



WOODSTOCK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PWPA

For the Promotion of Sustainable Forest & Wood Industry

Volume 10 No. 1

March - June 2012

Flash! PWPA Meets New FMB Director

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) led by Chair Fernando Lu and President Olizon made the traditional courtesy call to the new Forest Management Bureau Chief, Director Ricardo Calderon last July 3, 2012 in his office in Quezon City.

Director Calderon welcomed the PWPA delegation led by Chair Lu and President Olizon. He said the partnership between his Forestry agency and the wood industry represented by the PWPA has been established and gone a long time already.

President Olizon said that it has been a tradition of the PWPA to make a courtesy call to whoever sits as Di-

rector of the Forest Management Bureau (FMB).

He mentioned the PWPA has been much seriously affected by EO 23 as it has long been waiting for the EO mandated review/evaluation (R/E) of the IFMA holders' performance in their areas. He added the PWPA has not been formally informed on the status of the R/E guidelines that have been lengthily discussed with the PWPA and other



A New Hope. FMB Director Ric Calderon, 4th from the left, flank by PWPA Chair F. A. Lu (to his right) and President A. C. Olizon (to his left) during PWPA's courtesy call last July 3, 2012 at the FMB, Q.C.

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PWPA Attends Hearing on Local Log Ban Bills

The Senate of the Philippines' Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee conducted a public hearing last April 9, 2012 on different forestry and environmental bills passed by the Lower House of Congress.

Senator Chiz Escudero, Chair of the Committee, started off the hearing with the local logging ban bills.



A Ban Within a Ban. L-R. Chair of Senate Committee of Environment and Natural Resources, Senator Chiz Escudero, Committee Secretary Clarinda Mendoza, Congresspersons and bill authors Benjur Salimbangon, Evelyn Mellana, Hermilando Mandanas and Rufus Rodriguez.

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) was invited to the hearing to comment on the bills ban-

ning logging in Cagayan de Oro City and in the Second District of Surigao del Sur.

Cong. Rufus Rodriguez himself presented his House Bill No. 1063, An Act Imposing Logging Ban in Cagayan de Oro City and

House Bill No. 1398, An Act Reforesting 3,000 Hectares of Public Land in Cagayan de

(Continued on page 2)

PWPA IFMA Holders Meet

The IFMA holder members of the Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) led by Chairman Fernando Lu and President Antonio Olizon met last June 4, 2012 to discuss ways on how they would have to treat their IFMAs (Integrated Forest Management Agreements which were suspended by the promulgation of EO 23 last February 2012.

Chair Lu shared the information that in the meeting of the Bukidnon Forests, Inc. (BFI) that he attended, DENR Secretary Ramon Paje said that the wood industry should already adopt a mindset that there will be no more harvesting in the natural and residual forests.

With the opinions provided by three different legal sources, the meeting agreed, the meeting agreed on how

they will be treating the issue of operational suspension at hand and also made suggestions on what other things to be done to make the cause of the PWPA be heard by the authority.

The meeting was attended by members ARTIMCO, Casilayan/Royal Match, C. Alcantara, Furniture group, LUZMATIM, Sirawai/M&S, Southwood Timber and SUDECOR representatives

PWPA Meets...

stakeholders. Meantime, in the absence of the operations of the legitimate logging, because of the moratorium, illegal logging has taken a huge rise and stride, the effort of the task force, notwithstanding.

Chair Lu said under the current processes and procedures, as allowed by EO 23 and its implementing regulations, the wood industry is yet undergoing tremendous difficulties such as the clearing of shipments and the re-

newal of WPPs.

Director Calderon said that he is now reviewing the guidelines for the review/evaluation of IFMAs and he has also created a committee to prepare a wood industry roadmap. As a way out of EO 23, he said he is studying, for the eventual recommendation to higher authorities, how the IFMA holders can legitimately operate by matching their harvested timber volume to capacities of their respective

processing plants.

He said that, although he has wide field experience, he is still very new with the Bureau but he is studying keenly how it can be pro-active thereby improving its service to its stakeholders. He added he will be needing the help of the industry in this endeavor.

Chair Lu and President Olizon said PWPA is always ready to help the Bureau.

PWPA Attends...

