

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cagayan
TUGUEGARAO CITY

NINTH CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19-2024

January 18, 2024

Submitted by: **COMMITTEE ON RULES, LAWS AND ETHICS**

PRESENT:

HON. MARC ALDOUS C. BACCAY	- Chairman
HON. ARNEL T. ARUGAY	- Member
HON. MARIA ROSARIO B. SORIANO	- Member/via zoom
HON. GRACE B. ARAGO	- Member

RESOURCE PERSONS:

Sec. Romulo V. Arugay	- CFO Chairperson
Ms. Patricia Marie Salvador	- Senior Emigrant Services Officer
Mr. Juanito Calubaquib	- City Administrator
Atty. Vanessa T. Herrero-Verbo	- City Legal Officer
Ms. Jecel Ann Tumaliuan	- PESO Representative

GUESTS:

Hon. Cerene Pearl T. Quilang	- SP Member
Hon. Tirso V. Mangada	- SP Member
Hon. Imogen Claire M. Callangan	- SP Member/ via zoom
Hon. Ronald S. Ortiz	- SP Member/ via zoom
Hon. Restituto Ramirez	- SP Member/ via zoom
Hon. Mark Angelo B. Dayag	- SP Member/ via zoom
Hon. Karina G. Viernes	- SP Member/ via zoom

SUBJECT:

Indorsement of the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, on the Memorandum of Agreement between the Tuguegarao City Government and Commission on Filipinos Overseas relative to the BaLinkBayan Project.

FOR THE PRESIDING OFFICER:

The Members of the Committee met and deliberated on the Indorsement of the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, on the Memorandum of Agreement between the Tuguegarao City Government and Commission on Filipinos Overseas relative to the BaLinkBayan Project. The Committee respectfully submits the herein Committee Report and has the honor to report to this August body in session the following actions taken, findings and recommendations.

SPST-004-00

Ref. No. _____

ACTIONS TAKEN:

The committee conducted an evaluation of the Draft Memorandum of Agreement between the Tuguegarao City Government and Commission on Filipinos Overseas relative to the BaLinkBayan Project. The CFO Chairperson, Mr. Romulo V. Arugay together with the CFO Senior Emigrant Services Officer, Ms. Patricia Marie Salvador, made a presentation of the BaLinkBayan Project and assisted the committee in the committee deliberation.

FINDINGS:

1. The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) mandate is to promote and uphold the interest, rights and welfare of overseas Filipinos and strengthen their ties with the motherland.
2. The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) proposed a collaboration on **BaLinkBayan: Overseas Filipinos One-Stop Online Portal for Diaspora Engagement** to strengthen their cooperation with local government units to harness the energies and resources of overseas Filipinos through the e-governance project.
3. The BaLinkBayan Project is the CFO's endeavor to assist overseas Filipinos in conducting various activities in the Philippines, such as investments, donations, and skills transfer.
4. Likewise, the BaLinkBayan Project aims to link overseas Filipinos with the Philippines and encourage them to become development partners in building communities in the Philippines.
5. The project, which can be accessed through www.balinkbayan.gov.ph, also brings together more than ten (10) million Filipinos overseas through an integrated and comprehensive online platform that taps into their knowledge, expertise, skills, networks, material, and financial resources to contribute to the development of the Philippines.
6. Phase II of the Project saw the creation of dedicated localized portals tailor-fit to the needs of LGUs for migrants and their families to provide mechanisms to effectively mainstream Migration and Development at the local level.
7. Localization means the establishment, development and maintenance of the BaLinkBayan webpage featuring Migration and Development initiatives specific to the chosen province, city, or towns.
8. The City Government of Tuguegarao supports the project of the CFO for an efficient, rationalized, and streamlined system of engagement for overseas Filipinos especially in the areas of diaspora investment and entrepreneurship, diaspora philanthropy, medical and dental missions, volunteer work, educational, and social services.
9. The City Government of Tuguegarao is strongly committed to develop overseas Filipinos, BaLinkBayan websites which will serve as a vehicle to establish linkages and strengthen ties with overseas Filipinos.
10. There is a need for the passage of a resolution granting authority to the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, to sign for and on behalf of the Tuguegarao City Government the said MOA.

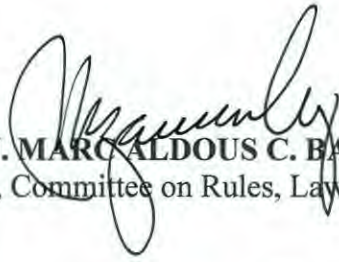
RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee, finding the request of City Mayor Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que to be in order, with merit and beneficial to the City particularly to the Filipinos Overseas, hereby recommends for the approval of the said Memorandum Agreement.

The committee further recommends for the passage of a Resolution Granting Authority to the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, to sign for and on behalf of the Tuguegarao City Government the said MOA with the CFO.

Attached herewith is the Draft Resolution.

