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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Natural Resources (Technical Working Group)	HBs 265, 3351 & 4860	Reps. Ramirez-Sato, Arroyo (J.M.), and Rodriguez	Providing for a revised Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, appropriating funds therefor	The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Raul Terso, terminated its deliberations on the four measures and agreed to draft a substitute bill incorporating therein pertinent suggestions of the resource persons.
	HR 248	Rep. Barzaga	Investigation into the illegal wildlife trade in the Philippines and review of relevant existing laws	<p>The proposed law aims to amend RA 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, to strengthen and improve it, as well as to impose graver penalties against illegal wildlife collectors and traders. Likewise, amending RA 9147, which was enacted back in 2001, will make the law compliant with Philippine treaty obligations concerning wildlife conservation and protection.</p> <p>Among the agreements reached during the meeting which will be made part of the substitute bill were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider illegal wildlife trade as a transnational crime; • To declare the “destruction of habitats” and “wildlife laundering” as illegal acts with corresponding penalties; • To include the Office of the Special Envoy on Transnational Crime as one of the implementing agencies of the proposed law; • To remove the Armed Forces of the Philippines from the list of law enforcement agencies that shall designate their respective wildlife enforcement officers; • To strengthen the country’s information-sharing capability with international wildlife organizations; and • To authorize the remittance of fines collected from violators of the proposed law to the Wildlife Management Fund. (The Fund, which is proposed to be created under the bill, shall finance the rehabilitation or restoration of wildlife habitats, among others.) <p>The resource persons were requested to submit additional comments and suggestions for consideration in the crafting of the substitute bill.</p>

Comments, suggestions and requests for copies may be sent to the Committee Publication Staff, Committee Management Support Service I, 3rd Floor, Ramon V. Mitra, Jr. Bldg., House of Representatives, Constitution Hills, Quezon City, through cmss1.cad@house.gov.ph or at tel. nos. 8932-6118/8931-5001 local 7122. Also available at <http://www.congress.gov.ph>