Oro City. He said that with the devastation caused by the recent typhoon Sendong, it is timely to impose logging ban in the city and to provide funds for its reforestation.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary M. Gerochi said the DENR will program the budget for the reforestation of Cagayan de Oro City, although that the thrust of the DENR is the reforestation of upstream watersheds.

The PWPA submitted its position paper on the local logging ban bills as it orally manifested that total logging bans have never worked in the country; they made deforestation worse. Logging ban affects only the legitimate stakeholders because they follow the directives and stop operations. Logging ban has no effect nor meaning to the illegal loggers, the real destroyer

of the forest and the environment. Past experiences and scientific studies were cited to show forests that became open-access had undergone severe denudation. Security of tenure and the practice of sustainable forest management are still the best ways of managing the forest, not logging ban. (See page 6 for PWPA position paper)

Cong. Rodriguez, following on the PWPA statements, said the Lower House has already submitted the SFMA bill to the Senate as he asked the Chair Escudero on its status in the Senate. Senator Escudero said they have already completed the draft committee report and will soon be scheduling the bill for plenary presentation.

Senator Escudero also inquired with PWPA about the situation of the wood industry in the face of EO 23 as he was informed that many in the

wood industry have stopped operations and have laid-off workers. He asked who are the three main companies affected by EO 23 and he was answered with the following: SUDECOR, SPLCI and PATECO, among the PWPA members.

With regards to the local logging ban and reforestation bills, Senator Escudero said they are approved in principle but they may have to be consolidated as they refer to the same topic.

Present during the hearing are: some sponsors of different bills from the Lower House Reps. Rufus Rodriguez, Evelyn Mellana, Benjur Salimbangon, and Hermilando Mandanas; representatives from DENR, LGUs, NGO's, SFF and PWPA.

PWPA Visits YSG in Sabah, Malaysia

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA), led by its President Antonio Olizon, together with the University of the Philippines at Los Banos (UPLB), headed by Chancellor Rex Victor Cruz himself, and the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), represented by Forestry and Environment Research Division Director Joefel Calora,



Innoprise Corporate Services Sdn Bhd. Executive Chairman Tan Sri Datu Khalil Bin Datu Haji Jamalul (rightmost) led YSG in briefing the Philippine delegation (l-r) DOST-PCAARRD FERD Director Joefel Calora, UPLB Chancellor Rex Victor Cruz and PWPA President Antonio Olizon.

visited the Yayasan Sabah Group (YSG) in Sabah, Malaysia last February 23-26, 2012 to observe the cloning facilities of its Biotech Laboratory and its demonstration plantation for teak and oil palm.

The Philippine delegation was first welcomed by some directors of YSG led by Innoprise Corporate Services Sdn Bhd. Executive Chairman Tan Sri Datu Khalil Bin Datu Haji Jamalul at Menara Tun Mustapha, Yayasan Sabah headquarters, Likas Bay, Kota Kinabalu.

Then, at YSG biotech laboratory, the group manager for Biotech and Horticulture Division, Dr. Doreen Goh, briefed the Philippine delegation about the cloning of high-value and fast growing industrial forest tree species, like teak and acacia species.

Dr. Goh said the biotech laboratory started in 1992 as a joint project with the French Centre for Agricultural Research (CIRAD) focusing on *in vitro* protocols of high value and fast growing industrial tree species, their demonstration and commercial planting, and getting standing orders for cloned seedlings/planting stocks from Australia, Mexico, Brazil, Ecuador, among other countries.

Each documented cloned Solomon teak progeny seedling, for example, costs between \$1.00 - \$1.50. She

said the delivery includes an additional 5% to take care for mortality.

Dr. Goh said the cloned seedlings could be out-planted 4-6 months after they have been nurtured in the nursery.

The delegation then visited the Sabah Softwoods Berhad (SSB) in Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia. Chief Operating Officer Frank Salazar said SSB's operations cover three sectors: oil palm, tree plantation and human resources development.

The oil palm sector has already established about 28,000 hectares of plantation and is already operating a crude palm oil mill with a capacity of 45MT/hr that will be expanded to 90MT/hr by 2012. He added that oil palm plantation cum palm oil milling is a very promising industry in the country.

