

Highlights of the Meeting
PDF -Working Group on Sustainable Rural Development
22 February 2007
Department of Agriculture

A. Attendance

Undersecretary Segfredo Serrano	DA
Mr. Peter Keller	GTZ
Ms. Carol Figueroa-Geron	WB
Mr. Felizardo Virtucio Jr.	WB
Ms. Reyna Reyes	AusAid
Mr. Arcadio Cruz	FAO
Dir. Herminia San Juan	DAR
Ms. Cynthia Cardenas	DAR
Ms. Jaydda Mayoralgo	DA
Dir. Jocelyn Isidro	DBM
Ms.	DBM

B. Highlights of Discussion

1.0 The meeting was jointly called to order by Usec. Serrano and Mr. Keller.

The main agenda for the meeting include:

- How to organize the sub-Break out Session on Sustaining Rural Development under Session D: Nurturing Regional and Local Growth
- Finalize the three issues proposed for discussion of the WG during the PDF (for

2.0 The members of the WG on the latest discussions on the preparations for the forthcoming PDF , specifically on the Agenda and the mechanics/procedures for the Break out Session D.

- Within the topic of Session D: Nurturing Regional and Local Growth are three areas: Enhancing local government services, Sustaining rural development and Focusing on Mindanao. Considering that these areas relate to the work of the WG on Sustainable Rural Development and WG on Decentralization and Local Government, both WGs are given the responsibility for chairing the session.
- Given the scope of the topic, it was agreed that the most effective way to cover 2-3 issues was to break into sub-groups (thus, there will be three simultaneous sessions) and then reconvene for a plenary session prior to reporting back to the main group.

3.0 Tentative Program Agenda for Session D

2:00 – 2:30	A	Introduction <i>Note: There will be 5 statements (5 minutes each) from the Secretaries of DA, DAR, DENR, DILG and MEDCO</i>
2:30 – 4:00	B	Simultaneous Sessions (<i>sub-break out groups</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing Local Government Services • Sustaining Rural Development • Focusing on Mindanao
4:00 – 4:15	C	Plenary Discussion <i>Note: Summary of 2-3 issues/ One Statement from 4 Secretaries and MEDCO</i>

4.0 On How to Organize sub-Break out Session on Sustaining Rural Development

4.1 Mr. Keller was requested to facilitate the discussion.

4.2 Three issues will taken up: **Public Expenditure Management, CARP Beyond 2008 and Strengthening Convergence.**

4.3 The session will be organized as follows:

Statement from the DA Secretary	5 minutes
Discussion on the 3 issues	5 minutes
Key Questions on 3 issues	7- 10 minutes
Buzz Groups	45 minutes
Summary	15 minutes

4.4 To facilitate the discussion on the 3 issues, Ms. Carol will draft guide questions to be circulated to the members of the WG for comments by February 28.

4.5 The program will be finalized in a breakfast meeting (about 30 minutes) among Mr. Keller and the Secretaries of DA,DAR and DENR on March 8 (7:00am) at Marco Polo Cebu.

4.6 Some members of the WG were requested to join other break out sessions on topics/areas of relevance to the work on sustainable rural development, among them:

DA	Reducing Transaction Costs and Improving Transaction Flows
FAO	Supporting a Seamless Infrastructure Network
DENR	Meeting the MDGs
WB	Implementing the 2007 Expenditure Program

5.0 The report (2-3 pages, double- spaced) on progress/accomplishment on 2006 PDF Action Agenda is due for submission to PDF Secretariat on March 5). A small team from DA,DAR and DENR will prepare draft and circulate the same to the members of the WG by February 28.

Prepared by:

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