



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

30 October 2019

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 29

Series of 2019

**TO : ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, OSEC
SERVICE DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS/DIRECTORS OF
BANNER PROGRAMS**

**HEADS OF BUREAUS, ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS
AND REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES AND THE CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE BIDS AND AWARDS
COMMITTEE AND HEADS OF AGRICULTURAL/FISHERIES
ENGINEERING DIVISION/UNIT**

HEADS OF LOCALLY AND FOREIGN ASSISTED PROJECT OFFICES

**SUBJECT : ENSURING THE PROVISION AND UTILIZATION OF QUALITY, SAFE
AND VIABLE AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES MACHINERY AND
FACILITIES**

In line with the implementation of agricultural and fisheries mechanization (AFMech) component of various DA banner programs (rice, corn, HVCC, livestock, fisheries), Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEP), and the programs of DA bureaus, attached agencies/corporations either locally or foreign funded, all concerned officials and operating units of this Department are hereby directed to ensure the provision of appropriate, quality and safe agricultural and fisheries machinery, as well as the establishment of sustainable postharvest and processing facilities and its efficient utilization.

This directive is in accordance with Section 2 (c and f) of RA No. 10601 (Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization Law) which state: *"It shall be the policy of the State to: XXX Ensure the quality and safety of machineries and equipment locally manufactured or imported by strengthening regulation through the development and enforcement of machinery and machine performance standards, regular testing and evaluation, registration, and the accreditation and classification of suppliers, assemblers and manufacturers to ensure compliance to prescribed quality standards; XXX (f) Deliver integrated support services to farmers, fisherfolk and other stakeholders, and assist them to be able to viably operate and manage their agricultural and fisheries mechanization projects".*

Based on the PCAF monitoring and various national and local consultations and meetings as well as reports reaching at the Office of the Secretary, some of the agri-fishery machinery and facilities provided by DA are non/underutilized due to lack of after sales service, lack of social preparations, absence of feasibility studies conducted for facilities, lack of skilled agricultural machinery operators and technicians and unrational/skewed allocations and distribution, among others. **This must be prevented and adequately addressed in the planning, procurement and implementation of agri-fishery mechanization programs and projects.**

As such, the following specific directives and measures are hereby issued for strict compliance:

- 1) All DA procuring entities (bureaus, attached agencies/corporations, OSEC units, Regional Field Offices (RFOs), Local and Foreign Assisted Project Offices shall submit to the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE) for consolidation the status of the distributed/established agricultural and fisheries machinery and facilities and the list/directory of suppliers from 2014-2018 using the attached form, Annex "A", on or before December 27, 2019. From CY 2019 and onward, status report must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary through the BAFE;
- 2) All DA bureaus, attached agencies/corporations, OSEC units, Regional Field Units (RFOs), Local and Foreign Assisted Project Offices, Coordinators/Directors of DA Banner Programs (rice, corn, HVCC, livestock and fisheries) involved in the planning, implementation and procurement of agricultural and fisheries machinery, and facilities shall:
 - a) Comply with the provisions of DA AO No. 6, series of 2017, "*Guidelines on the DA Procurement of Agricultural and Fishery Machinery and Equipment*", Memorandum Order No. 25, series of 2016, "*General Guidelines in the Provision of Agricultural Production and Postharvest Facilities*" and Memorandum Order No. 26, series of 2016, "*General Guidelines in the Provision of Agricultural Production, Postharvest and Processing Machinery and Equipment*". The BAFE, in collaboration with PCAF, shall monitor the compliance of all concerned DA operating units and submit periodic reports to the Office of the Secretary;
 - b) Coordinate and collaborate with BAFE, as part of the procurement process, the issuance of the Certificate of Conformity for machinery and Permit to Operate for agricultural and fisheries machinery manufacturers, fabricators, assemblers, distributors, dealers, importers and exporters pursuant to Sections 20 and 24 of RA No. 10601 and DA Department Circular No. 4, series of 2019;
 - c) Coordinate and collaborate with PCAF, as part of the procurement process, the classification of agricultural and fisheries machinery manufacturers, fabricators, assemblers, distributors, dealers, importers and exporters by the NAMDAC Board pursuant to Section 22 of RA No. 10601 and DA Department Circular (DC) No. 17, Series of 2018;

- d) Ensure that new agricultural and fisheries machinery and facilities projects to be implemented in 2020 and those proposed for 2021 and onwards must be properly validated and evaluated, with appropriate beneficiaries and service areas, implementation ready and operationally feasible and viable. For this purpose, the BAFE in consultation with the Philippine Society of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineers (PSABE) and other DA concerned agencies shall issue guidelines on the preparation of feasibility study for agricultural and fisheries facilities, agri-fisheries machinery service centers and other concerned agri-fishery mechanization projects in accordance with RA No. 10601 and RA No. 10915. The cost of feasibility study, engineering plans and designs preparations, engineering and administrative overhead cost and institutional development shall be included in the budget of the implementing agency.
- 3) The nationwide inventory of agricultural and fisheries machinery, and facilities at the barangay or municipal levels must be completed next year as basis for the project allocation and programming under the various DA programs, and shall be prioritized as research project and for funding by BAR. Alternatively, the inventory shall form part of the deliverables of the local technicians receiving incentives from DA. Along with this, the BAFE, in collaboration with DA-FOS, RFO-RAEDs and Philmech, shall coordinate and carry out its implementation.
- 4) The BAFE as the lead agency in collaboration with RAEDs, PhilMech and PCAF shall coordinate and assist the LGUs to accelerate the registration of ownership agricultural and fisheries machinery and equipment pursuant to DA-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2018-02 using the Registration of Agriculture and Fisheries Machineries and Equipment System (RAFMES).
- 5) Towards producing adequate number of skilled agri-fishery machinery operators and technicians, the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) in coordination and collaboration with PCAF, BAFE, PHilMech, RAEDS and concerned DA operating units, the TESDA, CHED, PSABE, AMMDA and other concerned government agencies shall accelerate the implementation of DA AO No, 1, series of 2019, *"Harmonization and Strengthening the Training and Development Activities on Agri-Fisheries Mechanization"*. Along with this, training of agricultural and biosystems engineers as trainers and competency assessors on TESDA promulgated training regulations on AFMech shall be continued and be given priority for funding support by ATI, as well as the accreditation of more training and assessment centers. The ATI, DA-Planning and Monitoring Service, DA-Finance Service, Banner Program Coordinators and other DA operating units shall ensure that the planning and programming of Extension Support, Education and Training (ESET) under the GAA shall include the implementation of this DA AO; and

- 6) The BAFE shall closely coordinate with the UPLB-AMTEC for the strengthening of AMTEC, establishment of AMTEC in Visayas and Mindanao, and the accreditation of test engineers and testing centers. Pursuant to Section 11 and 38 of RA No. 10601, the BAR shall allocate research grants under its regular budget for the upgrading or establishment of testing facilities and equipment of AMTEC, AMTEC satellite testing centers in Visayas and Mindanao, State Colleges and Universities (SUCs). All RFOs are likewise enjoined to form pool of certified test engineers who will conduct acceptance testing and field testing of agricultural and fisheries machinery. To ensure the functionality of delivered machinery, acceptance testing shall be conducted with load.

This order shall take effect immediately.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Acting Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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