

PANLIPI
TANGGAPANG PANLIGAL NG KATUTUBONG PILIPINO
(LEGAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS FILIPINOS)

1987
ANNUAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

The PANLIPI was an off-shoot of the Paralegal Training Services Center (PTSC) which started operations in 1981. In 1982, paralegal seminars on constitutional rights were conducted by the PTSC for tribal communities. After the seminars, follow-up legal assistance was requested by these communities. Because there were specific laws particular to tribal communities, all requests were handled by Atty. Donna Zapa-Gasgonia, who made an in-depth study of these laws. As the years passed, a Task Force on Tribal Filipinos was set up by the PTSC to handle the requests of the communities. By 1986 however, only 20% of the requests of these communities were for paralegal seminars, and 80% required continuing legal assistance. The requests for legal assistance were turned down by PTSC if they were not a consequence of a paralegal seminar conducted by it. It was however clear that these services must be provided, but PTSC was limited by its organizational purpose.

Thus, in a PTSC general meeting in August 1986, it was agreed that a legal assistance center for tribal Filipinos be set up and PANLIPI started operations for the purpose of providing legal assistance to tribal Filipinos, independent of the PTSC.

The PANLIPI is a duly registered non-stock, non-profit organization (SEC No. 143908) which formally started operations on January 1, 1987. Its office address is Unit 5, Salud Apartments, 3243 Zapote St. Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines.

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES:

1. To render advice and consultancy to Filipino non-Muslim indigenous communities;
2. To assist these communities in administrative, judicial and quasi-judicial proceedings;
3. To conduct legal research and compile legal data pertaining to the rights of these communities;
4. To make maximum use of legal data compiled with participatory research by systematic advocacy of policy in the government;

5. To coordinate with government and non-government organizations in the carrying out of this program;
6. To mobilize all possible resources, human and material, national and international, public and private and to accept donations and other forms of financial assistance to carry out this program and to conduct other related activities therefor.

SERVICES OFFERED:

1. LEGAL ADVICE AND CONSULTANCY

To discuss every move contemplated by the tribal communities and to advise them on appropriate actions and the legal technicalities of such actions.

2. LEGAL COUNSEL

To act as attorney for tribal communities in administrative, judicial and quasi-judicial proceedings.

3. LEGAL RESEARCH

To compile legal data and to ensure update on policies, rules and statutes.

4. POLICY ADVOCACY

To make maximum use of legal data compiled with participatory research by systematic advocacy of policies in the government thru appropriate branches, departments, bodies or agencies.

PEOPLE IN THE ORGANIZATION

Trustees: Atty. Edgardo R. Abaya, Atty. Evelyn R. Dominguez, Atty. Donna Z. Gasgonia, Atty. Ma. Vicenta P. de Guzman, Atty. Roan I. Libarios, Atty. Beverly S. Musni, Atty. Augusto S. Sanchez.

Executive Director - Atty. Donna Zapa-Gasgonia; Administrative Secretary - Carolina Z. Alhambra; National Paralegal Coordinator - Jay P. Supetran; Legal Coordinator for Luzon - Atty. Ma. Vicenta de Guzman; Legal Officer for Northeastern Mindanao - Atty. Roan I. Libarios; Legal Officer for Central Mindanao - Atty. Beverly S. Musni.

PROGRESS REPORT

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	TRIBE	STAFF
1. 27-28 Feb	Meeting with Christian Lowlander	Oriental, Mindoro		Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
2. 6-8 March	Ocular inspection of the logging concession	Oriental, Mindoro	Mangyans	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
3. 14 Apr	Community consultation	Abra de Ilog Occidental Mindoro	IRAYA MANGYAN	Volunteer UP Paralegals
4. 24-27 Apr	Paralegal training (25 participants)	Center for Rural Dev. Bansud, Or. Mindoro	MANGYAN	Volunteer UP Paralegals
5. 28-30 Apr	Community Exposure	Mansalay, Or. Mindoro	HANUNUO MANGYANS	Volunteer Ateneo Law School Paralegals
6. 18-21 Jun	Community Exposure	Oriental Mindoro	Mangyans	JAY P. SUPETRAN Paralegal Coordinator
7. 17-20 Jul	Community Consultation	Yamut, Poonbato, Botolan, Zambales	AETA	JAY P. SUPETRAN Paralegal Coord. MARVIN A. ARTIS Harvard Law student (Exposuree)
8. 12-14 Nov	Community consultation	Boong, Domanguena, Narra, Palawan	TAGBANUA	JAY P. SUPETRAN Paralegal Coord.

