLUA bill underwent deliberations, and President Rodrigo R. Duterte, during his last State of the Nation Address (SONA), appealed to all legislators to *“immediately pass the NaLUA to ensure the rational and sustainable use of our land and our physical resources, given the competing needs of food security, housing, businesses and environmental conservation”*;

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2019, the National Economic and Development (NEDA) Board-NLUC approved Resolution No. 1, series of 2019 adopting the NLUC version of the proposed NaLUA;

WHEREAS, some of the salient features of the proposed NaLUA state: (1) mandate the process for the formulation, review, adoption, and approval of physical framework and land use plans at the national, regional, and local levels; (2) provide major considerations and parameters on land use planning (e.g. identification of hazard prone areas, recognition of ancestral domain, protection of environmentally-critical areas and prime agricultural lands, physical characteristics of areas, and nature of land use conflicts of fast track resolution; (3) land use conflicts are inevitable, unavoidable, and are likely to increase and intensify as

population increases; (4) the exploration, development and use of marine resources in Philippine waters shall be reserved exclusively to Filipinos; (5) Identify and clearly describe areas of special concern and provides guidelines and prerequisites for their proper and rational delineation, classification/reclassification, allocation, establishment, utilization, and management (e.g. forest lands and watershed reservation, coastal zones, agricultural lands, mineral lands, energy resource lands, settlements, lands for tourism, lands for infrastructure development, etc); and (6) Mandate the inclusion of sustainable land use education to create a well-informed, responsible, and committed citizenry who values the country's land and other natural resources;

WHEREAS, the Council shares the view of the NEDA-NLUC as regards the institutionalization of land use and physical planning as a mechanism for identifying and evaluating land use patterns in the country;

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the necessity and significance of protecting and advancing the Filipino people's right to a balanced and healthful ecology through the rational allocation, utilization, development and management of Philippines' land resources consistent with the principles of sustainable development and inclusive growth;

WHEREAS, the Council also recognizes the valuable impact of the proposed NaLUA to the Province of Palawan and deems it necessary to stress that the ECAN zoning strategy prescribed in the SEP served as the graded system of protection and development control in the whole province and is consistent with the zoning system for biosphere reserves under the 1995 Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves;

WHEREFORE, foregoing premises considered, and upon motion duly seconded, the Council resolves to **ENDORSE, AS IT IS HEREBY ENDORSED**, the enactment of the Revised National Land Use Act (NaLUA) subject to conformity with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7611;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the following recommendations shall be taken into account in the finalization of the proposed NaLUA:

NALUA Provision	Recommendation
	The provisions of NALUA shall have suppletory effect in the implementation of RA 7611.
Section 7. Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plans	In the province of Palawan, the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) shall be coordinated and aligned with the SEP policy and framework, in accordance with R.A. No. 7611.
Section 8. City and Municipal Land Use Plans	Pursuant to the legal effects of R.A. 7611 (Section 6), the City/Municipal Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) in the Province of Palawan and the City of Puerto Princesa shall be aligned with the SEP policy and framework and ECAN strategy.

NALUA Provision	Recommendation
Section 13. Basic Land Use/Physical Planning Considerations	The existing ECAN system shall serve as the physical framework for all land and water uses including tribal lands in Palawan in accordance with Sections 7 to 11 of R.A. 7611.
Section 18. Regional Land Use Policy Committee (RLUPC)	In Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), the PCSD Chairperson shall be a member of the RLUPC.
Section 19. Provincial Land Use Policy Committee (PLUPC)	In the province of Palawan, the Executive Director of PCSDS shall be a member of the PLUPC.
Section 20. City/Municipal Land Use Committee (C/MLUC)	In the city of Puerto Princesa and each of the municipalities of Palawan, the District Manager of PCSDS shall be a member of the C/MLUC.
Section 33. Establishment and Management of National Parks	The preparation of management plans of protected areas/national parks in the Province of Palawan shall be in accordance with the provisions of RA 7611 and RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038 and other laws establishing or declaring a specific area as permanent component of the NIPAS.


RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this resolution be sent to NEDA-NLUC and all other concerned agencies and parties for information and guidance;

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 24th day of October 2019 in Puerto Princesa City, Philippines.

I hereby certify that the above-quoted resolution has been duly adopted by the PCSD on the 24th day of October 2019.


NELSON P. DEVANADERA
 Secretary 

ATTESTED BY:


JOSE CH. ALVAREZ
 Chair, PCSD 