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Refer To: Committee on Laws and Justice and Human Rights/Environmental Protection and Ecology



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



Provincial Governor's Office

December 5, 2025

THE HONORABLE MEMBERS
Office of the Provincial Council
This Province

Thru: **HON. MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.**
Vice Governor & Presiding Officer

RELEASED
PGO-SURIGAO DEL SUR
SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: DATE: 12-5-25 TIME: 11:00 AM

Sir:

Greetings!

May we request for an **URGENT** passage of a Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution authorizing the Provincial Governor to enter into by and among and sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, duly represented by its Officer-in-Charge, Regional Director, Maritess M. Ocampo et al., regarding the creation of Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council.

Attached are copies of the proposed MOA for your perusal.

We are hoping for your favourable action on the matter.

Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Date: _____
Time: _____
Received by: _____
SURIGAO DEL SUR Telephone No.: (086) - 211 - 5832
E-Mail: tpsurigaosur@yahoo.com
OSSP-SDS-25-05330

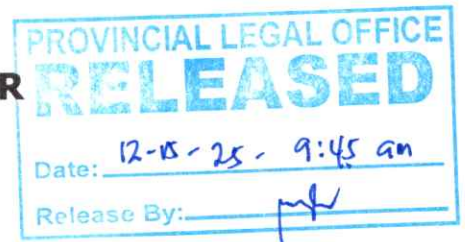
Truly yours,

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG

Provincial Legal Office



2nd Indorsement
December 5, 2025



Respectfully returned to **Governor Johnny T. Pimentel** the herein 1st Indorsement dated December 1, 2025, re: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON THE CREATION OF HINATUAN RIVRE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (HRWMC). After review, the undersigned recommends that the Governor signs the agreement after obtaining an authority to sign from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.


ATTY. LIMUEL L. AUZA
Provincial Legal Officer



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
TANDAG CITY



Office of the Governor

SUBJECT: LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 26, 2025 REGARDING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON THE CREATION OF HINATUAN RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (HRWMC)

RELEASED
PGO-SURIGAO DEL SUR

1st Indorsement
Decemeber 1, 2025

SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: DATE: 12/01/2025 9:41 AM

Respectfully indorsed to **Atty. Limuel L. Auza, Provincial Legal Officer**, this Province, the herein basic communication and draft of MOA from Thelma S. Alcoberes, PENR Officer, this Province, for your review comments and recommendation.

JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor
By Authority of the Governor :

[Signature]
MARJORIE V. PAGARAN
ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
DATE: 12-01-25
TIME: 10:15
BY: *[Signature]*
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR
PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Local Government Office
(PENRO-LGU)
Capitol Hills, Tandag, Surigao del Sur

November 26, 2025

HON. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor
Capitol Hills, Tandag City
Province of Surigao del Sur

RECEIVED
GO-SURIGAO DEL SUR
ARNIN C. CORDOVEZ
SIGNATURE OVER PRINTED NAME
CONTROL NO: 2001 DATE: 11/27/25 TIME: 8:57 AM

Dear Governor Pimentel,

Good day!

I am writing to formally request your endorsement to the honorable members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan regarding the issuance of an SP Resolution pertaining to the attached Memorandum of Agreement on the creation of the Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council (HRWMC). The details outlined in the agreement are self-explanatory.

The proposed resolution aims to authorize Hon. Johnny T. Pimentel, as the Provincial Governor, to enter into and sign the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the Provincial Government of Surigao del Sur.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to your supportive action on this matter.

