



COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE : July 8, 2026

TO : THE PRESIDING OFFICER

FROM : COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT and NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBJECT : ENDORSEMENT LETTER FROM MS. KJELLEN H. EVANGELISTA, OIC-MENRO FOR THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AND SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF NAIC AND THE CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY- NAIC CAMPUS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ON PAWIKAN (MARINE TURTLE) CONSERVATION

A meeting of the **Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources**, chaired by **Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo**, was conducted to discuss the **Endorsement Letter** submitted by **Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista, OIC-MENRO**, regarding the proposed **Resolution Authorizing the Local Chief Executive to Enter into and Sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Municipal Government of Naic and Cavite State University–Naic Campus for the implementation of programs and activities on Pawikan (Marine Turtle) Conservation.**

The meeting was attended by **Vice Chairperson SB Member Raymond P. Senia, SB Member Arnel G. Milay, SB Member Cesar Ryan Nazareno**, and **SK Federation President Darlaine M. Benesen**. Also present were **Mr. Rogelio Bilugan**, President of the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP); **Mr. Jesus Paolo B. Cullado** and **Mr. Romel Hinahon** from Cavite State University–Naic Campus; **Ms. Queenie Derupe** from the Municipal Tourism Office; **Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista, OIC-MENRO**; and **Ms. Jesusa Vilburn**, representative of the MENRO.

The representatives of the MENRO and Cavite State University–Naic Campus explained that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement is intended to serve as a supplementary agreement to the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic in 2024 for the establishment of the Pawikan Hatchery 2 and the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center located at the CvSU–Naic Mabulo Annex Campus, Barangay Mabulo, Naic, Cavite, with the assistance of the LGU through the MENRO and funding support from the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA).

It was further explained that the primary purpose of the proposed MOA is to strengthen and formalize the existing partnership between the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic in implementing marine turtle conservation programs and activities, including the active participation of the university in the annual Pawikan Festival and other conservation initiatives. The Committee was informed that, as an institution offering the Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, CvSU–Naic has the mandate to undertake extension services, research, and community engagement programs related to the conservation of marine resources, including sea turtles.

The representatives of CvSU–Naic informed the Committee that collaborative sea turtle conservation activities between the university and the MENRO have already been ongoing. These include training programs where CvSU faculty members and extension personnel serve as technical experts, lecturers, facilitators, and trainers for the Pawikan Patrollers. Orientation



and capability-building activities have also been conducted for officials of coastal barangays to increase their knowledge on proper sea turtle handling, conservation, and pollution management.

The Committee was likewise informed that the first series of collaborative activities with the Municipal Government of Naic and other stakeholders was conducted in November 2024, while the second batch of training for Pawikan Patrollers is scheduled on August 12–13, 2026. In addition, the Municipal Tourism Office is partnering with CvSU–Naic in conducting Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Development Training to produce advocacy materials supporting sea turtle conservation.

The Committee noted that these activities are being implemented under the PAWIKAN (Proyekto para sa Angkop at Wastong Inisyatibo para sa Kapakanan ng Pawikan) Extension Project, which aims to maximize the use of the existing Pawikan Hatchery 2 and the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center. Under the project, CvSU–Naic will provide technical expertise, extension services, institutional resources, research assistance, financial counterpart, and post-activity documentation while actively participating in project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

The representatives of CvSU–Naic also expressed their appreciation to the Municipal Government of Naic for recognizing the university as a partner in the Annual Pawikan Festival. They emphasized that the proposed MOA will formally establish the partnership and serve as official proof of the university's long-term commitment to sea turtle conservation.

The MENRO representatives explained the duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Government of Naic under the proposed MOA. These include providing technical, administrative, and financial support for approved project activities; involving CvSU faculty and personnel in the planning and implementation of the Pawikan Festival; providing venues, facilities, equipment, and other necessary resources; participating in planning and monitoring activities; sharing data for research purposes; conducting information campaigns; and coordinating with barangays and partner agencies for the effective implementation of the project.

The Committee recognized that the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic have already established a strong working relationship in implementing sea turtle conservation programs. The proposed MOA will therefore formalize and strengthen their existing collaboration.

The Committee was also informed that the Office of the Municipal Mayor recommended the inclusion of the following provision under Item No. 7 of the LGU's duties and responsibilities: "Subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations governing municipal budgeting, procurement, accounting and auditing."

During the discussion on Provision No. 6 (Provide Fund Support), the Committee inquired about the source of funding for the proposed activities. The MENRO explained that the activities are incorporated into the office's regular planning and budgeting process and that existing appropriations for similar environmental programs may be used as counterpart funding for the collaborative activities with CvSU–Naic.

The Committee was likewise informed that the Pawikan Patrollers Program has been expanded to cover all coastal barangays of the Municipality of Naic since sea turtle nesting sites have already been recorded not only in Barangay Labac but also in Barangays Munting Mapino, Bancaan, Mabulo, and Bucana. The objective is to equip barangay officials and



environmental representatives with the necessary knowledge and skills on proper sea turtle protection and response.

The CvSU–Naic representatives also presented the current status of the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center and Pawikan Hatchery 2. They emphasized the need to make the facility fully operational so that it can serve as an information, education, research, and ecotourism center for students, visitors, and other stakeholders. The facility is also intended to house IEC materials, educational videos, exhibits, and other learning resources related to sea turtle conservation.

The Committee learned that the original funding provided by the Philippine Reclamation Authority did not include the installation of an electrical connection for the facility. Likewise, the amount appropriated under the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 was insufficient to cover the required electrical installation. As a result, the MENRO informed the Committee that the project has already been included in its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2027.

The Committee recommended that the project also be considered under the Second Supplemental Budget for CY 2026, subject to the availability of funds. The MENRO was advised to submit a formal request, together with the Program of Works and Cost Estimate amounting to approximately ₱300,000, for the installation of the electrical connection.

Meanwhile, the CvSU–Naic representatives expressed their willingness to temporarily shoulder the electricity consumption during official activities at the facility until a permanent electrical connection is installed, provided that the Municipal Government can install the necessary electrical wiring and circuit breaker.

The Municipal Tourism Office also informed the Committee that it has allocated approximately ₱160,000 for the rehabilitation of the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center and the Labac Hatchery. However, a significant portion of the amount has already been committed for the ongoing procurement requirements of the Labac Hatchery, leaving the remaining balance insufficient to finance the electrical installation of the conservation center.

After due deliberation, the Committee recommended that the MENRO and CvSU–Naic submit a revised Memorandum of Agreement incorporating the agreed amendments, including the additional provision recommended by the Office of the Municipal Mayor and the temporary arrangement regarding the use of electricity during official activities, before the proposed MOA is submitted to the Sangguniang Bayan for appropriate action and approval.

Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources:


Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo
Chairperson


Hon. Raymond P. Senia
Vice-Chairperson


Hon. Arnel G. Milay
Member


Hon. Darlaine Mae A. Benesen
Member