



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

MEMORANDUM ORDER

NO. 11

Series of 2021

SUBJECT : ESTABLISHING FOOD SAFETY UNIT AND INCLUSION OF FOOD SAFETY LINE BUDGET IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) CENTRAL OFFICE, REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES, FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY AGENCIES (FSRAs) AND SUPPORT AGENCIES (ATI, BAFS, FDC)

Pursuant to our present thrust for a One DA Approach to ensure food security in 2021 and beyond herein Food Safety has been identified as one of the key strategies, and in accordance with the mandates and provisions of the Food Safety Act of 2013 and Department Order No. 7 Series of 2018, all food safety regulatory agencies (FSRAs) and other agencies involved in food safety in the DA are hereby directed to establish their respective food safety units with the corresponding food safety budget items (line item for mandated regulatory agencies/offices) beginning FY 2022.

I. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This Order covers the following agencies/offices under the Department of Agriculture working on food safety:

- A. DA Central Office
- B. DA Regional Field Offices
- C. Food Safety Regulatory Agencies
 - a. Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)
 - b. Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)
 - c. Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)
 - d. National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS)
 - e. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA)
 - f. National Dairy Authority (NDA)
 - g. Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA)
 - h. Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)


A food-secure and resilient Philippines

with empowered and prosperous farmers and fisherfolk



D. Support Agencies

- a. Agricultural Training Institute (ATI)
- b. Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)
- c. Food Development Center (FDC)

II. FOOD SAFETY UNIT- COMPOSITION/FUNCTIONS /AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Food Safety Regulatory Agencies/Support Agencies

The Food Safety Unit of FSRAs and Support Agencies shall be headed by the designated agency food safety focal person and shall be under the direct supervision of the Head of agency concerned. The food safety focal person shall be a member of the DA Food Safety Focal Group (FSFG). The Food Safety Unit members shall come from the representatives of the agency engaged in food safety-related programs and activities.

The Office of the Secretary through the Office of the Undersecretary/Assistant Secretary for Regulations shall oversee this Order's implementation.


2. DA Regional Field Offices (DA RFOs)

The DA Regional Field Offices (RFOs) shall likewise create their own respective Food Safety Units. It shall be under the DA Regional Executive Director's direct supervision through the Regional Technical Director for Research and Regulations. It shall be headed by the designated Regional Food Safety Coordinator (RFSC), who shall serve as the focal person of all food safety-related programs and activities in the region. The human resources requirement shall come from the existing human resources of the DA RFO pursuant to Section VI (1) of the Department Order No. 7 Series of 2018.

The Food Safety Unit has the following functions and responsibilities:

A. DA Central Office/ Agency Level

1. Oversee the planning and implementation and provide directions for food safety-related plans, programs, and activities of the agency/agencies as mandated under the FSA of 2013;
2. Review all food safety-related plans and policies of the agency /agencies;
3. Provide policy recommendations to the management to address issues and gaps upon consultation with offices in the agency working on food safety;
4. Conduct periodic review of the agency/agencies plans and programs in coordination with the agency planning unit;


A food-secure and resilient Philippines
with empowered and prosperous farmers and fisherfolk



5. Prepare/analyze the annual Food Safety budget proposal in accordance with the Food Safety plans and program in coordination with the planning and budget units of the agency/agencies; and
6. Monitor implementation of food safety-related plans, programs, and activities of the agency/agencies.

B. Regional Level

1. Oversee the planning and implementation and provides directions for food safety-related plans, programs, and activities of the Regional Field Offices (RFOs) as mandated under the FSA of 2013;
2. Ensure collaboration with related divisions in the development and implementation of the RFO food safety-related plans, programs, and activities;
3. Ensure that the RFO food safety plan is coherent with the DA Food Safety Strategic Plan; and
4. Provide progress reports on implementing the RFO food safety-related plans, programs, and activities and provide recommendations, as necessary.

III. FOOD SAFETY BUDGET

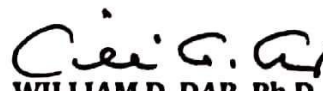
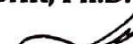
In coordination with the respective planning units of the agencies concerned and the DA Planning and Monitoring Service (PMS), budget proposals of Food Safety Regulatory Agencies (FSRAs), namely: BAI, NMIS, BPI, BFAR, FPA, NDA, PCA, and SRA including the Support Agencies (ATI, BAFS, and FDC), DA Regional Field Offices working with food safety shall include food safety budget items beginning FY 2022 in accordance to the provisions of Section VI of Department Order No. 7 Series of 2018.

The PMS is also directed to supervise the annual budget preparations for Food Safety, ensure compliance and inclusion of this in the DA submission to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

IV. EFFECTIVITY

This Department Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Done this 1st day of February 2021.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
 Secretary 

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 In replying pls cite this code :
 For Signature: 8-02-21-0018
 Received : 02/01/2021 03:03 PM

*A food-secure and resilient Philippines
 with empowered and prosperous farmers and fisherfolk*

