

# QUEZON MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION AGAINST OIL PALM EXPANSION



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PALAWAN  
Municipality of **Quezon**  
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## OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 84<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF QUEZON, HELD ON MAY 12, 2015 AT ITS SESSION HALL, QUEZON, PALAWAN

### PRESENT:

Hon. Joselito O. Ayala	- Vice Mayor - Presiding Officer
Hon. Eunes C. Ayod- Musngi	- S.B. Member
Hon. Armil M. Aureno	- S.B. Member - Floor Leader
Hon. Sunday B. Lolo	- S.B. Member
Hon. Elias B. Rayoso	- S.B. Member
Hon. Victor Emmanuel L. Catingub	- S.B. Member
Hon. Gladie M. Nabatos, Jr.	- S.B. Member
Hon. Ethel E. Olid	- S.B. Member - Asst. Floor Leader
Hon. Rolbing T. Sungit	- S.B. Member - IP Representative

### OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Pinky C. Bayabao	- S.B. Member
Hon. Wilfredo P. De Leon	- S.B. Member - ABC President

ABSENT: NONE

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2015-072

**"RESOLUTION DECLARING NO EXPANSION OF OIL PALM PLANTATIONS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF QUEZON, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN"**

Sponsored by Committee on Land Use; Com. on Agriculture;  
Committee on Environmental Protection and Com. On Special Concerns

**WHEREAS**, in 1990 the whole Province of Palawan, because of its unique bio cultural diversity, it has been declared by UNESCO a Man and Biosphere Reserve, it is home to eight (8) protected areas and it Has been declared " Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary" in 1967 and it is a "Mangrove Reserve" since 1981;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Quezon is also home to the Pala'wan and Tagbanua indigenous communities, whose existence are solely dependent on the diversity and richness of the natural resources within and outside their ancestral domain;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Quezon forms part of Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape critical in the provision of various ecosystem services that benefits the local communities with an estimated total economic value of 5.5 US Dollar;

**WHEREAS**, reports have established that considerable portions of the last remaining lowland forest (primary and secondary) have been clear-cut allow the entry of oil palm plantations;

**WHEREAS**, oil palm plantations eradicate native plants and animals from the areas being encroached, and thus are directly responsible for wide scale biodiversity loss;

**WHEREAS**, it has now been ascertained that forest clearing in the municipality of Quezon, for oil palm development by companies and enterprises such as Agumil Philippines, Inc, San Andres, CAVDEAL, etc has taken place in the absence of DENR tree cutting permits' and thus in violation of EO 23 and of sections 68 and 69 of Presidential Decree (PD) 705, as well as of other existing environmental laws;

**WHEREAS**, the expansion of oil palm plantations by Agumil Philippines, Inc., and by other agri-business, has taken place without the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) of the local indigenous communities, and thus in violation of NCIP Administrative Order No. 3 series of 2012 and in contradictions with other key articles stated in the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (R.A. 8371) such as the: 1) Rights of Ownership (Chapter III, Sec. 6, item a); 2) Right to Religious, Cultural Sites and Ceremonies (Chapter VI, Section 33); 3) Right to Develop Lands (Chapter III, Sec. 8); 5) the Right to Determine and Decide Priorities for Development (Chap. IV Sec. 17), etc;

**WHEREAS**, The Palawan Provincial Office of NCIP has already ascertained that oil palm plantations overlap with the ancestral domain of Palawan tribes in other areas;

**WHEREAS**, Members of indigenous communities also claim that there is a direct relationship between oil palm expansion, the impoverishment of their diet, and the progressive deterioration of their traditional livelihood. Such indigenous communities believe that oil palm plantations are responsible for the drastic decline of medicinal plants traditionally used by them for curing common ailments, as well as for the depletion of non-timber forest products (NTFP), animal species and fresh water resources on which they also depend for their livelihood;

**WHEREAS**, according to members of local communities, since oil palm were planted new pests started to spread from oil palm plantations to cultivated fields and coconuts groves, thus affecting people's agricultural improvements;

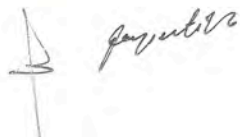
**WHEREAS**, palm oil industry in the province of Palawan and its plan to expand the palm oil plantation is certainly prejudicial to the interest of the Indigenous Peoples communities and the farmers, while it is proven to be destructive to the natural resources of the municipality of Quezon;

**WHEREAS**, the rent for a hectare of land ranges from Php500.00 to Php1,000.00 per annum; such arrangement is extremely exploitative which undermine human rights. Furthermore, the future of the IPs and famers will no longer provide them any chance of human existence; worse, they would become alien to their own land.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion of Hon. Elias B. Rayoso and was unanimously seconded by all the members present, be it -

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to pass a "**RESOLUTION DECLARING NO EXPANSION OF OIL PALM PLANTATIONS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF QUEZON, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN**";

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that copy of this measure be provided the following Offices concerned: the MENRO, NCIP, IP Representative, AGUMIL Philippines, Liga ng mga Barangay, for information and proper action;



CARRIED.

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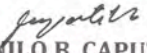
*I HEREBY CERTIFY* to the correctness of the foregoing **RESOLUTION**.

  
**MA. GINA C. LINGA-ABIOG**  
Board Secretary II  
Acting SB Secretary

ATTESTED:

  
**JOSELITO O. AYALA**  
Municipal Vice Mayor  
Regular Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

  
**ROMILO B. CAPUTILLA**  
Municipal Mayor

05-13-2015  
Date Approved