



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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SPECIAL ORDER

No. 938
Series of 2024

SUBJECT : CREATION OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FOR THE REVIEW OF THE DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG JOINT DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 1, SERIES OF 2021

In the interest of service and with the objective of complying with the Court of Appeals ruling pertaining to biosafety regulations for genetically modified (GM) crops, a Technical Working Group for the review of the DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Joint Department Circular No. 1, Series of 2021 is hereby created to be composed of the following:

Chair : **ATTY. ASIS G. PEREZ**
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and Regulations

Vice Chair : **ATTY. PAZ J. BENAVIDEZ II**
Assistant Secretary for Policy and Regulations

Members : **GERALD GLENN F. PANGANIBAN, Ph.D.**
Director, Bureau of Plant Industry

KAREN KRISTINE A. ROSCOM, Ph.D.
Director, Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards

JULIETA B. LANSANGAN
Executive Director, Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority

CONSTANTE J. PALABRICA, DVM.
Assistant Secretary for Swine and Poultry and concurrent
Officer-in-Charge, Director, Bureau of Animal Industry

ATTY. WILLIE ANN M. ANGSYI
Director, Legal Service

JEROME D. BUNYI
Officer-in-Charge, Director, Policy Research Service

Secretariat : Bureau of Plant Industry - Biotechnology Office

The TWG shall:

1. Undertake the review the DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Joint Department Circular (JDC) No. 1, Series of 2021 including the identification of provisions that require

- modifications to comply with the Court of Appeals ruling in Masipag v. DA Secretary;
2. Solicit comments and inputs from different concerned agencies involved in the regulations of GM plants and plant products;
 3. Provide recommendation to the finalization of the amendatory JDC for endorsement;
 4. Recommend the approval of the draft JDC to the Secretary and other concerned head of agencies; and,
 5. Conduct all other actions in support of the review of JDC No. 1, Series of 2021.


The Secretariat shall provide administrative and technical support during the meetings of the TWG. Further, it shall:

1. Prepare notice of meetings and minutes of the TWG meetings;
2. Under the guidance of the TWG, prepare the draft of the revised Joint Department Circular, incorporating the relevant comments/inputs gathered from the consultation with concerned agencies involved in the regulations of GM plants and plant products; and
3. Perform other functions as necessary.

All expenses to be incurred by the TWG in the performance of their duties and functions shall be charged against DA OSEC funds, subject to the existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked in writing. All orders, memoranda, and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby deemed revoked.

Done this 28th day of June 2024.


FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.
Secretary

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