

Republic of the Philippines Province of Benguet Municipality of Itogon **Office of the Municipal Mayor** Telephone No. (074) 423-0818 / Fax Number: (074)442-3526 Email Address: <u>vic.palangdan@gmail.com</u>

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 16-30 Series of 2016

CREATING AND ORGANIZING A MUNICIPAL WORKING COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT PRE-NEGOTIATION ACTIVITIES IN RELATION WITH THE PROPOSED BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN ITOGON AND TUBA FOR A JUDICIOUS AND SPEEDY BOUNDARY DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Itogon and Tuba have expressed their intent to resolve their existing boundary dispute such that among the WHEREAS Clause of Itogon-Tuba Joint Resolution No. 01, series of 2013 states, thus: "the boundary dispute between Itogon and Tuba has been the concern of the respective Municipal officials including Provincial Government officials for over fifty years yet no case has been filed in court, hence the dedication and commitment of the present Municipal Officials of both municipalities to maintain constant dialogues and consultations to finally put the issue at rest;"

WHEREAS, even barangays Ampucao, Itogon and Camp Three, Tuba, have shown their desire and willingness to finally resolve and put the issue at rest such that through their respective Sanguniang Barangays, they commissioned the services of technical personnel to conduct relocation surveys and appropriate studies to determine the metes and bounds of the area/s under dispute and to plot the technical descriptions of a new political boundary between these two barangays as may be agreed upon during their negotiations;

WHEREAS, after series of negotiations, the two affected barangays came up with an agreement they deemed it best to resolve the boundary dispute as embodied in their Joint Resolution No. 01, series of 2012 endorsing the same to both Sanguniang Bayans of Itogon and Tuba for approval;

WHEREAS, the Local Government of Itogon is adherent to the principles of an out-of-court settlement or amicable settlement in settling disputes considering the benefits to be derived therefrom by both parties such as win-win solution to the problem based on mutual agreements and understanding, strengthening relations and cooperation, fostering peace, unity and camaraderie, etc.;

WHEREAS, prior to the commencement of formal talks on the boundary dispute resolution, preparatory works has to be done to ensure a smooth flow of events and well-coordinated actions even during negotiation period;

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers vested in me, I, **ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province, hereby promulgate as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby created a Municipal Working Committee on Itogon-Tuba Boundary Dispute to be composed of the following:

CHAIRMAN: MR. ALOYSIUS G. KATO, Municipal Administrator

MEMBERS: HON. GERARD S. CORNEL, SB Member HON. DANTE ALLAIN XAVIER D. GODIO, SB Member

HON. ARNEL F. BAHINGAWAN, SB Member HON. EDIE P. AMUASEN, PB, Ampucao ENGR. AVELINO S. MEDINA, Asst. Municipal Assessor

Section 2. Duties and Functions. The Ad Hoc Committee shall perform the following duties and functions, to wit;

- In pursuit of a peaceful and out-of-court settlement, the Ad Hoc Committee shall conduct exploratory talks with the Municipality of Tuba for purposes of bringing these two municipalities into formal talks and negotiations with the end view of finally resolving the Itogon-Tuba boundary dispute;
- Shall collate all issues and concerns arising from the dispute and its adverse impacts to the interest of both municipalities and its respective inhabitants for submission to the Sanguniang Bayan for purposes of preliminary presentation at the opening of the negotiations;
- 3. To come up with a POSITION of the Municipality of Itogon over the disputed area for review and evaluation by the Sanguniang Bayan which shall eventually be presented for consideration during the negotiation. In determining such position, the committee may also take cognizance of the agreement between barangays Ampucao, Itogon and Camp Three, Tuba as embodied under their Joint Resolution No. 01, series of 2016, establishing new metes and bounds as among the "talking points" for negotiations.
- To prepare a TIME LINE of activities from exploratory talks to formal negotiations;
- 5. The Ad Hoc Committee shall meet as often as it deems necessary to carry out the purpose and objectives of this order. As such, said committee shall recommend appropriate actions and/or necessary measures to address related issues and concerns arising from the dispute or those that may arise during the negotiation stage;
- Shall always inform the LCE on matters relative to the exercise of its duties and functions as herein provided and shall likewise submit a Terminal Report upon completion of its tasks;
- 7. Shall perform other relevant duties and functions as may be directed by the Local Chief Executive and/or the Sanguniang Bayan of Itogon.

Section 3. *Repealing Clause.* All Administrative Orders and/or Issuances inconsistent herewith or parts hereof are deemed repealed and/or modified accordingly.

Section 4. Effectivity. This Administrative Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 10th day of October, 2016 at Itogon, Benguet.

Let copies of this Order be furnished all concerned for their information and guidance.

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