



Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
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**SPECIAL ORDER**  
NO. 973  
Series of 2024

**Subject : RECONSTITUTION OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON  
MARKET ACCESS AND RULES OF ORIGIN**

In the interest of the service and in relation to the ongoing and upcoming Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) negotiations of the Philippines, Special Order No. 1171, s. 2016 is hereby amended to revise the composition of the Technical Working Group on Market Access and Rules of Origin:

A. TWG on Market Access and Rules of Origin shall be composed of the following:

**Chairperson** : **ASec. Philip C. Young**, Export Development  
**Co-Chairperson** : **OIC-Director Jerome D. Bunyi**, PRS  
**Members** : **Dir. Junibert E. De Sagun**, AMAS  
**Ms. Joan May R. Tolentino**, BPI  
**Dr. Christian P. Daquigan**, BAI  
**Dr. Joselito R. Somga**, BFAR  
**Dr. Clarita M. Sangcal**, NMIS  
**Mr. Milbert Arnold Z. Racelis**, SRA  
**Ms. Rosella B. Villaruel**, PCA  
**Mr. Joshua S. Lumuntad**, NDA  
**Mr. Joel B. Barquilla**, PhilFIDA  
**Ms. Sarah L. Bales**, PCAF  
**Dr. Girlie R. Saludo**, PRRI  
**Ms. Janet D. Garcia**, PRS-IAD

**Alternate Members** : **Ms. Irish Joan O. Ativo**, AMAS  
**Ms. Mea Mikki B. Tabago**, BPI  
**Mr. Norman B. Tan**, BAI  
**Dr. Stephani Marie U. Rada**, BAI  
**Ms. Sonia Luisa G. Sanchez**, BFAR  
**Ms. Amor G. Diaz**, BFAR  
**Dr. Vernadette S. Sanidad**, NMIS  
**Dr. Lota M. Labonite**, NMIS  
**Mr. John Randolph Valiente**, SRA  
**Ms. Luz Brenda P. Balibrea**, PCA  
**Ms. Quiella L. Olid**, NDA  
**Ms. Grace Aurora F. Pastores**, PhilFIDA  
**Ms. Alcel B. Atanacio**, PCAF  
**Ms. Jovita M. Gonzales**, PCAF  
**Engr. Evangeline P. Garcia**, PRRI  
**PRS-IAD Staff**

The TWG shall:

1. Serve as an advisory forum of the Department of Agriculture on matters relating to FTA negotiations;
2. Work on the formulation of the country's offensive and defensive interests in agriculture, particularly in the areas of market access and rules of origin (ROO), in trade agreements that the Philippines is negotiating; and
3. Conduct all other activities in support of the above mentioned functions.

The TWG may invite representatives from other member agencies, other DA operating units, other relevant government agencies, and private sector during its meetings to provide technical support and expertise as deemed necessary.

### **B. Secretariat**

The TWG shall be assisted by a Secretariat which shall be composed of the following:

**Head** : Chief, Macro-Economic Policy Division (MEPD)  
**Members** : MEPD Staff


The TWG Secretariat shall:

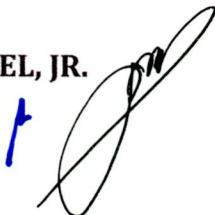
1. Coordinate, consolidate and process submissions required from the members of the TWG;
2. Arrange and organize meetings upon instructions from the TWG Chair; and
3. Provide staff assistance to the TWG as may be necessary.

All expenses to be incurred by TWG members in the performance of their duties and functions shall be chargeable against their respective offices, subject to availability of funds and the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

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

Done this 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.

  
**FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL, JR.**  
Secretary





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