The tree plantation sector has now 27,000 hectares plantation accredited with Forest Stewardship Council and Chain of Custody certification. He said the demand for plantation timber is on the increasing trend because of the decrease in the supply of logs from natural forest. The sector is also operating a chipmill whose wood chips are exported to Japan, and with China as potential market.

The human resources sector is conducting trainings and seminars for the workers, especially on safety and health aspect.

SSB's corporate social responsibilities include: 1) the conservation of about 2,300 hectares of high value natural forest and the preservation of riparian reserves within SSB's tree and oil palm plantation, employees housing and services, among others.

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WoodStock
Bi-monthly publication of the
Philippine Wood Producers Association

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PWPA Meets the Malaysian Minister for Plantation Industries and Commodities and the Malaysian Timber Council

The key officers of the Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) and the Chamber of Furniture of the Philippines (CFIP) met with Malaysian Minister for Plantation Industries and Commodities, Minister Bernard G. Dompok and his staff on April 18, 2012 at Dusit Thai Hotel, Makati City to explore future bilateral trade in plantation commodities.

Minister Dompok said Malaysia, with a total land area of 32.98 million hectares (the Philippines, 30 million hectares) has plantation crops consisting of: a) Oil palm, 5 million hectares dominated by small-holders each with less than 40-hectares with 100,000 ha/year cutting and replacement program; b) Para Rubber, 1.2 million hectares but some are being replaced by oil palm; and c) Tree Plantation, 375,000 hectares, were 300,000 hectares are planted to Falcata, Mangium, Bagras and Teak by the private sector.

Mr. Cheah Kam Huan, Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) added that a 10,000-hectare oil palm plantation can



Malaysian Minister for Plantation Industries and Commodities, Minister Bernard G. Dompok (seated, middle), flanked by PWPA VP-Director R. Y. Uy and CFIP VP-Finance A. L. F. Hernandez.

viably support the economic operation of an oil palm mill.

Minister Dompok said he is familiar with Mindanao as he was once consulted by ARMM and BIMP-EAGA on oil palm plantation.

On the sourcing or importing wood from Malaysia inquired of by the CFIP representatives, PWPA Director R. Y. Uy volunteered the following information: a) source and magnitude of imports by the Philippines: Sarawak, 70%; Sabah, 30%; and Peninsular Malaysia, nil because of supply and ship-

ping problems; b) import must be bulk cargo, at least 2 vessels per week; and c) should be mixed grade as high grade meranti is expensive.

The MTC, seconded by Mr. Uy also encouraged the CFIP members to attend the MTC Global WoodMart 2012 in October at Kuala Lumpur as it will be a good opportunity for everyone to meet buyers and sellers, manufacturers, producers and experts in one place at the same time. He said PWPA members might join as buyers.

PWPA Visits...



(Continued from page 3)

In the SSB demonstration plot, a 10-year old cloned teak trees attain a diameter of about 34 cm and height of more than 20 ft. (see left photo and other photos on p. 5)

SSB has also developed *Aca-cia mangium* and *Eucalyptus pilleta* tree plantation, among other species.

The delegation also observed the vast oil palm plantation in Tawau. Aside from the oil palm plantation seen inside the SSB area, oil palm is also widely planted in the countryside. Oil palm is a big busi-

ness in Malaysia.

Dr. Goh said she was originally against oil palm plantation but because of its economic contribution to the country, she began to accept the idea as long as the tree plantation areas are not affected.

The Philippine delegation is composed of the following:

- University of the Philippines at Los Banos: Dr Rex Victor Cruz, Chancellor, Dr Marilyn Quimado, In-charge, Forest Biotech Laboratory, and Dr Nelson Pampolina, Chairman, Forest Biological Sciences;
- DOST-PCAARRD: Dr Joefel Calora, Director, Forestry and Environment Research Division and Dr. Marcelino Siladan, Science Research Specialist; and
- Philippine Wood Producers Association: Mr. Antonio C. Olizon, President, Mr. Ruddy M. Cabuay, SPLC and For. Maila R. Vasquez, Deputy Executive Director.

Visit to YSG Laboratory & SSB Plantation



Left. Members of the Philippine delegation with YSG and SSB delegates.



Cloned teak seedlings at the YSG Biotech Laboratory.



