# Committee Daily Bulletin

| TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **COMMITTEE** | **MEASURES** | | **SUBJECT MATTER** | **ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION** |
| | **NO.** | **PRINCIPAL AUTHOR** | | |
| Special Committee on Climate Change (Technical Working Group) | Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 527, 1509 & 3260 | Reps. Batocabe, Alejano, and Aglipay-Villar | Establishing the National Coastal Greenbelt Program and providing penalties therefor | The technical working group (TWG), presided by its Committee Secretary Erwin Vicman Lara, will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting. Roy Ortega, chief of the Aquaculture Division of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), suggested limiting the coverage of the bill to include only mangrove and beach forest areas under the National Coastal Greenbelt Program. However, Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) consultant Carlo Custodio opposed the suggestion of Ortega, stressing that coral reefs, algae flats, and other soft bottom areas should also be included in the coverage of the bill as they are equally important in conserving biodiversity. Meanwhile, Dr. Yasmin Tirol, president of the Philippine Association of Marine Science, said that the bill's focus should be on the restoration and rehabilitation of mangroves taking into consideration their economic and ecological benefits. The TWG agreed to limit the scope of the bill to mangrove, beach forest and seagrass. The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the proposed law for the TWG's consideration. |

| FORUM | | |
|---|---|---|
| **COMMITTEE** | **SUBJECT MATTER** | **DISCUSSIONS** |
| Mindanao Affairs | Briefing by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on the proposed budget of concerned government agencies, including their respective allocations for Mindanao, as approved by the DBM and included in the National Expenditure Program (NEP) for CY 2019 | The Committee, chaired by Rep. Maximo Rodriguez Jr. (2nd District, Cagayan de Oro City), will conduct another meeting to continue its discussion with the DBM on the proposed 2019 budget for Mindanao. DBM Undersecretary for Mindanao Affairs Herman Jumilla assured the Committee that DBM will submit the actual budget allocation for Mindanao once the DBM executive committee has finished its review of the proposed national budget for 2019. Jumilla conveyed that the |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Continuation…*<br>Mindanao Affairs | | DBM has just concluded its technical hearings on the 2019 budget. He added that the budget for Mindanao will definitely and significantly increase upon the enactment into law of the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL). Under the BBL, an annual funding of P5 billion will be allocated as development fund for the Bangsamoro area.<br><br>Rep. Abdullah Dimaporo (2nd District, Lanao del Norte) clarified that the increase in funding for Mindanao should not be for administrative concerns but in terms of projects in the Region.<br><br>The Committee requested DBM to submit a breakdown of the budget for Mindanao for 2019 on a per department basis.<br><br>Mindanao Development Authority's (MinDA) Director for Policy, Planning and Project Development Office Reyzaldy Tan stated that the persistent challenge to the development of Mindanao is the disparity in the allocation of government resources and the provision of basic and social welfare services across the regions in the country. Tan explained that the poverty incidence in Mindanao is 37.1% while that of the National Capital Region (NCR) is only 3.91%, which reflects the kind of assistance it gets from the government, according to Tan. |