

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* Jacq.) 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;

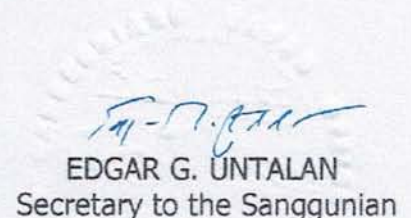
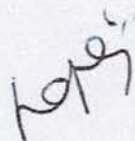
NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Pepito J. Drilon unanimously seconded, be it

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.

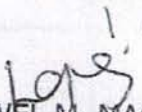
ADOPTED: October 10, 2018

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

10 / 15 / 2018
Date