Respectfully yours,


THELMA S. ALCOBERES
PENR Officer *CA*

59 The **MUNICIPALITY OF LIANGA**, Province of Surigao del Sur, a municipality created and
60 existing by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, herein represented by **Municipal**
61 **Mayor HON. AMADO M. LAYNO, JR.;**
62
63 The **PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE –**
64 **SURIGAO DEL SUR**, a national government agency with office address at Telaje, Tandag City,
65 Surigao del Sur, herein represented by its **OIC-PENR Officer, ADELFO R. LUENGAS, JR.;**
66
67 The **PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE – AGUSAN**
68 **DEL SUR**, a national government agency with office address at Patin-ay, Prosperidad, Agusan
69 del Sur herein represented by its **OIC-PENR Officer, NORMAN A. ASUGAN;**
70
71 The **COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE – BISLIG**,
72 a national government agency with office address at Brgy. Mangagoy, Bislign City, herein
73 represented by its **CENR Officer, ROMEL B. ARBOLONIO;**
74
75 The **COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE –**
76 **BUNAWAN**, a national government agency with office address at Bunawan, Agusan del Sur,
77 herein represented by its **CENR Officer, JEROME H. ALBIA;**
78
79 The **COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE –**
80 **LIANGA**, a national government agency with office address at Poblacion, Lianga, Surigao del
81 Sur, herein represented by its **CENR Officer, JOSEPH E. LANGANLANGAN;**
82
83 The **COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE –**
84 **BAYUGAN**, a national government agency with office address at Maygatasan Bayugan, Agusan
85 del Sur, herein represented by its **CENR Officer, SARAH P. PAREJO;**
86
87 The **NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION**, a national government agency with
88 office addresses at Brgy. Bancasi, Butuan City herein represented by its **Regional Director RUBY**
89 **C. TUAN, JR.;**
90
91 The **NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION (NIA) SURIGAO DEL SUR**
92 **IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE**, a national government agency with office address
93 at Brgy. Tabon-tabon, Tago, Surigao del Sur, herein represented by **Acting Division Manager**
94 **ENGR. PAUL P. URBIZTONDO;**
95
96 The **HINATUAN WATER DISTRICT**, with office address at Brgy. Sto. Niño, Hinatuan, Surigao
97 del Sur herein represented by its **General Manager ENGR. JOSE HILARIO V. PANDILI, JR.;**
98
99 The **TAGBINA WATER DISTRICT**, with office address at Brgy. Poblacion, Tagbina, Surigao
100 del Sur herein represented by its **TWD Manager ILDEFONSO C. ALBARRACIN;**
101
102 The **BAROBO WATER DISTRICT**, with office address at Brgy. Poblacion, Barobo, Surigao del
103 Sur herein represented by its **BWD Manager JOEL L. PANTALEON;**
104
105 The **NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**, a national government
106 agency with office addresses at Samping Avenue, J.C Aquino Ave, Butuan City. herein
107 represented by its **Regional Director JULIUS L. MABINI**
108
109 The _____ **(IPs Representative)** with office
110 address at Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur herein represented by **To be identified**
111 _____;
112
113 The _____ **(IPs Representative)** with office
114 address at Tagbina, Surigao del Sur herein represented by **To be identified**
115 _____;
116

117 The _____ **(IPs Representative)** _____ with office
118 address at Barobo, Surigao del Sur herein represented by To be identified
119 _____;
120
121 The **MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL OF HINATUAN**, with
122 office address at Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur herein represented by its President **CLARENCIO L.**
123 **FRAGA**
124
125 The **MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL OF TAGBINA**, with
126 office address at Tagbina, Surigao del Sur herein represented by its President **ROBERT T.**
127 **LAOLAO**
128
129 The **MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY COUNCIL OF BAROBO**, with office
130 address at Barobo, Surigao del Sur herein represented by its President **ALLAN ADLAWAN**;
131
132 The **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU**, a national government agency with
133 office address at Brgy. Ambago, Butuan City herein represented by **Regional Director ENGR.**
134 **DENNIS O. CELESTIAL, MM**;
135
136 The **MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU**, a national government agency with office at Km.
137 02, National Highway, Surigao City herein represented by **Regional Director ENGR. LARRY**
138 **M. HERADEZ**;
139
140 The **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS**, a national government agency
141 with the office addresses at J. Rosales Avenue, Butuan City herein represented by its **OIC-**
142 **Regional Director ALEX B. RAMOS**;
143
144 The **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**, a national government agency with office address
145 Capitol Drive, Butuan City, herein represented by its **Regional Director ARLAN M.**
146 **MANGELEN**;
147
148 The **DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM**, a national government agency with office
149 address at CTP Building, Kilometer 4, Barangay Libertad, Butuan City, herein represented by its
150 **Regional Director ATTY. MERLITA S. CAPINPUYAN**;
151
152 The **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE-13**, an agency of the Republic of the Philippines with
153 office address Camp Rafael Rodriguez, Brgy. Libertad, Butuan City herein represented by its
154 **Regional Director PBGEN MARCIAL MARIANO P MAGISTRADO IV**;
155
156 The **NORTH EASTERN MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY (NEMSU)** a state university
157 with office address at Tandag City duly represented by its **PRESIDENT DR. NEMESIO G.**
158 **LOAYON**.
159
160 The **HINATUAN SOUTHERN COLLEGE**, a community college with office address at Brgy.
161 Maharlika, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur duly represented by its **COLLEGE PRESIDENT ENGR.**
162 **JUANITO A. BALBUTIN, PhD.**
163
164 The **DIOCESE OF TANDAG**, SEC Registered Corporation Sole with address at Brgy. Mabua,
165 Tandag City duly represented by **MOST REVEREND RAUL DAEL, DD.**
166
167 The **DIOCESE OF PROSPERIDAD**, a SEC Registered Corporation Sole with address at
168 Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur, duly represented by **MOST REVEREND RUBEN C. LABAJO,**
169 **DD.**
170
171 The **67TH INFANTRY BATALLION PHILIPPINE ARMY**, with office address at Camp
172 Ramon Apostol, Salingcomot, Baganga, Davao Oriental herein represented by its Commanding
173 Officer, **LTC EDWIN L PIA INF (GSC) PA.**

