

Republic of the Philippines Province of Palawan MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL ~0000~

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE 111TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE 14TH SANGGUNIANG BAYAN HELD AT THE SESSION HALL ON OCTOBER 10, 2018.

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HON. ROWEL M. MAGARCE HON. PEPITO J. DRILON HON, JOEY J. NARRAZID HON. ROGELIO B. CABUQUID HON, NOMEMA D. SAIBODIN HON. ERWIN O. GABAYNO HON, DANTE A. MARAASIN HON. WILFREDO N. TABA HON, YUSAH J. INSANI HON. ZORIN E. CADIMA

Municipal Vice Mayor - Presiding Officer

SB Member SB Member SB Member SB Member SB Member SB Member SB Member

President, Liga ng mga Barangay

President, PPSK

Absent:

HON. ARVIN C. FUENTES

SB Member - On Official Business Trip

Resolution No. 2018-108

RESOLUTION IMPOSING A FIVE-YEAR MORATORIUM ESTABLISHMENT OF OIL PALM PLANTATION ANYWHERE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL, PALAWAN

Authored by: HON. PEPITO J. DRILON Co-authored by: HON. ROGELIO B. CABUQUID HON. ARVIN C. FUENTES

WHEREAS, Palawan is the only province in the country covered by a special law, RA 7611, otherwise known as the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan, enacted on June 19, 1992;

WHEREAS, the plan adheres to the principles of ecological viability, integrated approach and social acceptability which basically aims for sustainable development in the province by enhancing resource productivity and environmental quality;

WHEREAS, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) is the lead agency in the policy direction, implementation and governance of RA 7611 (SEP Law) which is clothed with authority to issue policies, guidelines and other regulation in the implementation of the objective of this law;

WHEREAS, in order to carry out its mandate, the PCSD commissioned the Western Philippines University (WPU) to strengthen the research and technology development strategies and shall jointly conduct researches and development projects in pursuit of sustainable development in the Province of Palawan;

WHEREAS, the output of this project is a policy study on the cultivation of oil palm vis-à-vis sustainable agriculture and biodiversity that will guide the council in the formulation of policies regarding oil palm development in the province considering sustainable agriculture and maintenance of the province's high biodiversity;

WHEREAS, while economic benefits appear to be generated by the industry, environmental issues on the other hand, have been associated with oil palm plantation development, such as: biodiversity loss, soil erosion and degradation, water pollution, human health risk and introduction or spread of pests;

WHEREAS, based on the conclusions and recommendations of WPU, oil palm industry in Palawan was not properly and carefully studied prior to its acceptance in the province, rather it was politically motivated with the intention of helping marginalized sector of our society especially in rural areas, however, the implementation of the project resulted to loss of biodiversity, because forest lands are being cleared and converted into oil palm plantations, thus illegal cutting of trees became rampant and indigenous peoples (IPs) were displaced and deprived of their rights;

WHEREAS, RA 7586, otherwise known as NIPAS Act, particularly Buffer Zones on Section 8 discusses, "for each protected area, there shall be established peripheral buffer zones when necessary, xxx such buffer zones shall be included in the individual protected area management plan that shall be prepared for each protected area xxx;"

WHEREAS, the Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape-Protected Area Management Board (MMPL-PAMB) has established in their Management Plan peripheral buffer zones;

WHEREAS, DENR-MC 2004-12 provided the Revised Guidelines Governing the Identification of Forest Areas for the Establishment of African Oil Palm (*Elaeis guineensis* Jacqi.) Plantation;

WHEREAS, IP leaders from southern barangays of this municipality sent a manifesto of protest to the Sangguniang Bayan against the establishment of oil palm plantation in the whole Municipality of Rizal, Palawan specially within the Mount Mantalingahan range;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Pepito J. Drilon unanimously seconded, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to impose as it is hereby imposed, a five-year moratorium on the establishment of oil palm plantation anywhere in the Municipality of Rizal, Palawan;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the Coalition Against Land Grabbing (CALG), Inc., Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), DENR-PENRO and CENRO, MENRO, MMPL-PAMB, the eleven barangays and all others concerned be furnished with copies of this resolution for their information and appropriate action.

ADOPTED: October 10, 2018

I CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

EDGAR G. UNTALAN Secretary to the Sanggunian ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED TO BE DULY ADOPTED:

ROWEL M. MAGARCE Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

NORMAN S. ONG Municipal Mayor

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