Some of the equipments at the YSG Biotech Laboratory.



Cloned Teak demonstration plantation in Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia.



Part of the SSB nursery in Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia.

PWPA Attends Public Hearing on HB 5113



In Close Consultation. L-R. Cong. Angelo Palmones, author of HB 5113, PWPA Forest and Environment Adviser J. A. Lorenzo, Executive Director (ED) L. D. Angeles, FPI Chair Emeritus M. J. Carlos, Jr. and PWPA Deputy ED M. R. Vasquez during the Bill's deliberation.

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) joined the Lower House's Committee on Natural Resources' public hearing of House Bill 5113 or an Act to Promote Investments in the Forestry Sector on May 9, 2012 at the Batasan Complex, Quezon City.

Cong. Rodel Batocabe, presiding chair, welcomed all resource persons and participants as he started off with bills dealing on the conversion of forestland into other uses in different provinces.

HB 5113 "An Act to Promote Investments in the Forestry Sector" was introduced by its author, Cong. Angelo Palmones as he suggested to remove the provision on the establishment of a Forestry Development Bank and to subsume the provision on insurance to the Philippine Crop Insurance instead of creating one. He recommended that a

technical working group be created to further refine the bill.

PWPA gave its support to the bill and said that it is very timely and relevant to the needs of times, adding that this is a bill the wood industry has long been waiting for.

DENR/FMB and PCAARRD gave also their full support to the bill.

Mr. Meneleo Carlos, Jr. of FPI also supported the bill with the suggestion that it provides tenure to small farmers so that not only will plant and harvest the trees they have planted but avail of the incentives the bill provides.

All Committee members manifested their desire to be co-authors of the bill.

In attendance to the hearing are House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources led by Vice Chairman Cong. Rodel Batocabe of Partylist (PL) Ako Bicol; with him are Vice Chair D. Ramos (2nd District of Sorsogon), H. Roman (1st District, Bataan) and J. Paras (1st District, Bukidnon); Cong. R. Amatong (2nd District, Compostela Valley), M. Dalog (1st District, Mt. Province), R. Daza (1st District, Northern Samar), L. Ilagan (PL Gabriela), D. Kho (PL Senior Citizens), A. Palmones (PL Agham), L Ocampos (2nd District, Misamis Occidental), P. Pichay (1st District, Surigao del Sur), and Committee Secretary Raul Terso. Representatives from DENR (Central and Regional Offices and attached agencies concerned), LGUs, NGOs, Other Government Agencies, FPI (Mr. M. J. Carlos, Jr.) and PWPA (ED L. D. Angeles, Deputy ED M. R. Vasquez and Forestry & Environment Adviser J. A. Lorenzo).

PWPA meets Universidad Politecnica de Madrid Professors



Renewing Old Ties. L-R. PWPA Forestry & Environment Adviser J. A. Lorenzo, President A. C. Olizon, Chair F. A. Lu, UPLBCFNR Prof. Ramon Razal, UPM Prof. Javier Zazo, Miguel Allue and Juan Prados, UPLBCFNR Prof. Nathaniel Banatayan.

Professors Juan Prados, Miguel Allue and Javier Zazo from the Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (UPM) met last May 22, 2012 at Makati City with the Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) led by Chair F. A. Lu and President A. C. Olizon and explored the possibility of increasing the capacity of the local forestry sector to penetrate rural areas for creating jobs and bringing added value to forest goods and services. The meeting is in line with the forthcoming implementation of the Spanish community and the UPLB forestry school exploratory project entitled "Preparatory Action for the Sustainable Forestry Development Cooperation in the Philippines" otherwise known as CODEFOR-FILIPINAS.

Accompanying the Spanish professors were UPLBCFNR Professors Ramon Razal and Nathaniel Bantayan. With PWPA Chair Lu and President Olizon were Executive Director (ED) L. D. Angeles, Deputy ED M. R. Vasquez and Forestry & Environment Adviser J. A. Lorenzo.

