



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

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 200

Series of 2022

SUBJECT : DESIGNATION OF UNDERSECRETARY LEOCADIO S. SEBASTIAN AS UNDERSECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, INNOVATION, TRAINING AND EXTENSION SUPPORT

In the exigency of service and in view of his appointment as Undersecretary, **LEOCADIO S. SEBASTIAN, Ph.D., CESO I** is hereby designated as **UNDERSECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, INNOVATION, TRAINING AND EXTENSION SUPPORT in concurrent capacity as CHIEF OF STAFF and his other designations**. He shall serve as the alter ego of the DA Secretary in supervising the DA Units' research, innovation, training, and extension support (RITES) functions, oversee the integration of R4D outputs in the DA Banner Programs, and lead the pursuit of the DA's agriculture modernization goal including the development of an R4D program on future agriculture.

As such, he is tasked to lead, integrate, synchronize, and synergize the research, innovation, training, and extension support initiatives being undertaken by the DA offices, spearhead the mapping out of a vigorous RITES agenda, strategy, and programs, and align these to the contemporary thrusts of the DA. Specifically, the Undersecretary for RITES shall perform the following functions and responsibilities:

1. Develop and lead the implementation of a vigorous outcome and impact-oriented, responsive, and unified RITES agenda and programs in line with the OneDA Reform agenda by DA units together with their respective partners;
2. Support and synergize DA component units in developing and implementing their respective RITES plans and programs with their partners along with a unified RITES agenda and programs;
3. Lead in the pursuit and achievement of science quality, inclusive development outcomes, and strong research impact by the DA units and their partners;
4. Establish partnerships and linkages with national agencies (e.g., DOST, DENR, DAR, DILG)) regional (e.g., SEARCA, SEAFDEC) and international (e.g., CGIAR) RDE organizations and generate funding from donor agencies (e.g., IFAD, JICA, KOICA, USAID, WB) in pursuing the DA RDE agenda;
5. Lead the massive scaling of DA R4D outputs, innovations, and products to stakeholders, especially smallholder farmers and fisherfolk, through Province-led Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Systems (PAFES);



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6. Visit and liaise with DA units regularly and develop and implement a strong monitoring and evaluation system to ensure excellence, effectiveness, efficiency, and responsiveness in attaining DA's RITES outcomes and impact;
7. Oversee the conduct of regular external evaluation of DA RITES programs to assess their science quality, impact, and management;
8. Coordinate and synchronize the RITES functions and activities of DA units with related functions of units under the responsibility of other Undersecretaries and keep the DA Secretary and DA partners fully informed on the status, results, and outcomes of the unified RITES agenda and programs;
9. Promulgate rules and regulations consistent with Department policies that will efficiently and effectively govern the RITES activities of DA units; and
10. Exercise delegated authority on substantive and administrative matters related to RITES functions and activities of units under his domain and other related functions to be assigned by the DA Secretary.

He shall be entitled to RATA and all other benefits, including traveling expense, communication expense, per diems, and incidental expenses that may be incurred in the performance of his functions, duties and responsibilities, chargeable against OSEC funds and other available funds, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

All officials and employees of the Department, including its Bureaus, Attached Agencies and Corporations, and Regional Field Offices, are hereby advised of this designation and directed to give their full support and cooperation to Usec. Sebastian in the performance of his functions, duties, and responsibilities.

This Order shall take effect retroactive March 7, 2022 and shall remain in force unless revoked in writing. All orders, memoranda, and other issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 14th day of March 2022.



WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.

Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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