

MEDIA RELEASE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU-REGION X

DENR-X Compound, Macabalan, Cagayan de Oro City

Telefax Nos. (088) 856-2110 & 856-1331; Email:region10@mgb.gov.ph

Key Players in the Minerals Industry Commit for Responsible Minerals Development

The Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (COMP), an organization composed of big players in the mining industry, advocating and promoting responsible mining operations in the country, has manifested its commitment for Responsible minerals development by signing the Baguio Declaration, a document encapsulating five elements to be adopted such as:

1. People Orientation
2. Protection and Enhancement of the Environment
3. Respect for the Rights and Welfare of Indigenous People
4. Fair Contribution to the National Economy and
5. Efficient, Competitive and Compliant with International Standards

The Chamber of Mines of the Philippines, with its thirty (30) members, signed and concretized its commitment for Responsible Minerals Development in response to the challenge of DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu during his keynote speech at the 64th Annual National Mine Safety and Environment Conference (ANMSEC) in Baguio City to save the environment and the local communities from the ill effects of mining.

The Baguio declaration is an important endeavor between the DENR and the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines towards improving the image of the minerals industry, and in giving resolve to environmental issues and concerns, and for the welfare of the mining or local communities.

Mr. Gerard Brimo, COMP Chairman, signed the Baguio Declaration with its full and unconditional commitment to the principles of responsible mineral development in the country while DENR Secretary Cimatu was impressed that the key players in the mining industry accepted the challenge and expressed hope that the mining firms will keep their commitment to eradicate irresponsible mining practices in the country.

DENR for its part, pledged in streamlining administrative processes in the evaluation and issuance of mineral agreements, upholds transparency in receiving contributions from the mining industry and encourage mining investments.