



Masaganang Agrikultura,
Maunlad na Ekonomiya

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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SPECIAL ORDER

No. 139

Series of 2025

SUBJECT: CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) FOR THE FORMULATION OF THE IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT (RA) NO. 12078 OR AN ACT AMENDING RA 8178 (AGRICULTURAL TARIFFICATION ACT), AS AMENDED BY RA NO. 11203

Republic Act No. 12078 or "An Act Amending Republic Act No. 8178 or the 'Agricultural Tariffication Act', as amended by Republic Act No. 11203," mandates the Department of Agriculture (DA) to adopt measures for stabilizing rice prices and ensuring adequate rice supply. Specifically, Section 6 (Powers of the DA on Rice Price Stabilization and Supply Regulation) of RA No. 12078 empowers the DA Secretary, upon the recommendation of the National Price Coordinating Council (NPCC), to declare a food security emergency on rice due to supply shortage or extraordinary increase in rice prices. When such conditions occur, the DA may take necessary action such as selling existing National Food Authority (NFA) rice buffer stock in specified areas, replenishing the used NFA rice buffer stock with locally produced rice, or importing rice when locally produced rice is inadequate.

To ensure the effective implementation of Section 6 of RA No. 12078, a TWG is hereby created and constituted to draft the implementing guidelines. The TWG shall be composed of the following officials and personnel from the DA offices:

- Chairperson : **ATTY. ASIS G. PEREZ**
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations
- Co-Chairperson : **ENGR. CHRISTOPHER V. MORALES**
Undersecretary for Rice Industry Development
- Vice Chairperson : **ADMINISTRATOR LARRY R. LACSON**
National Food Authority

Members:

Office	Personnel
DA-Policy Research Service (PRS)	OIC-DIR. KAREN KRISTINE A. ROSCOM MS. TISHA PIA E. DE LA ROSA MS. APRIL THERESE M. DE GUZMAN MR. RICHARD REPARADO

Office	Personnel
DA- Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS)	DIR. JUNIBERT E. DE SAGUN MS. LENY G. PECSON MS. LEONORA GABRIEL MR. JANSENN REXXUS F. BANAÑA
DA- National Rice Program (NRP)	DEP. PROG. DIR. RALPH ALAN C. CENIZA MS. DIANA ROSE F. GASPAR
DA Legal Service	DIR. WILLIE ANN M. ANGSİY
Office of the Secretary	ATTY. CYRENE TORRES
Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice)	EXEC. DIR. JOHN C. DE LEON DR. JESUSA C. BELTRAN

The TWG shall have the following specific functions:

1. Formulate the implementing guidelines to operationalize Section 6 of RA No. 12078;
2. Develop parameters and/or formula for determining rice supply shortage or extraordinary increase in rice prices;
3. Coordinate with the NPCC to ensure inter-agency alignment;
4. Facilitate consultations with relevant stakeholders to gather insights and recommendations and incorporate these in the drafting of the implementing guidelines, as appropriate; and
5. Perform other relevant tasks that may arise in connection with the preparation of the implementing guidelines.

Secretariat:

MS. TISHA PIA E. DE LA ROSA

MS. APRIL THERESE M. DE GUZMAN

MR. RICHARD REPARADO

DA- PRS, Macro-Economic Policy Division (MEPD)

MS. DIANA ROSE GASPAR

MS. AIRA MARIE NUEVO

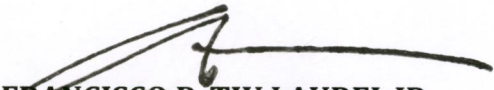
DA-National Rice Program (NRP)

The Secretariat shall provide technical and administrative support to the TWG, including the preparation of reports and guidelines, organization of meetings, and documentation of all relevant activities.

The TWG members and secretariat shall be entitled to traveling expenses, per diem, and other incidental expenses that may be incurred in the performance of their functions, chargeable against the funds of their respective offices, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules.

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

Done this 23rd day of JANUARY 2025.


FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.
Secretary