174 The 3RD **SPECIAL FORCES (ARROWHEAD) BATTALION** with office address at Purok 3,
175 Brgy. St. Christine, Lianga, Surigao del Sur herein represented by its Acting Commanding Officer,
176 **LTC JASON F PANGANDOYON INF (GSC) PA**
177

178 **WITNESSETH:**
179

180 **WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines mandates the Protection and
181 advancement of the right of the Filipino People to a healthful and balanced ecology, provides for
182 the promotion of social justice, guarantocs the right of the people and their organization to
183 reasonable participation at all Levels of social, political and economic decision making;
184

185 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act No.7160 known as the local Government code (Code) directs the
186 authorized local government to stablish, maintain, preserve and Conserve communal forest and
187 watershed;
188

189 **WHEREAS**, Executive order 192 mandates the DENR as the primary government agency
190 responsible for the conservation, management and protection, and proper use and sustainable
191 development of the country's environmental and natural resources and the LGUs, who have
192 likewise the responsibility for sustainable management and development of forest Resources and
193 watershed within their territories, mutually commit themselves to pursue such objectives under a
194 multiple and sustainable use, demand driven and participation, development approach;
195

196 **WHEREAS**, DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-41 provides the guidelines in the creation
197 of watershed management council in the Philippines to further strengthen the collaboration
198 between the DENR, DILG, LGUs, POs, NGOs and other critical stakeholders in the sustainable
199 management of watershed for the information and guidance of all concerned;
200

201 **WHEREAS**, the role of non-government, people's and civic organization and local governance
202 and administration in the area of environmental protection and management is promoted and
203 mandated in the local Government Code.
204

205 **WHEREAS**, the management of the watersheds should achieve the goals of (1) sustainable
206 multiple use of natural resources within the watersheds in the manner that is environmentally
207 sound, economically viable and socially acceptable; and (2) the prevention of further watershed
208 degradation and the restoration of the productive and protective function of currently degraded
209 watersheds.
210

211 **WHEREAS**, effective and purposive collaboration and coordination of development initiatives
212 among all stakeholders in a watershed including Local Government Units, National Government
213 Agencies, Non-government Organizations, Peoples Organizations and the private sector, will
214 hasten and facilitate the achievement of these goals.
215

216 **WHEREAS**, the Hinatuan River Watershed transcend two (2) provinces, the Hinatuan River
217 Watershed Management Council (HRWMC) shall be in instituted at the Regional Level;
218

219 **WHEREAS**, the Hinatuan River Watershed is one of the Priority Critical Watershed supporting
220 National Irrigation System having an area of Forty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Five
221 (44,525) hectares covering the municipalities of Hinatuan – 10,338 hectares (Brgys. San Ramon,
222 Sasa, La Casa, Maharlika, Bitoon, Poblacion Aquino, Dugmanon, Tiwi, Tarusan, Roxas, Pocto,
223 San Juan, Maligaya, Sto. Niño, Talisay, Cambatong and Port Lamon) Tagbina-17,085 hectares
224 (Brgys. Soriano, Hinagdanan, Manambia, Batonan, San Vicente, Maglatab, Malixi, Poblacion,
225 Sayon, Sta. Fe, Tagongon, Maglaming, Trinidad, Magsaysay, Quezon, Carpenito, Lago, Osmeña,
226 Kahayagan and Villaverde) Barobo- 14,026 hectares (Brgys. Kinayan, Amaga, Mami, San
227 Vicente, Poblacion, San Jose, Dughan, Causwagan, Javier, Tambis, Bahi, Rizal, San Roque,
228 Cambagang, Sudlon and Gamut) and Lianga – 2,713 hectares (Brgys. Anibongan and Liatemco)
229 in Surigao del Sur and municipalities of San Francisco- 284 hectares (Brgys, Alegria, Mate and
230 Das-agan) and Prosperidad – 79 hectares (Brgy. Los Arcos) in Agusan del Sur and.
231

232 **WHEREAS**, the Hinatuan River Watershed serves as a vital natural resources, providing a
233 sustainable source of water for domestic, agricultural, and industrial use, ensuring the well-being
234 and economic stability of communities within its vicinity, plays a critical ecological as a habitat
235 for diverse flora and fauna, including endemic and endangered species, thereby contributing to
236 biodiversity conservation and ecosystem balance.

