



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

15 March 2020

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 335

Series of 2020

SUBJECT : CREATION OF THE COVID-19 FOOD RESILIENCY TASK FORCE

In the exigency of service and to comply with the President's directive to undertake community quarantine order in Metro Manila and create a skeletal workforce to continue each agency's mandate due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department is hereby creating its Food Resiliency Task Force to ensure the availability, affordability, accessibility and safety of food supply in the National Capital Region and the other parts of the country.

I. COMPOSITION

Chairperson: **ENGR. ARIEL T. CAYANAN**
Undersecretary for Operations

Co-Chairperson: **DR. ERNESTO S. GONZALES**
Undersecretary for Consumer Affairs

Members: **CHERYL MARIE NATIVIDAD-CABALLERO**
Undersecretary and concurrent Chief-of-Staff

ROLDAN G. GORGONIO
Undersecretary for Administration and Finance

WALDO R. CARPIO
Undersecretary for Special Concerns

EVELYN G. LAVIÑA
Undersecretary for High Value Crops and Rural Credit

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RODOLFO V. VICERRA

Undersecretary for Policy and Planning

ZAMZAMIN L. AMPATUAN

Undersecretary for Regulations

DR. ANDREW B. VILLACORTA

Assistant Secretary for Operations

KRISTINE Y. EVANGELISTA

Assistant Secretary for Agribusiness

ATTY. HANSEL O. DIDULO

Assistant Secretary for the Visayas

DR. WILLIAM C. MEDRANO

Assistant Secretary for Livestock

ENGR. ROY M. ABAYA

Director, Field Operations Service

ATTY. JUDY CAROL L. DANSAL

Administrator, National Food Authority

ENGR. HERMENEGILDO R. SERAFICA

Administrator, Sugar Regulatory Administration

BENJAMIN R. MADRIGAL, JR.

Administrator, Philippine Coconut Authority

ATTY. GLEN A. PANGAPALAN

General Manager, Philippine Fisheries Development Authority

Cmdre. EDUARDO B. GONGONA (Ret.)


Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

DR. REILDRIN G. MORALES

Director, National Meat Inspection Service

GEORGE Y. CULASTE

Director, Bureau of Plant Industry

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DR. RONNIE D. DOMINGO

OIC Director, Bureau of Animal Industry

RAMON C. YEDRA

OIC Director, Agribusiness Marketing and Assistance
Service

XERXEES R. REMOROZO

OIC Director, Information and Communications Technology
Service

JUNIBERT E. DE SAGUN

Chief, General Services Division

ALEXANDER G. ARIZABAL, JR.

Head Executive Assistant

II. FUNCTIONS

1. Shall provide direction to address food security in line with the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring availability, accessibility, affordability of safe and nutritious food from identified production areas to Metro Manila.
2. Shall oversee the overall activities of the clusters, as assigned:
 - a. Northern Luzon Cluster
 - Usec. Cheryl Marie Natividad-Caballero
 - Asec. Andrew B. Villacorta
 - Asec. William C. Medrano
 - b. Southern Luzon Cluster
 - Usec. Ariel T. Cayanan
 - Usec. Roldan G. Gorgonio
 - c. Visayas Cluster
 - Usec. Rodolfo V. Vicerra
 - Asec. Hansel O. Didulo
 - d. Western Mindanao Cluster and BARMM
 - Usec. Zamzamin L. Ampatuan
 - e. Eastern Mindanao Cluster
 - Usec. Evelyn G. Laviña

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Specifically, the functions of each office in the Task Force are as follows:

Office of the Undersecretary for Consumer Affairs

1. Conduct price monitoring, stabilization and enforcement

Field Operations Service

1. Coordinate, monitor and link all activities concerning the Food Resiliency Action Plan for COVID-19 through the DA DRRM Operations Center
2. Serve as Secretariat to the COVID-19 Food Resiliency Task Force

Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service

1. Ensure safe and unhampered delivery of basic and prime commodities to and from Metro Manila
2. Provide avenues for distribution of food to affected areas
3. Help secure food availability in major demand areas
4. Facilitate distribution of stickers to regulatory agencies (NMIS, NFA, BAI, BFAR, BPI, BAFS, FDC)

National Food Authority

1. Ensure availability of rice during the community quarantine scenario through prepositioning of rice stocks

Bureau of Animal Industry

1. Ensure continuous delivery of livestock and poultry products in the designated drop-off points
2. Enforce quarantine measures for safety of livestock animals for human consumption

National Meat Inspection Service

1. Monitor food processing facilities, slaughterhouses and markets to ensure safety of meat products for human consumption
2. Ensure sufficient supply of meat products

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

1. Ensure sufficient supply of fish and fishery products
2. Conduct price monitoring of fish and fishery products

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority

1. Ensure efficient handling and distribution of fish and fishery products

Bureau of Plant Industry

1. Ensure availability and safety of plant food

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Sugar Regulatory Administration

1. Ensure supply of sugar for business and household consumption for the entire duration of the community quarantine

Philippine Coconut Authority

1. Ensure supply of cooking oil and other coconut-based products in the market for the entire duration of the community quarantine

Information and Communications Technology Service

1. Manage information through MIS by utilizing free online office productivity and collaboration tools, eventually shifting to fully-automated system to be developed for future use
2. Use technology to limit face-to-face interactions on a first-come-first-served basis on schedule
3. Promote the use of **social media** as means of communication

General Services Division

1. Provide essential staff support services in administration and management
2. Provide transportation and other auxiliary services

The DA-Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service headed by Dir. Roy Abaya shall serve as the Secretariat of this Task Force.

All heads of Regional Field Offices are hereby enjoined to give their full support and cooperation to the DA COVID-19 Food Resiliency Task Force.

All expenses relative to the conduct of the activity shall be charged against their respective offices and/or DA-OSEC funds subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

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

Done this 16 day of March, 2020


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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