PWPA COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON: HBN 1063 AND HBN 4711 ^{/1}

Logging bans have been imposed at different times in the natural forests of the country, to wit:

Period	Coverage of Logging Ban
Marcos 1979 and 1983	Entire country, except Palawan, Samar, Mindanao and Cagayan Valley
Cory Aquino 1986, 1989 and 1992	Entire country, now including Palawan, Samar and Cagayan Valley (except southern Isabela Province). Also included in the logging ban: Bukidnon, Cotabato, Misamis Occidental and Basilan in Mindanao
Arroyo 2004	Entire country under logging suspension in December 2004; but lifted in mid 2005; only in CARAGA and Davao Regions and in of Zamboanga del Norte, Sultan Kudarat and South Cotabato in Mindanao and in the southern part of Isabela, northern part of Aurora and Apayao in Luzon.
Noynoy Aquino III Feb 1, 2012 to date	Entire country in logging moratorium

Even prior to the imposition of the logging moratorium (EO 23) on February 1, 2012 by President Aquino III, and, priorly, the logging suspension declared by President Arroyo in 2004, the entire country - except in about 10 of all its provinces – has been under the different logging ban directives that have not been lifted.

Logging bans and/or moratoriums affect only the legitimate stakeholders for they lawfully obey such government directives even at the tremendous loss of investment, revenue, and market as well as of employment of workers and community benefits and services.

Logging bans and/or moratoriums do not affect the illegal logging syndicates - the seemingly uncontrollable and real menace of the forests and the environment. They have no licenses to be cancelled nor activities, even how nefarious they are to be responsible and accountable for. They can operate anywhere and in any destructive manner they want to as they have no care for government rules and regulations. They exploit the ignorance, poverty and/or needs of the upland people in their illegal activities but they leave no benefits to them. They pay no tax to the government. Logging bans and/or moratoriums favor and are boons only to them as the forests and the market for wood are all theirs to manipulate.

It is easy to declare logging bans or moratoriums but to implement them on the ground is difficult and with devastating ecological results.

Experiences and empirical studies have consistently demonstrated that logging bans or moratoriums do not work as intended or desired. With insufficient manpower, physical and financial means to contain the illegal logging syndicates, the government and the well-meaning segment of civil society are helpless to implement logging bans or moratoriums.

A study jointly conducted in 1996 by the UPLB and the DENR on the after effects of the cancellation and/or non-renewal of 33 forest licenses with an aggregate area of 1.66 million hectares in 7 regions of the country has shown the following results:

Situation	Before Cancellation	Nine-years after cancellation	Percent change
Population, no.	121,300	154,300	+27
Employment, no.	30,000	9 (equipment guards)	(100)
Upland farmers, family no.	49	230	+370
Land-use change, in hectares (All 33 TLAs in 7 regions)			
Old growth forest	602,000	136,000	(77)
Second growth forest	445,500	438,700	(2)
Other forest	276,000	132,000	(55)
Cultivated/Open	338,000	963,800	+185
Total area	1,661,500	1,661,500	-

What the study meant is: it is unwise to put in open-access the forest like imposing a logging ban merely for it to suffer the “tragedy of the commons”. It is best to put the forest under tenure wherein the holder thereof, while allowed to obtain benefits therefrom, is also made responsible and accountable for its protection and wise utilization. Tenure may be given to a family, a community, an LGU, a PO, or private sector who will follow the universally-accepted practice of sustainable forest management because of the lasting benefits derive out of it. Illegal logging gets all benefits out of destructive practices but, seemingly invisible, shares no iota of responsibility and accountability.

Imposing a logging ban in Cagayan de Oro City and in the 2nd District of Surigao del Sur will only place the forest therein in open-access situation for “feasting” by the illegal logging syndicates. Instead of banning logging, extend appropriate tenurial agreements to responsible stakeholders. A logging ban is synonymous to the abandonment of the forest, while a tenure instrument is the means to the protection development of the forest.

^{/1} Submitted to the ENR Committee of the Senate during its public hearing on April 9, 20112.
HBN 1063 – An Act imposing a logging ban in Cagayan de Oro City by Reps. R. Rodriguez, M. Rodriguez & Matugas
HBN 4711 – An Act imposing a logging ban in the second District of Surigao del Sur of Reps. Garay & Matugas

DENR Clarifies Memorandum on Suspension of Cutting Permits

On April 30, 2012, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) issued Memorandum No. 196 suspending the processing of all requests for cutting permits.

