

REPORT OF THE MINING GROUP

Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Department of Environment and
Natural Resources

Highlights of the LGU Forum

- ***Mining Sector Briefer presented by Mr. Benjamin Phillip Romualdez – President of Chamber of Mines of the Philippines***
- ***Contents of briefer:***
 - ❖ **Country's mineral wealth**
 - ❖ **Executive Order No. 270**
 - ❖ **Priority Development Projects**
 - ❖ **Global Competitive Index of the Philippines – based on the Fraser institute Survey**

Mining Break-Out Session

- *DENR Secretary Jose L. Atienza, Jr. was present but had to leave to attend budget hearing in Congress*
- *Undersecretary Ramon JP Paje chaired the session*
- *LGU Officials included:*
 - ❖ Governor of Marinduque (Gov. Carreon)
 - ❖ PENRO of Bulacan
 - ❖ Provincial Board Member of Compostela Valley
 - ❖ Representative from Province of Zambales
 - ❖ Representative from

Issues Raised

- *Unexplained use of guarantee funds regarding the reported expenditure of US\$15 Million for the Marcopper Incident*
- *Fast-tracking of approval of mining tenement applications without following the required consultations with the LGUs*
- *Concern regarding the approval of the Exploration Permit of Philco without first securing the endorsement of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan*
- *Small-scale mining vis-a vis large scale mining*

Other Discussions

- *Action Plan re: Remittance to LGUs of their share of mining excise taxes*
- *Monthly newsletter of the Leagues of Provinces clarifying mining laws, rules and regulations*
- *Requesting mining companies to pay their business taxes in the municipality where their operations exist*

AGREEMENTS

- ***Proposed Action Plan ratified by the participants***
- ***Suggested to include additional action plans:***
 - ***Strictly implement permitting requirements and processes***
 - ***Conduct consultations among the DENR-MGB and the LPP and LCP on the rational implementation of small-scale mining laws based on socio-economic considerations and the allocation of areas for small-scale mining***