



# Sangguniang Panlalawigan

BATAAN CAPITOL, BALANGA CITY



EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION VIA ZOOM  
MEETING OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF BATAAN  
HELD AT THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN ON OCTOBER 12, 2020

## PRESENT:

Hon. Ma. Cristina M. Garcia, Vice Governor and Presiding Officer

## FIRST DISTRICT:

Hon. Benjamin C. Serrano, Jr., Board Member  
Hon. Jomar L. Gaza J.D., Board Member  
Hon. Reynaldo T. Ibe, Jr., Board Member  
Hon. Godofredo B. Galicia, Jr., M.D., Board Member  
Hon. Maria Khristine G. Dela Fuente, Board Member



## SECOND DISTRICT:

Hon. Maria Margarita R. Roque, Board Member  
Hon. Manuel N. Beltran, Board Member  
Hon. Edgardo P. Calimbas, Board Member  
Hon. Jose C. Villapando, Sr., Board Member  
Hon. Romano L. Del Rosario, Board Member  
  
Hon. Doroteo M. Austria, Board Member (FABC President)  
Hon. Noel Joseph L. Valdecañas, Board Member (PCL President)  
Hon. Precious D. Manuel, Board Member (SKF President)  
Hon. Rosita N. Sison, Board Member (IPM Representative)

## ABSENT:

None

## PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 14 Series Of 2020

**ORDINANCE MANDATING THE PRESERVATION OF CENTURY AND HERITAGE  
TREES IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN AND PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION  
OF A SPECIAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE.**

**Sponsored By : Hon. Maria Margarita R. Roque**

**WHEREAS**, trees provide various environmental and economic benefits like improvement of air quality, prevention of soil erosion, promotion of watersheds, provision of shade and cooler environment;

**WHEREAS**, trees have become the symbol of environmental concerns and protection throughout the world;

**WHEREAS**, century and heritage trees are vintage nature landmarks and "living witnesses" to the historical events in the Province of Bataan, including the infamous Death March;

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Provincial Governor

**"EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICE TOWARDS A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL"**



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**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Bataan considers the care of trees as a shared responsibility, and with the end in view of protecting them, launched several programs, including the "One Million Trees for One Bataan" (1M 4 1B) project aimed at empowering environmental responsiveness through crowdsourcing, specifically by encouraging people to plant more trees and emphasizing its importance to the environment;

**WHEREAS**, on 25 June 2016, the Provincial Government of Bataan, pursuant to its drive against climate change, broke the world record for most number of trees planted in a span of one hour by an unlimited size in a single location, wherein about 18,000 students, volunteers, professionals, employees and citizens altogether planted 223,393 trees in Barangay General Lim, in Orion, Bataan;

**WHEREAS**, further to these projects, the Provincial Government of Bataan also is keen on providing focus for the protection of Century and Heritage trees;

**NOW THEREFORE**, Be It Ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in Regular Sessions Assembled:

**Section 1. Title** – This Ordinance shall be known as the "Century and Heritage Trees Ordinance of Bataan".

**Section 2. Declaration of Century and Heritage Trees** – Trees shall be identified as follows:

- a. Trees that have existed for 100 years or more shall be declared as "Century Trees";
- b. Important trees species which have not yet reached 100 years old but are considered ecologically, historically or culturally valuable; belonging to rare species; or are adjacent to a water source, spring or well, the cutting or destruction of which will disrupt or destroy the water source, shall be declared as "Heritage Trees".

Upon the declaration of a tree as a Century or Heritage tree, the same shall properly be marked as such in a manner that will not be adverse to the tree, but will ensure public awareness on the status of the tree as such, including the protection that this Ordinance affords the same.

**Section 3. Creation of Special Technical Committee on Century and Heritage Trees** – For the main purpose of implementing this Ordinance, a Special Technical Committee on Century and Heritage Trees (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") is hereby created composed of one (1) representative each from the Culture and Heritage Preservation Team, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Provincial Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-PENRO Bataan), and Provincial Government - Environment and Natural Resources Office (PG-ENRO). The representative from the Culture and Heritage Preservation Team shall head the Committee.