237
238 **WHEREAS**, the Hinatuan River Watershed is home to indigenous cultural communities whose
239 traditions, livelihoods, and cultural heritage are intrinsically linked to its natural resources,
240 underscoring the need for its protection and sustainable management.

241 **WHEREAS**, the Hinatuan River Watershed supports essential ecological services such as
242 groundwater recharge, flood mitigation, and climate regulation, which are crucial for maintaining
243 environmental resilience and reducing disaster risks.

244 **WHEREAS**, the preservation and responsible stewardship of the Hinatuan River Watershed are
245 imperative to ensure long-term water security, ecological sustainability, and the continued well-
246 being of present and future generations.

247 **NOW THEREFORE**, the creation of Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council is hereby
248 established in accordance with DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-41.

249
250 **Section 1. Creation of the Watershed Management Council-** To carry out the objectives
251 outlined of managing the Hinatuan River Watershed, the Hinatuan River Watershed Management
252 Council is hereby created.

253
254 **Section 2. Role and Function of the Council-** The Council shall serve as a decision and
255 implementing body that:

- 256
257 1. Create a Watershed Management Planning Team (WMPT) for the preparation of Integrated
258 Watershed Management Plan to include, among others protection, restoration and
259 rehabilitation, water quality monitoring and delineation of buffer zone. for this, the Hinatuan
260 River Watershed Management Council shall:
- 261 1(a.) Create a Watershed Management Planning Team (WMPT);
 - 262 1(b.) Approve the Integrated Watershed Management Plan endorsed by the WMPT;
 - 263 1(c.) Present to RDC the Integrated Watershed Management Plan for adoption.
- 264
- 265 2. Approve the Integrated Watershed Management Plan Endorsed by the WMPT;
 - 266
 - 267 3. Participate in the formulation of policies that support inter-agency coordination,
268 collaboration, cooperation, partnership & convergence, and complementation of natural
269 resources benefits and cost sharing, and resources planning, and program implementation;
 - 270
 - 271 4. Contribute in the management of the resources and development activities stipulated, under
272 the approved Integrated Watershed Management Plan.
 - 273
 - 274 5. Review existing policies governing their specific watershed and recommend appropriate
275 revisions/amendments to concerned agencies, if necessary;
 - 276
 - 277 6. Join the monitoring of the activities, such as rehabilitation and protection, among others,
278 within their particular watershed;
 - 279
 - 280 7. Ensure enforcement of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) laws, rules and
281 regulations in coordination with DENR and concerned agencies;
 - 282
 - 283 8. Endorse person for deputation by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
284 Office (DENR);
 - 285
 - 286 9. Facilitate the resolution of problems and conflicts that may occur within their particular
287 watershed, in coordination with concerned agencies;

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10. Support and participate in the activities that promote and establish awareness on watershed management and resource use;
11. Formulate internal rules, regulations and guidelines with regards to the conduct and principles for the proper functioning of the council;
12. Develop a Manual of Operations for the guidance of the council;
13. Coordinate with existing Watershed management bodies present within the watershed (Protected area Management Board, Water Quality Management, etc.) to ensure that watershed programs, projects and activities of the council implement with that of other watershed management bodies;
14. Provide technical assistance in the areas of planning, project development, investment programming, and monitoring and evaluation to the WMC; and
15. Facilitate the inclusion of the watershed development agenda and priorities in the Caraga Regional Development Plan

Section 3. Institutional Roles and Responsibilities. The specific institutional roles and responsibilities of the Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council member agencies are defined, as follows:

3.1 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

The DENR is the primary national government agency with its attached offices (i.e. EMB, MGB, NWRB, NAMRIA) that has direct management, technical, regulatory, and implementation functions and responsibility over the Hinatuan River Watershed, specifically:

- a. Provide technical, policy, institutional, management, planning, and regulatory guidance and leadership in the environmental and resource management and implementation of Hinatuan River Watershed management plan, programs, projects, and activities in their areas of responsibility;
- b. Facilitate, coordinate, and harmonize administrative, technical, and operational programs, plans, projects, and activities being implemented by its respective sectoral field units/offices (i.e. forestry, mining, protected area, coastal, environment, and lands management) within the watershed and its related areas;
- c. Facilitate, coordinate, and harmonize environmental and resource management administrative, operational, regulatory, and enforcement guidelines, policies, rules, and regulations affecting the effective and sustainable management of the watershed;
- d. Facilitate harmonization and complementation of existing and future plans, programs, and projects in the watershed with the respective LGUs and other NGAs and organizations/stakeholders operating in the respective coverage areas and/or sectors;
- e. Conduct technical review and assessment of existing potential water sources within the watershed;
- f. Provide technical assistance, accept, and verify water permit applications;
- g. Conduct dialogue and facilitate resolution of Environment and Natural Resources related issues and conflicts within the Hinatuan River Watershed.
- h. Provide sufficient budgetary allocation to support the operations of the HWMC Secretariat in support of the sustainable operations of the Hinatuan River Watershed organization; and
- i. Provide full support for the forest landscape restoration in the watershed headwater and recharge areas.