Respectfully submitted:



HON. MARC ALDOUS C. BACCAY
Chairman, Committee on Rules, Laws and Ethics



HON. MARIA ROSARIO B. SORIANO
Member, Committee on Rules, Laws and Ethics



HON. ARNEL T. ARUGAY
Member, Committee on Rules, Laws and Ethics



HON. GRACE B. ARAGO
Member, Committee on Rules, Laws and Ethics

**DRAFT RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE TUGUEGARAO CITY GOVERNMENT AND COMMISSION ON
FILIPINOS OVERSEAS RELATIVE TO THE BALINKBAYAN PROJECT AND
GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MAYOR, HON. MAILA ROSARIO S. TING-
QUE, TO SIGN FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TUGUEGARAO CITY
GOVERNMENT THE SAID MOA**

WHEREAS, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) mandate is to promote and uphold the interest, rights and welfare of overseas Filipinos and strengthen their ties with the motherland;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) proposed a collaboration on **BaLinkBayan: Overseas Filipinos One-Stop Online Portal for Diaspora Engagement** to strengthen their cooperation with local government units to harness the energies and resources of overseas Filipinos through the e-governance project;

WHEREAS, the BaLinkBayan Project is the CFO's endeavor to assist overseas Filipinos in conducting various activities in the Philippines, such as investments, donations, and skills transfer;

WHEREAS, likewise, the BaLinkBayan Project aims to link overseas Filipinos with the Philippines and encourage them to become development partners in building communities in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the project, which can be accessed through www.balinkbayan.gov.ph, also brings together more than ten (10) million Filipinos overseas through an integrated and comprehensive online platform that taps into their knowledge, expertise, skills, networks, material, and financial resources to contribute to the development of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, phase II of the Project saw the creation of dedicated localized portals tailor-fit to the needs of LGUs for migrants and their families to provide mechanisms to effectively mainstream Migration and Development at the local level;

WHEREAS, localization means the establishment, development and maintenance of the BaLinkBayan webpage featuring Migration and Development initiatives specific to the chosen province, city, or towns;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Tuguegarao supports the project of the CFO for an efficient, rationalized, and streamlined system of engagement for overseas Filipinos especially in the areas of diaspora investment and entrepreneurship, diaspora philanthropy, medical and dental missions, volunteer work, educational, and social services;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Tuguegarao is strongly committed to develop overseas Filipinos, BaLinkBayan websites which will serve as a vehicle to establish linkages and strengthen ties with overseas Filipinos.

WHEREAS, there is a need for the passage of a resolution granting authority to the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, to sign for and on behalf of the Tuguegarao City Government the said MOA.

WHEREAS, upon the evaluation of the subject referred, the Committee on Rules, Laws and Ethics recommends for the adoption and approval of the Memorandum of Agreement and granting of authority to the City Mayor to sign for and on behalf of the Tuguegarao City Government the said MOA;

NOW, THEREFORE RESOLVED, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Tuguegarao City Government and Commission on Filipinos Overseas relative to the BaLinkBayan Project and to grant authority to the City Mayor, Hon. Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que, to sign for and on behalf of the Tuguegarao City Government the said MOA.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS, a government agency under the Office of the President, created on 16 June 1980 through Batas Pambansa Bilang 79, with office at The Upper Class Tower, 20th and 21st Floors, Quezon Avenue cor. Scout Reyes Street, Diliman, Quezon City, herein represented by its Secretary and Chairperson, **ROMULO V. ARUGAY**, and hereinafter referred to as "**CFO**";

-and-

CITY GOVERNMENT OF TUGUEGARAO, with office at Tuguegarao City Hall, Carig Sur, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan 3500 herein represented by its Mayor, **HON. MAILA ROSARIO S. TING-QUE**, and hereinafter referred to as "**CITY GOVERNMENT OF TUGUEGARAO**."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, in 2017, according to the World Bank, overseas Filipinos remitted about US\$32 billion to the Philippine economy;

WHEREAS, there is a need to encourage overseas Filipinos to engage more effectively in the development processes in the homeland;

WHEREAS, there is a need to offer an updated and responsive streamlined system of engagement for overseas Filipinos in areas like diaspora investment, entrepreneurship, diaspora philanthropy, medical missions, advocacy, legal assistance, arts, culture and educational exchanges, technology and science transfers;

WHEREAS, CFO envisions a community of well-respected, and proudly competitive Filipinos overseas who contribute significantly to the productivity and well-being of the country where they reside or work while maintaining strong political, economic, and cultural ties with the Philippines;

WHEREAS, CFO aims to be the country's premier institution in promoting policies, programs and projects with Migration and Development as a framework for empowering the community of Filipinos overseas;

Memorandum of Agreement between the CFO and City Government of Tuguegarao

WHEREAS, CFO aims to harness the energies and resources of overseas Filipinos through the e-governance project called **BALINKBAYAN: "OVERSEAS FILIPINOS' ONE-STOP ONLINE PORTAL FOR DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT"**;

WHEREAS, CFO, through *BaLinkBayan*, endeavors to provide mechanisms to effectively mainstream Migration and Development at the local level through the localization of the *BaLinkBayan* project;

