

Republic of the Philippines

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Elliptical Road, Diliman 1100 Quezon City +63(2) 8928-8741 to 64 and +63(2) 8273-2474

DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. O Series of 2024

SUBJECT

EXPANDING CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICES ACROSS

ALL REGIONS

WHEREAS, there has been on the rise the number of climate-related threats to the agriculture sector with the increase in the annual average number of destructive typhoons from eight (8) to nine (9) based on data from the Field Operations Service (FOS);

WHEREAS, recent data would demonstrate that proportional increase in annual average production losses due to climate hazards, with an estimated amount of PhP30 billion in 2013-2022 from PhP29 billion in 2010-2019;

WHEREAS, despite the decline in the rice sector's share in the annual average losses from 40% between 2010 and 2019 to 36% between 2013 to 2022, the losses remain high which invariably contribute to rice supply issues, thereby increasing rice and food prices and food insecurity;

WHEREAS, to manage future agricultural losses due to extreme climatic conditions, the Department of Agriculture (DA), through the Climate Resilient Agriculture Office (CRAO), developed and piloted in the Bicol region the Agro-Climatic Advisory Portal (ACAP), which is an online web portal capable of automatically generating and disseminating climate information services (CIS), specifically climate- and weather-informed farming and fishing advisories;

WHEREAS, the ACAP-Philippines, a centralized CIS Portal, is at the final stage of its development and is poised to generate information that can proactively contribute to stabilizing food production in the country; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to prepare the DA Regional Field Offices (RFOs) to assess and adopt the ACAP for full operational implementation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANCISCO P. TIU-LAUREL JR., Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and other issuance, do hereby order:

Section 1. Development of Agro-Climatic Advisory Portal in the Regions. All concerned are hereby directed to implement the expansion of climate information services across all regions. The Regional Climate Action Facilitation Focals in the Regional Field Offices, designated by virtue of Special Order No. 703 s. 2024, shall develop the Agro-Climatic Advisory Portal (ACAP) in their respective regions. These shall be integrated with the ACAP-Philippines Portal for better coordination and dissemination of farming and fishing advisories in preparation for the onset of La Niña and other climate-related risks.

Section 2. *Role of the DA CRAO and the FOS.* The CRAO shall take the lead and facilitate the development of the regional ACAP by all DA RFOs. CRAO shall also coordinate with the FOS in its monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities to provide recommendations in relation to implementing this Order.

Section 3. *Role of the DA CRA Steering Committee (CRASC).* The CRASC, created by virtue of Special Order No. 703, series of 2024, shall initiate a semestral review of this Order following the date of its effectivity, and shall address the recommended courses of action prepared by the CRAO in relation to implementing this Order.

Section 4. Access to ACAP. All concerned are hereby advised that the Pilot ACAP for Bicol region can be accessed at *amia-cis.github.io*, accompanied by the manual, video tutorial, and teaching module.

Section 5. *Role of DA Operating Units (OUs)*. All DA OUs are hereby directed to support the CRAO and the RFOs in the implementation of this directive.

Section 6. *Separability.* If any part or provision of this Order shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 7. *Repeal.* All other orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are also hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately upon issuance.

Done this <u>24</u>[#] day of <u>My</u> , 2024.

FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL, JR.

Secretary

MIN 28 MIN