3.2 LGUs (Provinces and Municipalities)

As one of the principal managements and implementing bodies for effective and sustainable management of the Hinatuan River Watershed, the specific roles and responsibilities of LGUs are the following:

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3.2.1 Provinces

- a. Participate in monitoring activities, including watershed rehabilitation, protection, and other related initiatives within their respective jurisdiction.
- b. Facilitate and oversee the institutional coordination, cooperation, and convergence of activities, plans, and programs among other LGUs (i.e., barangays or municipalities) and local field offices of national agencies and other local and community stakeholders in the area;
- c. Facilitate and oversee inter-local, sectoral, and community interaction, dialogues, and settlement of possible issues, conflicts, concerns, and demands in the area;
- d. Participate in formulation of policies that strengthen inter-agency coordination, cooperation, and partnership to ensure the sustainable management of the watershed;
- e. Facilitate the institutional arrangement mechanism among provinces, cities, and municipalities.

3.2.2 Municipalities

- a. Provide and facilitate technical, policy, material, human, financial, physical, infrastructure, and other resources to support and/or assist in identified watershed management plans, programs, and activities in their areas;
- b. Conduct regular monitoring and assessment of implemented plans, programs, and activities in their areas;
- c. Facilitate and coordinate the mobilization and generation of technical, financial, material, and physical resources to support and assist in sub-river basin management plans and programs in the area.

3.3 Department of Economy, Planning and Development (DEPDev)

- a. Provide Technical Assistance in the areas of planning, project development, and monitoring and evaluation; and
- b. Facilitate the inclusion of the watershed development agenda and priorities in the Caraga Regional Development Plan

3.4 National Irrigation Administration and Irrigation Management Office (NIA and IMO)

- a. Provide technical and financial assistance and be involved in all the necessary planning, design, construction and operation, and maintenance of functions of irrigation systems/facilities;
- b. Provide valuable data/information on irrigation development and/or irrigable area within the Hinatuan River Watershed; and
- c. Recommend/provide technical expertise, particularly on the construction of irrigation facilities consistent with the Hinatuan River Integrated Watershed Management Plan including drainage system.

3.5 Water Districts (Hinatuan, Tagbina and Barobo)

- a. Contributes of the development of policies and strategies that promote the sustainable management of watersheds. This includes participating in crafting guidelines for water resource management, land use, and reforestation efforts that directly impact the availability and quality of water;
- b. Involved in the education and training of water district personnel on best practices in watershed management. This includes organizing workshops, seminars, and training sessions to enhance the capacity of water districts in managing and protecting their respective watersheds; and
- c. Helps in the monitoring of watershed conditions and the effectiveness of management strategies. It also plays a role in reporting these findings to the WMC and other relevant authorities to ensure that necessary adjustments.

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3.6 National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)

- a. Coordinate and assist in the integration, harmonization, and complementation of their respective Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) with local watershed management plans;
- b. Facilitate and ensure the participation of IP representatives and tribes in the identification, formulation, and implementation of Hinatuan River Watershed plans, programs, and projects;
- c. Provide technical, policy, documentary, information, and administrative assistance and support in the identification, formulation, and implementation of watershed management plans and programs; and,
- d. Provide logistic support in assisting and guiding IP representatives and tribes in their participation, interaction, and engagement in the conduct and implementation of Hinatuan River Watershed Management Programs, projects, and activities.

3.7 Indigenous Peoples (IPs)

- a. Promote Indigenous culture, knowledge Systems, and Practices (IKSP) on sustainable natural resource development and management;
- b. Sustain their advocacy on IP rights and value systems;
- c. Ensure IPs/ICCs support and the adoption of culturally sensitive social participation during the implementation of watershed management programs and projects; and
- d. Assist in the determination of program/project outcomes and impacts to IPs/ICCs in the watershed.

