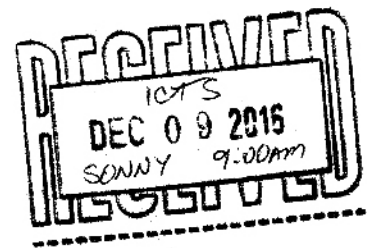




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
Quezon City 1100, Philippines



21 November 2016

DEPARTMENT ORDER

No. 08

Series of 2016

**SUBJECT : TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY FOR REGULATIONS**

In view of the creation of the Office of Assistant Secretary for Regulations and in order to strengthen the regulatory functions of the Department of Agriculture (DA) in ensuring safe and quality agricultural and fisheries products, and of effectively protecting our borders from the entry of risks to human, plant, and animal health, as well as of implementing reforms and practices aligned with best international regulatory principles and practices, the following shall be the duties and responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary for Regulations amending Special Order No.1055, series of 2015:

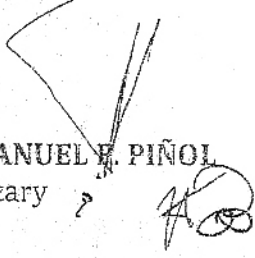
- a) Provide overall leadership of all DA Regulatory Agencies, including the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), especially with respect to their regulatory functions;
- b) Directly supervise the DA SPS Focal Group, DA Trade Enabling Risk Management System (DA-TERMS), and such other SPS Groups that may be created by the DA or as replacement thereof to unify and strengthen the SPS regulatory policy framework;
- c) Directly supervise the smooth transition from a commodity-based regulatory approach to an integrated risk-based management approach towards facilitating trade of agriculture and fisheries products, consistent with relevant laws and with international standards;
- d) Provide leadership in the various initiatives and actions to strengthen and harmonize the DA Quarantine Services, DA Laboratory Services and the DA Regional Office Regulatory Services;
- e) Provide policy recommendations to further enhance the harmonization and strengthening of DA regulatory services.
- f) Spearhead the implementation of Food Safety and Regulatory Laws, rules and regulations;
- g) Oversee the meaningful and effective engagement of the DA and its regulatory agencies in Codex, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Office International des Epizooties (OIE) or World Organization

for Animal Health and such other related international bodies, as well as in the participation in the discussions/negotiations on SPS-related matters in bilateral, regional, and multilateral fora;

- h) Serve as overall coordinator for CODEX matters in the DA;
- i) Network with the non-DA government agencies and other relevant groups and stakeholders to further strengthen DA programs and actions particularly on trade-related SPS matters;
- j) Serve as member of the Accreditation Review Body (ARB) of the Department of Agriculture tasked with reviewing the report of the Department of Agriculture Inspection Mission (DAIM) in the accreditation of Foreign Meat Establishments to export meat and meat products to the Philippines,
- k) Have oversight powers over the regulatory or food safety officers of the regulatory agencies of the DA;
- l) Perform such other functions as directed by the Office of the Secretary.

The Assistant Secretary for Regulations shall be under the general supervision of the DA Undersecretary for Planning, Policy, Research and Development and Regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked. All other Orders inconsistent hereto are deemed revoked or amended.


EMMANUEL E. PIÑOL
Secretary