

REPORT ON THE MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY JOEL RUDINAS AND STAFF

July 26, 2012

Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations
Department of Agriculture

1. A meeting with Undersecretary Joel Rudinas of the Department of Agriculture was convened to discuss their Department's possible participation and contribution to the development of a nutrient management strategy for the Manila Bay region (i.e. point and non-point sources of nutrients) including compilation of best practices in nutrient management under the UNEP/GEF Project.
2. The agenda and the list of participants to the meeting are shown in Annex 1 and Annex 2, respectively.
3. The highlights of the meeting, including required actions are shown below:
 - i) The Department of Agriculture, as part of its compliance to the Supreme Court Continuing Mandamus for the Manila Bay has established a Manila Bay Task Force which will be tapped in its commitment to cooperate and participate in the implementation of the UNEP/GEF Global Foundations for reducing Nutrient Enrichment and Oxygen Depletion from Land-based Pollution in support of Global Nutrient Cycle. The arrangement for cooperation and participation will be through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Action to be taken: PEMSEA to provide the draft MOU between the Department of Agriculture, UP Marine Science Institute and PEMSEA.

 - ii) The UP Marine Science Institute is willing to provide technical advice on-going initiative to estimate pollution loading from agricultural sector.
 - iii) PEMSEA will provide access to all information it has its holding to the Department of Agriculture, including providing access to available partners in its implementation of pollution monitoring from agriculture such as fertilizer utilization, water quality monitoring of aquaculture areas, database management and mapping.
4. Undersecretary Rudinas express gratitude to Mr. Adrian Ross for sharing the work done by PEMSEA, especially in engaging the Department of Agriculture in the UNEP/GEF Nutrient Management.

ANNEX 1. Provisional Agenda of the Meeting

Meeting with Undersecretary Joel Rudinas and Staff
July 26, 2012, 9:00 am
Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations

Purpose of the Meeting

To discuss with the Department of Agriculture its possible participation and contribution to the development of a nutrient management strategy for the Manila Bay Region (i.e. point source and non-point sources of nutrients) including compilation of best practices in nutrient management under the UNEP/GEF Project.

Tentative Agenda

1. Briefing on the UNEP/GEF Global Foundations for Reducing Nutrient Enrichment and Oxygen Depletion from Land-based Pollution, in support of the Global Nutrient Cycle.
2. Briefing on PEMSEA and its activities.
3. Briefing on Department of Agriculture activities in the Manila Bay and on nutrient management
4. Discussion on DA's participation to the UNEP/GPA Project
5. Other Matters

ANNEX 2. List of Participants

1. Undersecretary Joel Rudinas, Department of Agriculture
2. Edna Samar, Bureau of Soils and Water Management
3. Isidora Camaya, National Irrigation Administration
4. Lara Patricia Sotto, UP-Marine Science Institute
5. Nancy Bermas, PEMSEA
6. Adrian Ross, PEMSEA
7. Gil Jacinto, UP-Marine Science Institute
8. Chricept Vilorio, Philippine Coconut Authority
9. Sandra Arcamo, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
10. Romeo Resuello, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
11. Marvin Vicente, National Meat Inspection Service
12. Faye Gadawan, Department of Agriculture
13. Maria Chelo Santos, Department of Agriculture
14. Robert Jara, PEMSEA