

Republic of the Philippines
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
(R.A. 7611)
Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

Excerpts from the Minutes of the 31st Council Meeting of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development held at the Conference Room of the Western Command, Puerto Princesa City, 28 October 1994.

Present:

Gov. Salvador F. Socrates	-	Chairman
Cong. David A. Ponce de Leon	-	Vice-Chairman
Exec. Dir. Arthur R. Ventura	-	Secretary
Cong. Alfredo E. Abueg Jr.	-	Member
Maj. Crispiniano G. Acosta Jr.	-	Member
Rev. Fr. Armando R. Limsa	-	Member
Mr. Vic Milan	-	Member
Atty. Teodoro Q. Pena	-	Member
Vice Gov. Joel T. Reyes	-	Member
Maj. Gen. Carlos F. Tanega	-	Member
RED Wilfrido Pollisco representing Usec. Ricardo M. Umali	-	Member
Ms. Marilou C. Lonzana representing Kgd. Elegio P. Quejano Jr.	-	Member

Absent:

Usec. Joemari D. Gerochi	-	Member
Dep. Dir. Gen. Aniceto M. Sobrepena	-	Member
Usec. Ricardo M. Umali	-	Member
Mayor Wenceslao de las Alas	-	Member
Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn	-	Member
Kgd. Elegio P. Quejano Jr.	-	Member

PCSD RESOLUTION NO. 94-63

RESOLUTION AMENDING PCSD RESOLUTION NO. 94-51 GIVING PREFERENTIAL RIGHTS TO THE INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN THE COLLECTION AND GATHERING OF MINOR FOREST PRODUCTS IN PALAWAN

WHEREAS, R.A. 7611, otherwise known as the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan, took effect on 18 June 1992 and Section 16 of said Act provides that the governance, implementation and policy direction of the SEP shall be exercised by the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), under the Office of the President;

WHEREAS, Section 6 of R. A. 7611 also 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;

1 REF. FILE NO. 2-5E-1559(3) *A*

WHEREAS, the PCSD, in its 26th Council meeting held on 26 July 1984, adopted, through Resolution No. 84-51, a policy of giving preferential rights to the indigenous cultural communities (ICCs) of Palawan to collect and gather minor forest products in the province;

WHEREAS, the Palawan Bagtik Association appealed to the Council for reconsideration on the aforesaid Resolution citing, among others, that (a) the said policy would be prejudicial to its members considering that they have been operating their almaciga resin concessions judiciously for several decades, (b) the present concessionnaires only inherited this kind of livelihood from their forefathers, (c) the concessionnaires have been properly paying their gatherers, most of which are members of the ICCs;

WHEREAS, the members of the ICCs, on the other hand, counters that the concessionnaires have been taking advantage by not paying properly and/or "exploiting" the members of the ICCs in the collection and gathering of minor forest products, specifically almaciga resin;

NOW THEREFORE, upon joint motion by Atty. Teodoro Q. Pena and Cong. Alfredo E. Abueg Jr., all the members of the Council present;

RESOLVED, as it hereby resolve, that PCSD Resolution No. 84-51 be amended;

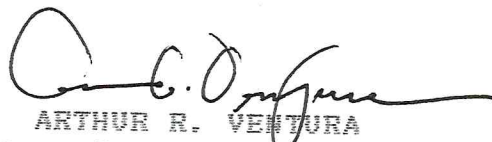
RESOLVED FURTHER, that the amendments shall be as follows:

1. A study shall be undertaken by the PCSD Staff to determine the "economics" including the pricing of almaciga resin from gathering to marketing. In this regard, DENR Region IV-B commits to provide data and information on the existing licensees.
2. Until finally decided by the Council, the present almaciga concessionnaires shall be allowed to renew their permits/licenses subject to existing evaluation procedures.
3. For potential areas not covered by an existing almaciga resin concession, the members of the ICCs shall be given preferential rights to apply for and acquire licenses/permits to collect and gather the said minor forest product.

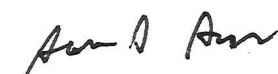
RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this resolution be furnished to all concerned agencies for their information, consideration and appropriate action.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of October, 1994 in Puerto Princesa City.

Certified True and Correct:


ARTHUR R. VENTURA
Secretary

Approved:


SALVADOR P. SOCRATES
Chairman

RMS/res94-63K