

**DENR Memorandum Circular
No. 99-24
November 15, 1999**

SUBJECT : Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Philippine wood Producers Association (PWPA).

1. For the information, guidance and compliance of all concerned, quoted hereunder is the MOA between the DENR and PWPA spelling out their responsibilities to carry out cooperative undertakings generally directed at and supportive of the administration, management development, and use of forest resources on a managed and sustainable basis and of the development of the wood-based industry on a rationalization basis:

“MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into this 18th day of October 1999 in Quezon City, by and between:

The DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, a government agency existing under the laws of the Republic of the Philippines with office address at Visayas Avenue, Diliman Quezon City, represented herein by the Honorable Secretary, ANTONIO H. CERILLES, hereinafter referred to as the “DENR”;

and-

The PHILIPPINE WOOD PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, a corporation duly registered and existing under the laws of the Philippines, with office address at 3F LTA Building, Perea St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, herein represented by its President, Mr. FERNANDO A. LU, hereinafter to as “PWPA”;

WITNESSETH: THAT

WHEREAS, the *DENR* is the government agency primarily responsible for the conservation, management, development, administration, control and proper use of the country’s natural resources;

WHEREAS, the *PWPA* is national association of corporations, partnerships, and individuals involved in natural forest management, forest plantation development and manufacture of lumber, veneer and plywood, pulp and paper and other wood products as well as in the import or export and dealership of these products.

WHEREAS, the common key objectives of the *DENR* and *PWPA* are as follows:

1. To promote efficiency in the management of the natural forests in order to bring about their conservation, protection, sustainable development and wise utilization;
2. To encourage the accelerated development of forest tree plantations in order to assure consumers of a continuous supply of wood products and to help to maintain the ecological balance of the country;
3. To enhance the productivity of forest-based industries and to make their products competitive in the global market in order that they (industries) will continue to serve their economic and social purposes; and

4. To make the public appreciate and support the value of conserving and sustainably managing and wisely using forest resources as means to help to develop the national economy and uplift the social, economic and ecological progress of communities in and around forests.

WHEREAS, it will be to their mutual advantage that they cooperate very closely to pursue and to achieve said objectives;

WHEREAS, said objectives are in accord with the basic programs of the present administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual covenant hereafter contained, the parties hereto have agreed as follows:

1. DENR OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 1.1 The DENR shall extend moral support to PWPA: (a) at policing its own ranks; (b) at ensuring that obligations of its members to the conditions of their licenses, agreements or permits and pertinent implementing rules and regulations of the DENR are monitored and/or complied with; and (c) at enabling it to meet certain responsibilities assigned to it by lawful orders or instructions.

To these ends and in order to attain unity of actions by PWPA, the DENR shall require that before it and/or its field offices concerned will act on any application or request of any individual or corporation engaged in logging; industrial tree plantation development; wood processing such as sawmilling, veneer and plywood making; importing and or exporting of wood products such as logs, lumber, veneer and plywood as well as in the dealership of the same, he or it shall first submit with the DENR and/or its field offices concerned an updated

Certificate of Good Membership Standing issued by PWPA.

- 1.2 The DENR shall suspend or cancel any license, agreement or permit issued to any individual or corporation only under the due process of law except when demanded by the national interest.

To this end, the DENR may call upon the PWPA to attend any and all hearings thereof in order to help to protect the interest of said member(s).

- 1.3 The DENR shall formulate and implement policies and/or implementing rules and regulations deemed at making competitive, viable and stable the wood-based industry sector.

To the end, the DENR may create an industry desk, a task force or a technical/policy group composed of representatives from the DENR and PWPA who shall recommend or formulate appropriate policies or IRRs for the consideration of the Secretary.

2. PWPA OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 2.1 The PWPA shall be responsible in informing all its members or all concerned about this Memorandum of Agreement and about the required Certificate of Good Membership Standing herein aforementioned.
- 2.2 The PWPA shall assist the DENR to monitor and evaluate the performance of PWPA members relative to the terms and conditions of relevant IRRs with end and view of recommending adjustments, if any, in their operations necessary to keep them on proper course.

To this end, the DENR shall prescribe reportorial frameworks that PWPA members shall regularly accomplish and submit to the DENR through PWPA;

- 2.3 Henceforth, the PWPA shall continue to exercise certain delegated responsibilities such as: (a) the reforestation compliance or obligations of its members under DENR DAO 63, series of 1988, as amended; and (b) the conduct and submission of aerial photography – as the coordinating body for all TLA and TPSA holders-mandated under DENR DAO 17, series of 1992, and other relevant regulations on the matter.

To these ends, no management or operations plan shall be acted upon by the DENR or its field offices concerned without the certification by PWPA, by way of its issuance of a Certificate of Good Membership Standing, that conditions therein prescribed have been satisfied by concerned members.

- 2.4 The PWPA shall ensure that the manufacture or production and sale of wood products, such as logs, lumber, veneer and plywood by its members or by other parties concerned conform to relevant national and/or international grades or standards.

To this end, the PWPA shall coordinate the monitoring of all sale of wood products in market outlets with the DENR and/or the Bureau of Products Standards of the Department of Trade and Industry.

- 2.5 The PWPA shall by its own, or in coordination with the DENR, disseminate relevant information and help in the transfer of technology involving forestry and the wood industry as it shall continue to represent the country in

meetings of international wood industry associations to which it is a member or an observer.

To these ends, consultation on strategies and programs shall be coordinated and effected between the DENR and the PWPA.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have signed and executed this instrument at the place and date first above written.

**DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL
RESOURCES**

**PHILIPPINE
WOOD
PRODUCERS
ASSOCIATION**

By:

By:

**(SIGNED)
ANTONIO H. CERILLES
Secretary**

**(SIGNED)
FERNANDO A. LU
President**

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

**(SIGNED)
ROSELLER S. DE LA PEÑA**

**(SIGNED)
ANTONIO G. BERNAS”**

2. In support of the objectives of the aforementioned MOA, more specifically for monitoring and evaluation purposes, every CENRO shall submit to RED concerned a PENRO-validated list and/or profile of all those involved in timber extraction or harvesting, wood processing, manufacturing, import-export, and dealership for which agreements, licenses, permits and/or certificates of registration are required and issued by the DENR and together with said list, a photostatic copy of their individual/respective Certificate of Good Membership

Standing issued by the PWPA. Each RED concerned shall in turn consolidate and submit aforementioned documents to the Secretary through the Forest Management Bureau within one (1) month from the date of approval of this Memorandum Circular. Henceforth, Items/Sections 1.1 and 2.3 of the aforesaid MOA shall be strictly complied with by all concerned.

3. This Circular shall take effect immediately.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO H. CERILLES
Secretary