WHEREAS, localization means the establishment, development, and maintenance of the *BaLinkBayan* webpage featuring Migration and Development initiatives specific to the chosen province, city, or towns;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Tuguegarao is home to a significant number of overseas Filipino families;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Tuguegarao calls for an efficient, rationalized, and streamlined system of engagement for overseas Filipinos especially in the areas of diaspora investment and entrepreneurship, diaspora philanthropy, medical and dental missions, volunteer work, educational, and social services;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Tuguegarao is strongly committed to develop overseas Filipinos, *BaLinkBayan* websites will serve as a vehicle to establish linkages and strengthen ties with overseas Filipinos; and

WHEREAS, the Parties committed to the country's goals of inclusive growth, poverty reduction and full human development.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the Parties do hereby pledge their full support to the localization of the e-governance project ***BaLinkBayan: OVERSEAS FILIPINOS' ONE-STOP ONLINE PORTAL FOR DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT***, and herein mutually agree to the following;

1. The responsibilities and roles of CFO under this MOA are as follows:

- a. Assist in identifying the required data, such as investments, donations, skills transfer, etc., for the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage tailor-fit for the City Government of Tuguegarao;
- b. Assist the City Government of Tuguegarao in gathering relevant data and information for the localized webpage, as well as collaborating with other relevant agencies and stakeholders at the local, regional, and national levels;



- AGENDA
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- c. Conduct and undertake necessary website development and management training, workshop or mentoring assistance in coordination with the City Government of Tuguegarao and its personnel to meet the objectives of this MOA;
 - d. Provide website hosting facilities for the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage of the City Government of Tuguegarao for two years;
 - e. Provide and maintain relevant and updated training and/or workshop for the implementation and operationalization of the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage of the City Government of Tuguegarao;
 - f. Promote the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage of the City Government of Tuguegarao by providing a link to the *BaLinkBayan* national website;
 - g. Assist the City Government of Tuguegarao in its development and implementation of Migration and Development programs and initiatives;
 - h. Assign a focal officer at CFO to coordinate and oversee with the City Government of Tuguegarao in the project implementation; and
 - i. Monitor and evaluate the implementation and operation of the project jointly with the City Government of Tuguegarao to recommend the best strategies and options for sustainability.
- 2. The responsibilities and roles of the City Government of Tuguegarao under this MOA are as follows:**
- a. Take the lead in data gathering and processing for the City Government of Tuguegarao localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage content;
 - b. Create a Technical Working Group or assign a focal person occupying a *plantilla* position within the city to oversee the project implementation;
 - c. Participate in relevant training and/or workshop and give logistical assistance for the implementation and operationalization of the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage of the City Government of Tuguegarao;
 - d. Provide, manage and maintain the database and main information system of the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage;

- e. Regularly update the contents of the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage;
- f. Promote the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage to its local constituents, overseas Filipinos and their families;
- g. Promote the *BaLinkBayan* portal at the City Government of Tuguegarao's website and through other platforms; and
- h. After two years, the City Government of Tuguegarao is expected to continue the hosting of the localized *BaLinkBayan* webpage.

3. **BOTH PARTIES** shall:

- a. Establish a monitoring mechanism regarding this joint collaboration and exchange of information to address issues confronting them relative to the project implementation; and
- b. Share overseas Filipino-related information through newsletters, email blasts and press releases.

FUNDING

This MOA will be subject to the availability of funds and other resources of the Parties. The cost of the activities and the performance of the Parties' responsibilities under this MOA will be shouldered by each party.

DURATION AND EFFECTIVITY OF THE MOA

This MOA shall take effect immediately upon the signing of the Parties hereto and shall be valid and existing unless earlier revoked, cancelled, or terminated for cause. Any party wishing to terminate this MOA shall inform the other party by giving six (6) months in writing.

AMENDMENTS

At any time while this MOA is in effect, any provision hereof may be amended, revised or supplemented with the written consent of the parties involved.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have hereunto affixed their signatures this _____ day of _____ 2024, in the City Government of Tuguegarao, Philippines.



**COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS
OVERSEAS**

**CITY GOVERNMENT
OF TUGUEGARAO**

By:

By:

SECRETARY ROMULO V. ARUGAY
Chairperson

HON. MAILA ROSARIO S. TING-QUE
City Mayor

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

MARITA DEL ROSARIO-APATTAD
Director, Project Management Division
Commission on Filipinos Overseas

City Government of Tuguegarao

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Republic of the Philippines)
Quezon City) S.S.

Before me, a Notary Public for and in the Quezon City, personally appeared on this day _____ of 2024, the following:

NAME	ID NO.	DATE/PLACE ISSUED
ROMULO V. ARUGAY	_____	_____

Memorandum of Agreement between the CFO and City Government of Tuguegarao



MAILA ROSARIO S. TING-QUE _____

Known to me to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same is their free and voluntary act and deed, and the entities they duly represent.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, on the date and at the place above written.

PUBLIC

NOTARY

Doc. No.: _____;
Page No.: _____;
Book No.: _____;
Series of: 2024.

