



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

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 45
Series of 2023

SUBJECT : CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) ON THE FORMULATION OF A HARMONIZED RICE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

In view of the need to harmonize the rice classification system used by the different government agencies, a Technical Working Group (TWG) that will recommend a refined rice classification system is hereby created. The TWG shall be composed of the representatives of the following government agencies and private sector groups:

Private Sector:

- 1.) Rice Watch Action Network (RWAN)
- 2.) Federation of Free Farmers Cooperative Inc. (FFFCI)
- 3.) Philippine Rice Industry Stakeholders Movement (PRISM)

Government Sector:

- 4.) Department of Agriculture - Policy Research Service (DA-PRS)
- 5.) Department of Agriculture - Philippine Rice Research Institute (DA-PhilRice)
- 6.) National Food Authority (NFA)
- 7.) Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
- 8.) Tariff Commission (TC)
- 10.) Bureau of Customs (BoC)

The TWG shall have the following functions:

1. Conduct meetings to discuss the issues and gaps in the current rice classification which allow for the misdeclaration and undervaluation of rice imports;
2. Formulate new sub-tariff lines, if necessary; and
3. Submit recommendations/policy resolutions to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) on formulating the harmonized rice classification system to be aligned with the tariff headings and corresponding tariffs on the percent of broken rice grains.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless revoked in writing. All orders, memoranda and issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 12th day of January 2023.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary



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