



MINAHANG BAYAN OFFICE  
 ITOGON, BENGUET  
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**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 04**  
 Series of 2019

**ESTABLISHING THE MUNICIPAL TASK FORCE AGAINST ILLEGAL MINING  
 IN ITOGON, BENGUET**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Code mandates that Local Government Units shall share with the National Government the responsibility in the management and maintenance of ecological balance within their territorial jurisdiction, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Code and national policies;

**WHEREAS**, the Government in general and the DENR in particular, in coordination with Local Government Units concerned, shall ensure that environmental standards in mining, as prescribed by the various mining and environmental laws, and rules and regulations, shall be fully and strictly enforced;

**WHEREAS**, various functions has been devolved to the Local Government Units, through the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board, particularly those relating to the establishment of Minahang Bayan and the consequent approval of Small Scale Mining Contracts;

**WHEREAS**, the DENR established the National Task Force Challenge, with the primary function to stop illegal mining nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, to date, only one area has been declared as Minahang Bayan in Itogon, Benguet, thus, technically all small-scale mining activities outside the minahang bayan are illegal;

**WHEREAS**, several small-scale mining activities, including processing, has been observed and these resulted to indiscriminate release of waste containing chemicals which in turn resulted to fish kill along the Agno River within Barangays Tinongdan and Dalupirip;

**WHEREAS**, in a series of meetings and consultations, several stakeholders in this municipality agreed and decided to take upon themselves to proactively enforce the stoppage of illegal mining activities within the municipality of Itogon, hence, the stablishment of this Task Force;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, **Atty. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, by virtue of the powers vested in me as the Local Chief Executive of the Municipality of Itogon, Province of Benguet, do hereby establish the **MUNICIPAL TASK FORCE AGAINST ILLEGAL MINING**, as follows:

**Section 1: COMPOSITION**

- Chairman : **Atty. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, Municipal Mayor
- Vice Chairman : **P/Major ROMMEL P. SAWATANG**, Chief of Police, IMPS - *[Signature]*
- Co-Vice Chairman : **Atty. FROILAN ROGER C. LAWILAO**, Benguet Corporation
- Members : **Hon. Dante Alain Xavier D. Godio**,  
 Chairman, SB Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
- : **Hon. Eddie P. Amuasen**, Punong Barangay, Ampucao *[Signature]*
- : **Hon. Vicente D. Puguon**, Punong Barangay, Gumatdang *[Signature]*
- : **Hon. Andres C. Cuyan**, Punong Barangay, Loacan *[Signature]* 8-6-19
- : **Hon. Albert C. Carantes, Jr.**, Punong Barangay, Poblacion *[Signature]* 8/6/19
- : **Hon. Martin D. Chavez, Jr.**, Punong Barangay, Tuding *[Signature]* 8/6/19
- : **Hon. Kennedy W. Waclin**, Punong Barangay, Ucab *[Signature]* 8/6/19
- : **Hon. Noel D. Bilibli**, Punong Barangay, Virac - *[Signature]* 8/6/19

The Mayor's Office shall provide secretariat services



## Section 2: FUNCTIONS

- a. Formulate and recommend policies regarding small-scale mining within the Municipality of Itogon
- b. Monitor all activities related to mining within the jurisdiction of Itogon
- c. Stop all illegal mining operations and activities within the Municipality of Itogon
- d. Perform such other functions related to mining within the Municipality of Itogon

## Section 3: DUTIES of the Task Force Members

- **Municipal Mayor:**

**The Municipal Mayor shall:**

- a. Preside over meetings and/or consultations of the Task Force;
- b. Coordinate with other agencies/offices for the enforcement of the functions of the Task Force;
- c. Issue orders for the implementation of the policies formulated by the Task Force.

- **SB Committee on Environment Chair:**

**The SB Committee on Environment Chair shall:**

- a. Facilitate the enactment of appropriate Legislative measures based on the policies formulated by the Task Force;
- b. Serve as the Liaison between the Task Force and the Sangguniang Bayan.

- **PNP Chief of Police:**

**The Chief of Police shall:**

- a. Provide security in the enforcement of the functions of the Task Force
- b. Conduct inspection and validation of all alleged illegal mining activities within the Municipality of Itogon;
- c. Coordinate with the Punong Barangays and other Task Force members in the conduct of inspection, patrol and other activities;
- d. Conduct arrest of perpetrators of illegal mining if necessary, subject to the condition that prior warning has been issued to the perpetrators but such warning remain unheeded.

- **Benguet Corporation:**

**Benguet Corporation shall:**

- a. Identify the illegal mining activities within its jurisdiction in Gumatdang, Antamok and Acupan areas;
- b. Lead in the conduct of inspection and issuance of warning against perpetrators;
- c. Provide supplies and materials for the stoppage and closure of illegal mining including the blasting of tunnels and adits of illegal mining;
- d. Provide manpower necessary for the conduct of all activities related to the above-mentioned duties.

- **Punong Barangays:**

**Punong Barangays shall:**

- a. Augment personnel for security by providing services of their Barangay Tanods during patrol, inspection and other activities of the Task Force;
- b. Report to the Task Force all incidents of illegal mining within their area of jurisdiction;
- c. Assist the PNP in all activities conducted to enforce the functions of the Task Force.

## Section 4: REPORTORIAL DUTIES

The Municipal Task Force shall submit report all activities/incidents to the Office of the Benguet Provincial Governor, the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board, DILG-Benguet, PNP-Benguet Provincial Office, and other offices.

## Section 5: EFFECTIVITY

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019 at Itogon, Benguet.

  
**ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**  
Municipal Mayor

Distribution: - Chief of Police, IMPS  
- All Punong Barangays  
- Benguet Corporation  
- SB Com. on Environment

cc: - PNP-Benguet  
- PGO-Benguet  
- PMRB c/o MGB CAR - emailed 8/6/19  
- DILG-Benguet - emailed 8/6/19 3:44PM