3.8 Municipal Agricultural and Fishery Council (Peoples Organization)

- a. Involved in the implementation of community-based projects and programs aimed at conserving and managing watershed resources. These include reforestation efforts, sustainable farming practices, soil and water conservation, and erosion measures;
- b. Engage in capacity-building activities within their communities, educating members about importance of watershed conservation and sustainable practices. Facilitate and organize training session, workshop, and awareness campaigns to empower the community to actively participate in protecting their watershed.
- c. Conduct on-the-ground monitoring of watershed conditions and report on issues such as illegal logging, encroachment, pollution, or nay activities that threaten the health of the watershed. Their close proximity to and constant interaction with the environment makes them essential in early detection and reporting.

3.9 Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

- a. Provide technical services for planning, design, construction, maintenance, or operation of infrastructure facilities in conformity with the Hinatuan River Integrated Watershed Management Plan;
- b. Provide technical expertise to ascertain that all public works plan and project implementation designs of infrastructures are consistent with current standards and guidelines; and
- c. Provide technical support for integrated planning for flood control and water resource development systems.

3.10 Department of Agriculture (DA)

- a. Promote development and support programs for the preservation of the ecosystem in areas where agriculture and fisheries activities are carried out within the Hinatuan River Watershed; and
- b. Implement programs providing production support, marketing assistance, micro-credit, postharvest facilities processing, research and development, agricultural extension, and capability building.

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3.11 Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)

- a. Provide technical assistance and expertise in land distribution, agrarian reform, and sustainable land management to other members of the council, contributing to the effective management of the watershed;
- b. Encourages adopting sustainable farming, practices that minimize soil erosion, conserve water, and protect the watershed's natural resources. This includes promoting agroforestry, organic farming, and other environmentally friendly practices;
- c. Participates in land use planning within the watershed, ensuring that land distribution and use are aligned with sustainable development goals and do not harm the watershed's ecological balance; and
- d. Provides technical, financial assistance and expertise in land distribution, agrarian reform, and sustainable land management to other members of the council, contributing to the effective management of the watershed.

3.12 Academe (NEMSU-Tagbina and Hinatuan Southern College)

- a. Assist in capacity building of communities through research, training evaluation, facilitation, information sharing, livelihood projects implementation, and advocacy programs;
- e. Advocate active protection and preservation of the Hinatuan River Watershed;
- f. Support and participate in the projects that shall result in the preservation of the indigenous culture, practices system, and
- g. Ensure compliance with transparency and accountability requirements in order to promote good river basin governance.

3.13 Philippine National Police (PNP) and Philippine Army (PA)

Subject to the observance and recognition of law enforcement roles of lead agencies tasked to implement environmental laws, the following are the roles of the Philippine National Police and Philippine Army:

- a. Assist in the enforcement of laws and policies for the protection of the Hinatuan River Watershed;
- b. Intensify patrol in identified hot spot areas in coordination with concerned LGUs, DENR, and other government agencies;
- c. Assign permanent and alternate representatives to attend related meetings; and
- d. Assist in the apprehension of any environmental violators within the Hinatuan River Watershed;

3.14 Religious Organization

- a. Engage local communities in participatory decision-making regarding watershed management.
- b. Act as a bridge between government agencies, NGOs, and local communities to ensure inclusive participation.
- c. Provide spiritual and psychological support to affected communities during environmental crises.
- d. Provide moral and ethical perspectives on environmental governance in council discussions.
- e. Ensure that environmental conservation efforts respect indigenous and local spiritual beliefs.
- f. Mediate disputes over land and water resources among stakeholders.
- g. Foster a sense of shared responsibility and unity among diverse community groups.

526 **Section 4. Composition of the Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council-** the Hinatuan
527 River Watershed Management Council shall be composed of the authorized representatives of all
528 parties to this agreement.
529

530 **Section 5. Term of Office** – The DENR shall hold the Chairpersonship of the Hinatuan River
531 Watershed Management Councils. In the case of Elective LGU officials, whether chairperson or
532 members of the council, the term of office shall be co-terminus to his/her position. Once the term
533 of Office of the incumbent expires, the next official shall assume the position.
534

535 **Section 6. Secretariat, Functions and Responsibilities.** – The DENR-CENRO Bislig shall serve
536 as a Secretariat with the following functions and responsibilities:
537

- 538 1. Prepare and give notices of meetings;
- 539 2. Provide administrative support in the conduct of quarterly meeting;
- 540 3. Record the meeting proceedings and produce the minutes before the conduct of next
541 meeting;
- 542 4. Serve as the custodian of all records, correspondence, plans, files and other documents
543 of the Hinatuan River WMC; and
- 544 5. Perform other related function that may be assigned by the Hinatuan River WMC
545

546 **Section 7. Conduct of Meeting** – The Hinatuan River Watershed Management Council shall
547 conduct a meeting once in every quarter or as the need so arises.
548

