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Narrative Report: 19th PSF Board Meeting

Date: November 29, 2022 (DOF Building)

The People's Survival Fund (PSF) Board held its meeting to discuss various matters related to the management of the People's Survival Fund. The meeting was attended by the board members and the PSF Board Secretariat. The following is a summary of the discussions and decisions made during the meeting:

Adoption of Agenda

The Board members approved the agenda for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the 18th PSF Board Meeting

The Board members approved the minutes of the 18th PSF Board Meeting held on March 1, 2022.

Institutional Arrangements

The Department of Finance (DOF) presented the current composition of the PSF Board, including updates on the primary and secondary alternates for each board member. The DOF International Finance Group (IFG), who is in charge of foreign grants and loans in the Department, is still serving as the PSF Board Secretariat, sharing responsibilities with the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), particularly in handling project proposals and proponents.

Composition of the PSF Board

The Board discussed the sectoral guidelines and written comments were incorporated into the latest draft of the document, which was approved by the Board. The sectoral representatives would serve in holdover capacity until the nomination and selection of new representatives start. The Board also confirmed with the Climate Change Commission (CCC) of their capacity to handle the selection process within the 111-day timeline, to which the CCC did not object.

Status Report of the PSF

DBP presented the completion status of the approved proposals for San Francisco, Camotes Island, Cebu; Lanuza, Surigao del Sur; Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte; Sarangani province, and Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte, indicating the percentage of completion for each. The Board inquired into the shelved proposals and requested for a complete list of proposals in the pipeline from DOF/DBP.

For PSF Board Decision - The Board deliberated on several matters:

A. Request for Revision of Work and Financial Plan of the PSF-approved project of LGU Gerona, Tarlac

The DBP has formulated a possible way forward regarding the request of Gerona, which still needs to be communicated to the LGU proponent.

B. Project Development Grant (PDG) Agreement between the PSF Board and the five (5) Northern Samar LGUs: Bobon, Mondragon, Pambujan, Rosario, and San Jose

The five PDG applications were approved by the Board.

C. Request for additional Grant/Funds of Ongoing Projects for the PSF

The Board discussed the eligibility of the request of Del Carmen, Kitcharao, and Sarangani for additional grants/funds for ongoing projects that were damaged by Typhoon Odette. The Board is leaning towards outrightly rejecting the request of Del Carmen due to the failure to secure insurance for the infrastructure. The Board also considered providing alternative options for the LGUs to finance the repairs for the damages.

The Board approved the extension of the projects in Del Carmen, Sarangani, Lanuza, and San Francisco, on the condition that no additional cost would be incurred from the government and that the project objectives would be realized.

Call for Proposals and Creation of Pipeline Projects for the PSF

The Board discussed the creation of another proposal pipeline and the need to provide guidelines in case of a similar scenario in the future.

Schedule of the Next Meeting of the Board

The next PSF Board meetings are scheduled in March, June, September, and December 2023.

The meeting was adjourned after all agenda items were discussed and decisions were made.