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**Section 4. Powers and functions of the Special Technical Committee on Century and Heritage Trees** – The Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. receive nominations, evaluate, determine and approve the declaration of Century and Heritage Trees;
- b. for this purpose, the Committee is hereby mandated to come up with its own rules and guidelines, within a period of three (3) months from the effectivity of this Ordinance, which will be subject to the approval of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;
- c. through the Culture and Heritage Preservation Team, the Committee shall solicit from Barangay Officials, School Authorities, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) or People's Organizations (POs) a list of prospective trees, which it will collate for submission and evaluation by the Committee;
- d. maintain an inventory of all declared Century and Heritage Trees, which will be reviewed and updated periodically, and which shall contain at least the following information:
  1. The name of the tree (scientific and local)
  2. Date of declaration
  3. Approximate age
  4. Tree registry number
  5. Location of the tree
- e. Mark declared Century or Heritage Trees as such and adopt other measures to disseminate information on such status of the tree and the protection that this Ordinance affords the same;
- f. In coordination with the relevant departments, offices and agencies of the government, monitor the well-being of trees after their declarations as Century or Heritage trees.

**Section 5. Privately Owned Trees** – Privately owned trees inside a private lot may likewise be declared as Century or Heritage Tree with the prior consent of the owner. Such consent shall be embodied in an agreement between the owner and the Provincial Government of Bataan wherein the former declares, among others, that the specific tree is under the protection of this Ordinance.

**Section 6. Protection and Prohibitions** – All trees declared as Century or Heritage Trees shall be preserved and maintained in its natural state. They shall not be cut or be subjected to any form of destruction or harm, except for public emergency or safety concerns, or for medical or botanical reasons, the presence of which shall be determined by the Special Technical Committee, prior to cutting, except in emergency situations. This prohibition applies to all plants and animals that live on or within the tree, or are dependent on the same for their survival.

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**Section 7. Penalty Clause** – Any person or entity caught violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be liable as follows:

First Offense	10 days imprisonment and/or PhP3,000.00 fine, at the discretion of the Court
Second Offense	20 days imprisonment and/or PhP4,000.00 fine, at the discretion of the Court.
Third and Succeeding Offenses	30 days imprisonment and/or PhP5,000.00 fine, at the discretion of the Court.

**Section 8. Repealing Clause** – All ordinances, executive orders inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby deemed repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**Section 9. Separability Clause** – If for any reason or reasons any provision of this Ordinance be declared illegal by a competent court, other provisions which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 10. Effectivity Clause** – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon compliance with the requirements of the relevant provision of Republic Act No. 7160.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

SEVERINO P. SALAZAR  
Secretary to the SP

BENJAMIN C. SERRANO, JR.  
Board Member

JOMAR L. GAZA J.D.  
Board Member

REYNALDO T. IBE, JR.  
Board Member

GODOFREDO B. GALICIA, JR., M.D.  
Board Member

MARIA KRISTINE G. DE LA FUENTE  
Board Member

MARIA MARGARITA R. ROQUE  
Board Member

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Provincial Governor



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MANUEL N. BELTRAN  
Board Member

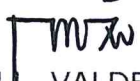
  
JOSE C. VILLAPANDO, SR.  
Board Member

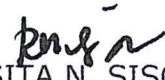
  
DOROTEO M. AUSTRIA  
Board Member  
(FABC President)

  
PRECIOUS D. MANUEL  
Board Member  
(SKF President)

  
EDGARDO P. CALIMBAS  
Board Member

  
ROMANO L. DEL ROSARIO  
Board Member


  
NOEL JOSEPH L. VALDECAÑAS  
Board Member  
(PCL President)

  
ROSITA N. SISON  
Board Member  
(IPM Representative)

ATTESTED:

  
MA. CRISTINA M. GARCIA  
Vice Governor  
(Presiding Officer)

APPROVED:

  
ALBERT S. GARCIA  
Provincial Governor  
Date: 11-06-2020