SEMINARS/CONSULTATIONS PARTICIPATED

DATE	SEMINAR/CONSULTATION	SPONSOR	VENUE	STAFF
1. 3 Feb	CONFERENCE BETWEEN NEPC & BULALACAO HANUNOO LEADERS & PANLIPI	PANLIPI	Oriental Mindoro	Atty. V.DE GUZMAN Field Legal Coordinator
2. 5 Feb	MEETING WITH BOE FORMER MINISTER VICENIE PATERNO	PANLIPI	Makati, Metro Manila	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
3. 6 Feb	MANGYAN-MINISTER DIALOGUE	DENR/AMPFOD	Center for Rural Dev. Bansud, Or. Mindoro	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Exec. Director
4. 6-8 March	SIGNING OF THE INCORPORATION PAPERS OF AMPFOD	AMPFOD	Center for Rural Dev. Bansud Or. Mindoro	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
5. 20-23 Mar	SECOND CONGRESS ON ANCESTRAL DOMAIN	UGAT (Phil. Anthropo-logical Society)	USC Retreat House Talamban, Cebu City	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Exec. Director
6. 27 Apr	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OF THE CASE OF BORROMEIO LAGUNDAY	attended by PANLIPI Executive Director	Roxas, Oriental Mindoro	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
7. 22-28 Jul	INVESTIGATION DENR TEAM PARTICIPATED BY PANLIPI	DENR/PANLIPI	Poonbato, Botolan, Zambales	Atty. D.Z. GASGONIA Executive Director
8. 24 Oct	TF-DENR DIALOGUE	SILDAP-SIDLAKAN	ABC Hall, Butuan City	JAY P. SUPETLAN Paralegal Coord.
9. 7 Nov	2nd INTER-TRIBAL CONGRESS SAMAHANG PANTRIBU NG MGA MANGYAN SA MINDORO (SPMM)	MAF/AMPFOD	Batangan, Bongabong Or. Mindoro	JAY P. SUPETLAN Paralegal Coord.
10.30 Nov- 3 Dec	RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND PUBLICATION CONSULTATION (Mindanao-wide)	MINTREC	Manresa Retreat House Cagayan de Oro City	JAY P. SUPETLAN Paralegal Coord.
11.6-10 Dec	THIRD CONGRESS CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MINORITY PEOPLES OF THE PHILIPPINES (CAMPP)	CAMPP/ESDEC	Redemptorist Seminary Antipolo, Rizal	C.Z. ALHAMBRA Executive Secretary

S.E.C. REGISTRATION

ORGANIZATION	TRIBE	AREA	STATUS
1. ALTERNATIVE MANGYAN PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT (AMPFOD)	(Support Group for the Mangyan tribe)	Island of Mindoro	Released: July 23
2. SAMAHANG PANTRIBU NG MGA MANGYAN SA MINDORO (SPMM)	Mangyan	Island of Mindoro	Released: March 3
3. LUBOS NA ALYANSA NG KATUTUBONG AETA SA SAMBALES (LAKAS)	Aeta	Botolan, Zambales	Released: December 3

SUMMARY OF ACTIVE CASES

ISSUE :	TRIBE :	AREA :	AGENCY :
1. Petition for declaration of Ancestral Domain	B'LAAN	Brgy. Lasak, Brgy. Libertad, Colombio, Sultan Kudarat	Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
2. Logging operations and petition for the declaration of Ancestral Domain	B'LAAN	Brgy. Lam-alis, Colombio, Sultan Kudarat	Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
3. Petition for declaration of Ancestral Domain	HIGAONON	Brgy. Dalwangan, Malaybalay, Bukidnon	Dept. of Agriculture and Food
4. Coal Mining operations encroaching on Ancestral Domain	HANUNUO MANGYAN	Bulalacao, Or. Mindoro	Office of Energy Affairs/Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
5. Fake titles	HANUNUO MANGYAN	Mansalay and Bulalacao, Or. Mindoro	Dept. of Justice
6. Petition against a pasture lease, and for the declaration of Ancestral Domain	MANOBO	Brgy. Katindu, Magpet, North Cotabato	Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
7. Landgrabbing	MANOBO	Brgy. Anonang, Libungan, North Cotabato	Bureau of Lands
8. Petition for Civil Reservation	TAGBANUA	Brgy. Domanguena, Narra, Palawan	Office of the Pres./ Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources

