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May 11, 2017

Bishop BRODERICK PABILLO

Chairman, Episcopal Commission on the Lay Apostolate and Auxilliary Bishop of Manila

Dear Bishop Pabillo,

Greetings from PMPI!

We have an upcoming event in celebration of the World Environment Day that has become more urgent with the non-confirmation of SGL as DENR Secretary. There is a need for a show of force from the affected communities and environmental advocates to tell the big business interest and the general public that we are alive and will not be deterred from protecting the environment with or without SGL.

The event is called SALAKYAG KALIKASAN 2017. It is a nationwide caravan which will commence in Zamboanga City on May 30, 2017 and will culminate in Metro Manila on June 5, 2017. A core group of travelers will start journey from Zamboanga City towards identified rally or salubong points until it reaches Metro Manila. The Core group is targeted to reach an average of 100 participants aboard 20 vehicles. Identified stop overs where Salubong Programs will be held; where local groups will be mobilized; and where the group will sleep-over include Dipolog City, Cagayan de Oro City, Surigao City, Palo (Leyte), Legazpi City, and Lucena City.

The main objective of the activity is to bring the issues and demands of mining-affected communities to national consciousness and highlight the need to ‘care for our common home’, a challenge posed by Pope Francis in Laudato Si.

In this regard, we’d like to invite you and your members to join us in this event particularly in Salubong Programs and caravan-march in your respective areas. We are targeting a minimum crowd of 500 per Salubong program and at least 2,000 for the Zamboanga and Metro Manila convergences. We have attached the activity guide here for your reference.

In this regard, we’d like to request for support for the food and accommodation of the ‘salakyagers’ (contingents) who will be arriving in Metro Manila. Estimated number of contingents from the provinces is 155. Estimated cost is as follows:

Food	P 75,000.00
Accommodation	<u>120,000.00</u>
Total	P195,000.00
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