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA), observing the vagueness of the Memorandum, wrote the DENR on May 8, 2012 for clarification of the context of the Memorandum to be guided with.

On June 22, 2012, the DENR released a clarification on the said Memo 196 as follows:

a. Tree cutting permits covering naturally grown trees within public for-

est/timberland are being suspended/deferred for processing.

b. The cutting permits not covered by suspension are those:

1. Naturally grown trees within private/titled property;
2. Planted trees within public forest timberland and private lands; and
3. Tree cutting activities covered by exemptions provided in the Memorandum from the Secretary dated 20 October 2011 regarding "similar activities" of Section No. 2, item 2.2 of EO 23.

Further, the memorandum states that all requests for tree cutting permits referred to in item B includes: 1) appropriate justifications that tree cutting can no longer be avoided, and b) possible options to minimize the impact/damage to the environment. It also stated that the request shall be processed at the field/regional offices and shall be properly endorsed by concerned Regional Executive Director to the Office of the Secretary through the Forest Management Bureau.

The PWPA feels this latest DENR memorandum will need further clarification as parts of it are outside the scope of EO 23.

PWPA Seeks Guidelines for CCTV Installation, Connectivity and Implementation

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in its memorandum dated October 11, 2011 to all Regional Executive Directors, has required all wood processing plants (WPP) permittees to install CCTV cameras to help closely monitor the operations of the wood mills.

The memorandum states that installation of the CCTV camera will be a requirement for the renewal of the WPP permits as it orders the amendment of the Environmental Compliance Certificate already issued to the permittees to include the provision on the installation of CCTV cameras.

The members of the Philippine

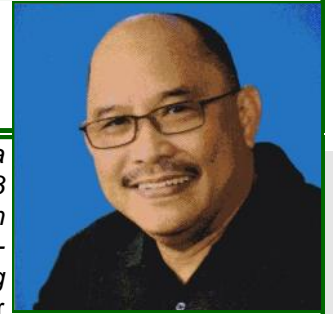
Wood Producers Association (PWPA) immediately complied with the Order even without any approved implementing guidelines. However, in its letters dated November 14, 2011 and January 6, 2012, the PWPA has requested for definite guidelines in order to be clear about the required installation, configuration and conformity details:

The DENR memoranda dated March 29, 2012 and April 4, 2012, instructing its Regional Executive Directors to submit the passwords of all CCTV cameras installed by WPP permittees enabled the PWPA to request the DENR, through its letter dated April 20, 2012, to consider the following concerns in the formulation of guidelines for the CCTV cameras:

- The exemption from CCTV of wood processing mills of low rated/installed capacities because of economic reason;
- The monitoring alternative for mills located in areas where there are no service providers or connectivity signal; and
- The ensuring of the security or privacy of CCTV passwords of WPP permit holders submitted to the DENR.

To date, the guidelines have yet to be issued by the DENR. Meantime, most permits for wood processing plants (WPPs) are pending approval by the DENR due to changing rules the wood industry has not been consulted about.

Forester Ricardo Calderon is the New FMB Chief



FMB Director Ric Calderon

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Special Order No. 2012 - 421 dated June 8, 2012 designates Forester Ricardo Calderon as the new Director of the Forest Management Bureau.

Calderon holds degrees in BS Forestry (1985) and Masters in Forestry Major in Forest Resources Management, Minor in Silviculture and Forest Influences (1992) from the UP Los Banos.

Prior his designation as the Director of the Bureau, Calderon was the Regional Executive Director of DENR Region III, San Fernando, Pampanga and of DENR, Region XI, Davao City.

Ric, as he is fondly called by friends and colleagues, rose from the

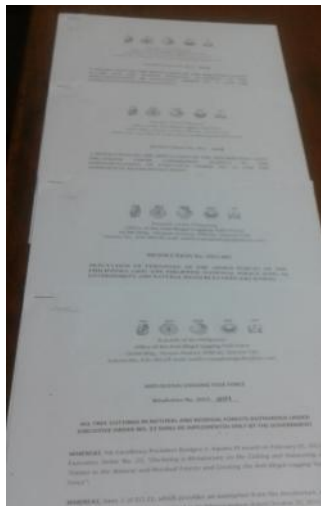
ranks starting his career as a Field Project Coordinator of the Bureau of Animal Industry in Quezon City in 1985. He became the Field Operations Unit Head of the DENR, RP-Japan Training Center in 1986. He handled various position as Team Leader of DENR National Capital Region Monitoring and Law Enforcement and was assigned as Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) of Taytay, Palawan and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) in Romblon, Quezon Province, Los Banos, Laguna, Oriental Mindoro and Baler Aurora.