SUMMARY OF RESOLVED CASES

ISSUE	TRIBE	AREA	AGENCY/COURT
1. Open pit mining	IBALOI	Dupax del Norte, Nueva Vizcaya	mining operations suspended by the Bureau of Mines and Geo-sciences (July 1987)
2. Logging operations within a watershed and reservation area	IRAYA, ALANGAN and TADYAWAN MANGYANS	Northern Mindoro co- vering an area of 46,000 hectares affect- ing eight municipali- ties	Timber License Agreement No. 376 was cancelled by the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (October 5, 1987)
3. Landgrabbing	DUMAGAT	Dilepsong, Nipoo, Di- nalungan, Casiguran, Quezon	Decision favoring the tribe was rendered by the Intermediate Appellate Court (January 19, 1987)

LEGAL RESEARCH

1. Compilation of the following materials affecting the indigenous Filipinos:
 - a. Presidential proclamations, decrees, and administrative orders;
 - b. Bills pending in Congress;
 - c. Documents from international organizations working with indigenous groups;
 - d. Books, literary articles and other related materials.
2. On-going research: The Present Status of Civil Reservations for Indigenous Filipinos
Copies of several proclamations establishing civil reservations were procured.
3. Publication:
Maiden issue of KALATAS PANLIPI, was released on December 17, 1987

POLICY ADVOCACY

Policy suggestions on the issuance of Communal Forest Lease (CFL) for indigenous Filipinos was submitted to the Bureau of Forest Development, and was acknowledged by BFD Executive Director Cirilo Serna.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Summer Exposure
Hosted in July Mr. MARVIN ARTIS, Harvard Law School student and an HR exposuree to the following areas:
 - a. Mindoro - Hanunuo Mangyan tribe
 - b. Olongapo City - U.S. Naval Base
 - c. Zambales - Aeta
2. Assisted in selling indigenous Mangyan products.

ORGANIZATIONAL

1. Recruited volunteer paralegals mostly from the University of the Philippines and community workers.
2. Recruited Regional Legal Officers for Mindanao.

1988

PROPOSED PROGRAM

PROGRAM FOR 1988

ADVICE AND CONSULTANCY

1. Establishment of linkages with other tribal groups and organizations, more specifically in the following areas:
 - a. Panay and other Visayan islands
 - b. Quezon province-Bicol region area
 - c. Southern Mindanao
 - d. Cordillera region
2. Conduct of paralegal seminars/trainings and community consultations.
 - 2.a. Extensive trainer's training on documentation and Quick Reaction Team (QRT) methods
 - 2.b. Initiate lawyers consultation/orientation regarding Tribal Filipino rights
3. Assistance in the registration of organizations and/or cooperatives with the government.

COUNSEL

Follow-up of active cases with the proper government agencies.

RESEARCH

1. Establishment of an Indigenous Filipino Library.
2. Publications:
 - a. KALATAS PANLIPI (Bulletin)
 - a.1. Significant Rules, Procedures & Policies
 - a.2. Legal History
 - b. PANLIPI NEWSLETTER (Quarterly magazine)
 - c. PANLIPI General Information Brochure
3. On-going research: The Present Status of Civil Reservations for Indigenous Filipinos.

POLICY ADVOCACY

1. Participation in committee hearings of the Congress in matters affecting indigenous communities.
2. Conduct of consultations with indigenous communities and other non-government organizations (NGO's) in reviewing existing policies and in formulating alternative ideas to existing ones which are viewed to be not beneficial to the indigenous communities.
3. Formulate policy on communal ownership
4. Coordinate with international organizations for favorable policies

ORGANIZATION

1. Recruitment of volunteer lawyers in the regional level.
2. Training of regular volunteer paralegals.
3. Establishment of a Research, Documentation and Publication Desk.
4. Tribal Exchange- involving tribal representatives; paralegals; and lawyers

Approved 24 January 1988.