549 **Section 8. Fund Source:** The DENR shall allocate funds on the Strengthening and
550 Operationalization of Hinatuan Watershed Management Council.
551

552 **Section 9. Governing Clause** - This MOA shall be governed by and construed in accordance
553 with the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.
554

555 **Section 10. Scope and Applicability** - All terms of this MOA shall be binding upon, and inure to
556 the benefit of the parties, their representative, and successors.
557

558 **Section 11. Effectivity:** This memorandum of agreement shall take effect upon signing of the
559 parties herein.
560

561 **Section 12. Amendment** - No modification of this MOA shall be valid unless the same is in
562 writing and signed by the parties.
563

564 **Section 13. Notice of Termination** - This agreement may be terminated by any Party by providing
565 written notice to the other Parties at least 30 days prior to the desired termination date.
566

567 **Section 14. Force Majeure** - In the event of any unforeseen circumstances or force majeure, such
568 as natural disasters, strikes, war, or governmental actions, which may delay or prevent the
569 performance of this agreement, the affected Party shall promptly notify the other Parties and shall
570 be relieved from its obligations for the duration of the event.
571

572 **Section 15 – Capacity and Authorization** - The undersigned representatives of the Parties
573 confirm that they are duly authorized to execute this Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of
574 their respective organizations and that they are empowered to bind their organizations to the terms
575 of this agreement.
576

577 **Section 16 – Interpretation Clause** – In case of doubt in the interpretation of the MOA, the clause
578 of the DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-41. If left unresolved after resorting to the DENR
579 Order, any interpretation should be in favor to actions that protects the sustainability, condition,
580 and ecosystem of the Hinatuan River Watershed.
581

582 **Section 17 - Separability** - If any provision contained herein is invalid, illegal, or unenforceable
583 in any respect under any applicable law or decisions, the validity, legality, and enforceability of
584 the remaining provisions shall not be affected or impaired in any way.
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IN WITNESS WHEREOFF, the parties have affixed their respective signatures on this
_____ day of _____ 2025 at Bislig City, Surigao del Sur, Philippines

MARITESS M. OCAMPO
OIC, Regional Executive Director -DENR/
Chairperson

HON. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL
Provincial Governor-Surigao del Sur/
Co-Chairperson

GEMIMA A. OLAM, CESO IV
Regional Director-NEDA 13/
Co-Chairperson

ATTY. REDEMTOR A. OJA
OIC, ARD for Technical Services /
Core Member

HON. SANTIAGO B. CANE, JR.
Provincial Governor-Agusan del Sur/
Core Member

JOHN VINCENT C. PIMENTEL
Provincial Administrator-SDS/
Core Member

HON. ATTY. TITO A. CAÑEDO III
Municipal Mayor-LGU Hinatuan, SDS/
Core Member

JOSEPHINE B. AMBONGAN
Provincial Administrator-ADS/
Core Member

HON. GLAIZA JANE P. LANETE
Municipal Mayor-LGU Tagbina, SDS/
Core Member

HON. RONITO L. MARTIZANO
Municipal Mayor-LGU Barobo, SDS/
Core Member

HON. ATTY. GRACE CARMEL D. PAREDES-BRAVO
Municipal Mayor-LGU San Francisco, ADS/
Core Member

