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**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
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## DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 13

Series of 2024

**SUBJECT : CREATION OF THE INTERIM AGRICULTURE AND FISHERY REGULATORY SUPPORT PROGRAM UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture (DA) is vested with the authority to formulate and implement regulatory policies consistent with its mandate to promote the development of the agri-fishery sector;

**WHEREAS**, the Department exercises its policy formulation functions through the DA regulatory agencies under the oversight and supervision of the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations and the Assistant Secretary for Regulations;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) issued National Budget Memorandum No. 111, series of 2013, on the Adoption of the Performance-Informed Budget Structure for the National Expenditure Program (NEP) and the General Appropriations Act (GAA), which created the Program Expenditure Classification (PREXC) System;

**WHEREAS**, the Programs, Activities and Projects (PAPs) of all operating units in the Department are structured consistent with the PREXC System which serves as a primary tool in the development of plans and budget proposals and the monitoring and evaluation of program implementation;

**WHEREAS**, the DA Rationalization Plan, as authorized by Executive Order No. 366, series of 2004, reorganized the Department and designated all bureaus classified as regulatory agencies and regulatory support agencies as staff bureaus without Regional Field Offices (RFOs), with the exception of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR);

**WHEREAS**, the Regulatory Divisions of the Regional Field Offices (RFOs) implements the regulatory policies, programs, and activities of the Department at the field level consistent with the policies formulated by the DA staff bureaus classified as regulatory and regulatory support agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the Agriculture and Fisheries Regulatory Support Program (AFRSP) is a major program with the PREXC system which covers the PAPs and budgetary allocations of staff bureaus classified as regulatory and regulatory support agencies, namely the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE), Bureau of Agriculture and

Fisheries Standards (BAFS), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), and Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), and the Regional Regulatory Divisions within the DA RFOs;

**WHEREAS**, Special Order No. 280, series of 2018, with the subject "*Designation of Focal Offices and DA Executive Committee Members for the Department of Agriculture's Programs Based on Program Expenditure Classification (PREXC)*", designated the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Regulations as the focal office for the program management of the AFRSP; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to establish an ad-hoc in the Department to provide technical assistance in the harmonization of the implementation of regulatory policies, programs, and activities, rationalization of the distribution of resources of operating units under the AFRSP, and monitoring and evaluation of program performance.

**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 issuances, do hereby order:

**Section 1. *Creation of the Interim Unit.*** The interim Agriculture and Fishery Regulatory Support Program (AFRSP) Unit, hereinafter referred to as the Unit, is hereby created as an ad-hoc unit administratively attached to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Regulations.

**Section 2. *Mandate and Function.*** The Unit shall provide technical support and assistance in the implementation of the regulatory policies, programs, and activities of the operating units under the AFRSP within the context of the priorities and policy direction of the Department on agri-fishery regulations. Specifically, the Unit shall:

- a. Provide technical assistance in the development of the DA Regulatory Roadmap and its subsequent revisions and iterations and the preparation of inputs to other DA strategic plans;
- b. Provide technical assistance in the translation of policy directions and directives of the Secretary on the implementation of regulatory policies, programs, and activities into plans and budget proposals;
- c. Facilitate the concerns and issues of the various operating units covered by the AFRSP in the implementation of regulatory policies, programs, and activities in consultation with the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations and the Assistant Secretary for Regulations;
- d. Review the submitted plans and budget proposals of all operating units covered by the AFRSP, including the covered bureaus and all Regional Regulatory Divisions within the RFOs with respect to the implementation of regulatory policies, programs, and activities;

- e. Monitor the physical and financial performance of all operating units under the Agriculture and Fishery Regulatory Support Program in the implementation of their regulatory programs, and use the resulting performance data in the recalibration of Plans and Budget Proposals; and
- f. Conduct all other activities that may be relevant in the efficient and effective administration of the Department's regulatory program.

**Section 3. Organizational Structure.** The Unit shall be a separate operating unit under the administrative control and supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Regulations. The staff positions of the Unit shall be sourced from existing plantilla or Contract of Service (COS) positions of the Department.

**Section 4. Staffing Pattern.** The staffing pattern of the Unit as reflected in Annex A of this Order is hereby adopted without prejudice to the engagement of services of additional staff as may be necessary.

**Section 5. Funding Requirements.** The operating expenses of the interim Unit, including the compensation of COS personnel, shall be charged against available DA OSEC/Central Office funds, subject to availability of funds.

**Section 6. Oversight.** The Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations and the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Regulations shall exercise oversight over the operations of the interim Unit.


**Section 7. Approval of the Creation of the Institutionalized Regulations Service.** The Personnel Division shall facilitate and submit to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for approval the institutionalization of the Regulations Service as a regular department service, including the proposed organizational structure and other applicable documentation, pursuant to relevant laws, policies, and regulations.

**Section 8. 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 9. 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 10. Effectivity.** This Order shall effect immediately upon approval and shall remain in force until revoked in writing.

Done this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of AUGUST 2024.

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



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ANNEX A  
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