He has received awards and citations for his exemplary performance as a public servant such as the DENR Eagle Awardee in 1994. He also received a Special Achievement Award, *Parangal Bilang Natatanging Alumnay*

Para sa Taong 1998 sa Larangang Natatanging Gawa, for being the youngest CENRO and PENRO Eagle Awardee of the DENR from the UPLB College of Forestry and Natural Resources on October 11, 1998. Similarly, he was given the *Youngest Forester Award* (Special Achievement Award) by the UPLB College of Forestry Alumni Association on April 24, 1998.

The youngest of the regional executive directors and a very likable person, Calderon is married to the former Germelinda Porte and is blessed with two children, Mona Camille and Gabriel.

AILTF Issues New Resolutions



On June 7, 2012, the Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force (AILTF) created under EO 23 issued Resolution Nos. 2012-001 to 2012-004.

AILTF Resolution No. 2012-001 authorizes only the government to implement tree cuttings in all natural and residual forests provided that those authorized under AILTF Resolution No. 5 dated July 21, 2011 and those attendant to approved development projects, but with the strict supervision by the DENR/AILTF.

AILTF Resolution Nos. 2012-002, 003 and 004 deputized the Arm Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) as Environment and Natural Resources Officers (ENROs), the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission (PAOCC), and the Philippine Coast Guard and the Marine Industry Authority in the implementation of EO 23 and the subsequent issued resolutions, respectively.

**SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM)
PWPA PRACTICES IN NATURAL FOREST PRESCRIBED BY DENR REGULATIONS**

- * Entire area is divided into 30 annual cutting blocks equivalent to first 30-year cutting cycle.
- * Cut 15-20 matured trees of at least 60 cm in diameter per hectare, equivalent to about 67 cubic meters, in every scheduled-cutting block leaving thousands of multi-storied young trees as future crops for the next 30-year cutting cycle.
- * Timber stand improvement, enrichment planting and protection following each cutting to hasten and improve the growth of multi-stories young trees.
- * All of the above in DENR-approved Comprehensive Development and Management Plan and in One or Multi-Year Operations Plan of IFMA-holders.
- * Watershed protection and biodiversity conservation are ensured while economic benefits are achieved.

**SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (SFM)
PWPA PRACTICES IN AND OUTSIDE NATURAL FOREST SUPERVISED BY DENR**

Process	Activities
Prior to cutting	Inventory and marking of trees and their direction of fall
During cutting	Only trees marked are allowed to be cut Scaling of logs to determine volume for forest charges to be paid
Log Pond	Re-scaling and hatchet marking and reconciliation of forest charges payment
Milling and Transporting	Mills have Wood Processing Plant Permits issued by the DENR. Certificate of Timber Origin (accountable form), pre-cleared with DENR Head Office Log or Lumber Transport Permit given by DENR Regional Office Volume and LTP counter-checked with Bill of Lading signed by ship Captain
Destination Point	All required accompanying documents submitted to receiving DENR officer for verification/validation

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WOOD INDUSTRY

The wood industry maybe classified into upstream and downstream sectors. The upstream, wherein the PWPA members generally belong, is the main provider of the wood-products needs of the downstream and also those in the construction and housing industries.

The upstream sector legally sources the timber or logs for their mills from their sustainably-managed natural residual forests, from their own tree plantations; purchased from the farmer-owned tree plantation; and/or imported from abroad.

Logs are processed into lumber, veneer and plywood which are then supplied to the downstream sector, who, in turn, manufactures them into furniture and furnishings, and other secondary processed wood products,

as doors and windows and their jambs, carpentry and moulding, among others, which are export-winners. Most wood products, however, are supplied to the construction and housing industries for their direct use.

In the entire wood supply chain described above, millions of Filipinos are directly and indirectly employed or benefited – in the forests and tree plantations, in the wood mills, in the furniture and like factories, in wood shops, in the warehouses, in the wholesale and retail trade and even in the transport and shipment of wood and wood products.