HON. AMADO M. LAYNO, JR.
Municipal Mayor-LGU Lianga, SDS/
Core Member

HON. FREDERICK P. MELLANA
Municipal Mayor-LGU Prosperidad, ADS/
Core Member

ADELFO R. LUENGAS, JR.
OIC, PENR Officer- SDS/
Core Member

NORMAN A. ASUGAN
OIC, PENR Officer-ADS/
Core Member

ROMEL B. ARBOLONIO
CENR Officer-Bislig/
Core Member

JEROME H. ALBIA
CENR Officer-Bunawan/
Core Member

JOSEPH E. LANGANLANGAN
CENR Officer-Lianga/
Core Member

646	SARAH P. PAREJO	ENGR. RUBY C. TUAN, JR.
647	CENR Officer-Bayugan/	Regional Director-NIA 13/
648	Core Member	Core Member
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652	ENGR. PAUL P. URBIZTONDO	IPs Representative (TBI)
653	Acting Division Manager-IMO SDS/	Core Member
654	Core Member	
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658	IPs Representative (TBI)	IPs Representative (TBI)
659	Core Member	Core Member
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663	CLARENCE L. FRAGA	ROBERT T. LAOLAO
664	President-MAFC Hinatuan/	President-MAFC Tagbina/
665	Core Member	Core Member
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669	ALLAN ADLAWAN	ENGR. DENNIS O. CELESTIAL, MM
670	President-MAFC Barobo/	Regional Director-EMB 13/
671	Core Member	Core Member
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676	ENGR. LARRY M. HERADEZ	ALEX B. RAMOS
677	Regional Director-MGB 13/	OIC-Regional Director-DPWH 13/
678	Core Member	Core Member
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682	JULIUS L. MABINI	ATTY. MERLITA S. CAPINPUYAN
683	Regional Director-NCIP 13/	Regional Director -DAR 13/
684	Core Member	Core Member
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688	ARLAN M. MANGELEN	ENGR. JOSE HILARIO V. PANDILI JR.
689	Regional Director - DA 13/	General Manager D- Hinatuan WD/
690	Core Member	Core Member
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694	ILDEFONSO C. ALBARRACIN	JOEL L. PANTALEON
695	General Manager - Tagbina WD/	General Manager D- Barobo WD/
696	Core Member	Core Member
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700	PBGEN MARCIAL MARIANO P MAGISTRADO IV	NEMESIO G. LOAYON
701	Regional Director-PRO-13/	NEMSU-President /
702	Core Member	Core Member
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705		

706 ENGR. JUANITO A. BALBUTIN, PhD
707 HSC-President/
708 Core Member

MOST REV. RAUL DAEL, DD
Diocese of Tandag /
Core Member

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712 MOST REV. RUBEN C. LABAJO, DD
713 Diocese of Prosperidad/
714 Core Member

LTC EDWIN L PIA INF (GSC) PA
67th IB Philippine Army/
Core Member

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718 LTC JASON F PANGANDOYON INF (GSC) PA
719 3rd SF (Arrowhead) Battalion/ Core Member

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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725 Republic of the Philippines)
726 Province of Surigao del Sur)
727 City of Bislig) S.S

728

729 BEFORE ME, a Notary Public for and in the above jurisdiction, Personally Appeared the
730 following:

731

No.	NAME	GOVERNMENT- ISSUED ID	DATE/PLACED ISSUED
1	MARITESS M. OCAMPO		
2	HON. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL		
3	GEMIMA A. OLAM, CESO-IV		
4	ATTY. REDEMTO A. OJA		
5	HON. SANTIAGO B. CANE, JR.		
6	JOHN VINCENT C. PIMENTEL		
7	JOSEPHINE B. AMBONGAN		
8	HON. ATTY. TITO A. CANEDO III		
9	HON. GLAIZA JANE P. LANETE		
10	HON. RONITO L. MARTIZANO		
11	ATTY. GRACE CARMEL D. PAREDES- BRAVO		
12	HON. AMADO M. LAYNO, JR.		
13	HON. FREDERICK P. MELLANA		
14	ADELFO R. LUENGAS, JR.		
15	NORMAN A. ASUGAN		
16	ROMEL B. ARBOLONIO		
17	JEROME H. ALBIA		
18	JOSEPH E. LANGANLANGAN		
19	SARAH P. PAREJO		

No.	NAME	GOVERNMENT- ISSUED ID	DATE/PLACED ISSUED
20	ENGR. RUBY C. TUAN, JR.		
21	ENGR. PAUL P. URBIZTONDO		
22	<i>IPs Representative (TBI)</i>		
23	<i>IPs Representative (TBI)</i>		
24	<i>IPs Representative (TBI)</i>		
25	CLARENCE L. FRAGA		
26	ROBERT T. LAOLAO		
27	ALLAN ADLAWAN		
28	ENGR. DENNIS O. CELESTIAL, MM		
29	ENGR. LARRY M. HERADEZ		
30	ALEX B. RAMOS		
31	JULIUS L. MABINI		
32	ATTY. MERLITA S. CAPINPUYAN		
33	ARLAN M. MANGELEN		
34	ENGR. JOSE HILARIO V. PANDILI, JR.		
35	ILDEFONSO C. ALBARRACIN		
36	JOEL L. PANTALEON		
37	PBGEN MARCIAL MARIANO P MAGISTRADO IV		
38	NEMESIO G. LOAYON		
39	ENGR. JUANITO A. BALBUTIN, PhD		
40	MOST-REV. RAUL DAEL, DD.		
41	MOST REV. RUBEN C. LABAJO, DD.		
42	LTC EDWIN L PIA INF (GSC) PA.		
43	LTC JASON F PANGANDUYON INF (GSC) PA		

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Known to me and to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument and they acknowledge to me that the same is their true act and voluntary deed and that of the entities which they respectively present.

This instrument, denominated as a Memorandum of Agreement by and among the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, (Name of all Parties), consist of (Numbers of pages) including this page where this acknowledgement written and has been signed by the parties and their instrumental witness on each and every page thereof

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL on the date and place first above written.

NOTARY PUBLIC