

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and among:

The **PHILIPPINE HEALTH RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD (PHREB)** represented by its Chair, **LEONARDO D. DE CASTRO**, with principal office at the DOST Main Building, General Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Taguig City, hereinafter referred to as **PHREB**,

The **NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP)** represented by its Chair, **LEONOR T. ORALDE-QUINTAYO** with principal office at N. Dela Merced Building, West Avenue corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City, hereinafter referred to as **NCIP**,

The **NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS (NCCA)** represented by its Chair, **VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO**, with principal office at 633 General Luna Street, Intramuros 1002 Manila, hereinafter referred to as **NCCA** and,

The **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES (NM)** represented by its Director, **JEREMY R. BARNES**, with principal office at 1000 Padre Burgos Ave., Ermita, Manila, hereinafter referred to as **NM**,

HEREIN referred to as the Parties in this Memorandum of Understanding;

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, there are challenges in ensuring compliance with the national research ethical guidelines and related regulations by concerned sectors;

WHEREAS, the **NCIP** is the primary government agency that formulates and implements policies, plans, and programs for the recognition, promotion, and protection of the rights and well-being of Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs) / Indigenous Peoples (IPs) with due regard to their ancestral domains and lands, self-governance and empowerment, social justice and human rights, and cultural integrity;

WHEREAS, the **NCCA** is the overall policy making body, coordinating, and grants-giving agency for the preservation, development and promotion of the Philippine arts and culture; and as such, encourages and supports the study, recognition and preservation of endangered human cultural resources such as weavers, chanters, dancers, and other craftsmen as well as the conservation and development of such artistic, linguistic and occupational skill as are threatened with extinction, likewise, encourages and supports scholarly research into and documentation of Philippine cultural traditions, arts and personalities especially in the literary, visual and performing arts and in mass media, as well as the various aspects of Filipino culture per RA No. 7356;

WHEREAS, the **NM** leads in the study and preservation of the nation's rich artistic, historical and cultural heritage through dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge in a more understandable and practical forms, conduct of basic research programs combining integrated laboratory and field work in anthropology and archeology, botany, geology and zoology, and maintenance of reference collections on these disciplines and promotion of scientific development in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, **PHREB** is the national policy making body on health research ethics, created under Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Special Order No. 091 and mandated to ensure that all phases of health-related research shall adhere to the universal ethical principles that value protection and promotion of the dignity of research participants;


LEONARDO D. DE CASTRO
Chair, Philippine Health Research Ethics Board


LEONOR T. ORALDE-QUINTAYO
Chairperson, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples


VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO
Chairman, National Commission for Culture and the Arts


JEREMY R. BARNES
Director IV, National Museum

WHEREAS, PHREB among other things, is mandated to monitor and evaluate the performance of research ethics committees (RECs) in order to promote and establish an effective research human protection;

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize the need for coordination in approving researches involving human participants to ensure compliance with ethical guidelines.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the Parties to this Understanding hereby agree to the following:

1. That an Inter-Agency Committee on Ethics in Research involving Culture and the Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) is hereby formally organized to function as a steering group in joint activities of the parties on research ethics. In this regard, the Inter-Agency Committee shall have the following specific functions:
 - a. To build capacities of member-agencies on the establishment of research ethics committees and conduct ethics review, develop appropriate strategies and measures to ensure that research studies conducted on ICCs/IPs comply with R.A. 8371, or the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997 and other related laws; and
 - b. To coordinate and cooperate with the appropriate government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) on information dissemination campaign on ethics in research on Philippine culture and art, specifically those concerning the ICCs/IPs.
2. The Parties shall officially designate their respective permanent and alternate representative/s to the said Inter-Agency Committee. Consequently, it shall be the responsibility of the representative/s to:
 - a. Represent his/her/their agency and act as point person of the Inter-agency in committee activities;
 - b. Regularly update his/her/their respective agency regarding specific programs and projects of the Inter-agency;
 - c. Attend quarterly meetings with PHREB as Chair/convener and Secretariat. The hosting of meetings may be on rotational basis among the parties; and
 - d. Assist in coordinative/collaborative activities of the parties.
3. A strategic planning activity shall be conducted as soon as the agencies agree to the formalization of the Inter-Agency Committee. Initial activities will be for capacity-building in research ethics review.
4. The Parties will promote exchange of information about their respective processes in the review of health research projects involving ICCs/IPs.
5. The Parties will explore and facilitate collaborations to ensure efficient review of health research projects involving ICCs/IPs and to monitor faithful compliance of these projects to the respective guidelines of the Parties
6. The Parties, may formalize specific partnerships or initiatives through specific Agreement, separate from this Memorandum of Understanding, each clarifying the scope of work and responsibilities of the parties specific to the Agreement.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect upon signing of all the herein parties and shall remain in full force and effect unless otherwise terminated by operation of law or by a written mutual agreement of the parties for termination/cancellation of this Understanding.



LEONARDO D. DE CASTRO
Chair, Philippine Health Research
Ethics Board


LEONOR T. ORALDE-QUINTAYO
Chairperson, National Commission on
Indigenous Peoples



VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO
Chairman, National Commission for
Culture and the Arts

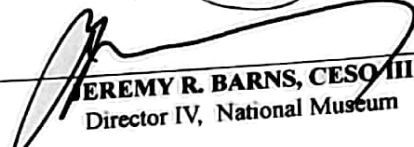

JEREMY R. BARNES
Director IV, National Museum

AND WITNESS WHEREOF the duly authorized signatories of the Parties signed this Memorandum of Understanding in _____ on _____ in four originals.



LEONARDO D. DE CASTRO, PHD
Chair
Philippine Health Research Ethics Board

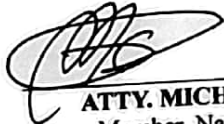

ATTY. LEONOR T. ORALDE-QUINTAYO
Chairperson
National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

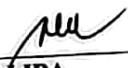

PROF. VIRGILIO S. ALMARIO
National Artist and Chairman
National Commission for Culture and the Arts



JEREMY R. BARNES, CESO III
Director IV, National Museum


WITNESSES


DR. CARLOS P. BUASEN, JR.
Member, National Commission on
Indigenous Peoples


ATTY. MICHAEL M. MAMUKID
Member, National Commission on
Indigenous Peoples


DR. ANGELICA M. CALIBA-
CACHOLA
Alternate Member, National Commission
on Indigenous Peoples


RENEE C. TALAVERA
Member, National Commission for Culture
and the Arts


DR. MARY JANE LOUISE BOLUNIA
Member, National Museum


DR. MARITA V.T. REYES
Member, National Ethics Committee