The multiplier effects of the wood supply chain palpable not only to the dependents and relatives of the workers but also to the economic vibrancy of, and peace and order in, the com-

munities.

Estimates by the PWPA and by the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) put the direct and indirect employment as follows:

	Direct & Indirect Workers
PWPA	650,000
CFIP	1,500,000

CFIP estimates that, tied along the wood supply chain, are some 6 million people, including dependents. The vital role of the upstream sector, including members and workers of PWPA, to the wood supply chain, perforce, cannot be overemphasized.

Wood is important to the life of Filipinos; as oft-said, from cradle to grave.

PWPA Participates in Earth Day Celebration 2012

The Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) joined the Earth Day Network Philippines (EDNP) and the nation in celebrating Earth Day 2012 Celebration at the Ayala Triangle, Makati City last April 22, 2012. With the theme “Earth Day everyday, everywhere,” the nation was invited to make everyday and everywhere an Earth Day as simple ways of caring the earth will always make a difference.

Earth Day 2012 Celebration is a month-long celebration with simultaneous activities being done and participated by Local Government Units (LGUs), Non-Governmental Units (NGOs), Other Government Agencies (OGAs), civil society and the private sector. EDNP celebrated Earth Day 2012 at Ayala Triangle, Makati City in partnership with the LGU of Makati City, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other different organizations. EDNP

President Roberto Guevarra said he wish that all actions from the different sectors of the society will be complementary with each other and not as fragmented as he had observed to avoid overlapping and redundant actions.

A press conference for the Earth Day 2012 Celebration was held at the DENR last March 28, 2012 to inform the public about the Earth Day 2012 Celebration to be held on April 22, 2012 at the Ayala Triangle, Makati City and also other activities to be celebrated by member-organizations during the earth month.

During the presscon, Secretary Paje gave the key message and suggested that this year’s theme “Earth Day everyday, everywhere” will henceforth be the permanent theme of Earth Day celebration. He said the people should be conscious that Earth Day is



DENR Undersecretary Demetrio Ignacio (leftmost) and EDNP President Roberto Guevarra (rightmost) with other EDNP partners join the Earth Day 2012 Celebration.

not only celebrated once a year but its activities should be observed by them everyday and everywhere.

Inquiry on Drying Technology for Timber in the Philippines

The Austrian Embassy through Commercial Attaché Isabel Schmiedbauer, in its efforts to assist Austrian companies that are interested to do business in the Philippines and to further encourage trade between Austria and the Philippines, requested the Philippine Wood Producers Association (PWPA) in gathering information on the market for drying technology for timber and

other wood products in the Philippines.

She said there is an Austrian company, the Contain Dry AG, that is seriously interested in entering the Philippine market. Said company has a patented drying technology using vacuum-assisted drying process for timber. It allows the dehumidification using vacuum at much lower temperatures. Other than lower production and operating costs, the contain dry sys-

tem is simple to install and operate. More information on the company and its contain dry system may be found at <http://www.contain-dry.com>.

Anyone interested and those who have further clarifications, you may contact Ms. Schmiedbauer or the Austrian Embassy at (02) 8181581.

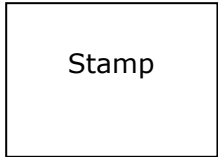
Metro Manila Survey of Plywood Prices in Peso/Panel

As of Feb. 20, 2012 vs. June 2012

	Before (Feb. 20, 2012)	Now (June, 2012)		Before (Feb. 20, 2012)	Now (June, 2012)
	(in Pesos/piece)			(in Pesos/piece)	
3mm (1/8) plywood	235	235	18 mm (3/4) plyboard	858	858
4 mm (3/16) plywood	345	345	1/8 lawanit	273	273
5 mm (1/4) plywood ordinary	350	350	3/16 lawanit	370	370
5 mm (1/4) plywood marine	391	391	1/4 Hardiflex	380	380
10 mm (1/2) plywood	600	600	1/2 Gypsum Board	375	375
18 mm (3/4) plywood ordinary	968	968			

Note: all pick-up prices inclusive of VAT retail prices

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 Makati City 1229



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