



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

**Special Order**

No. 78

Series of 2023

**SUBJECT: RECONSTITUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - NATIONAL FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (DA-NFRDI)**

In the exigency of service, and pursuant to R.A 8660 (*The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998*), as amended by R.A 10654, the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute-Governing Board composition is hereby reconstituted as follows:

- Chairperson** : **DRUSILA ESTHER E. BAYATE**  
DA Undersecretary for Fisheries
- Vice-chairperson** : **ATTY. DEMOSTHENES R. ESCOTO**  
Officer-in-Charge, National Director, DA-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- Members** : **DR. LILIAN C. GARCIA, CESO V**  
Executive Director, DA-NFRDI
- DR. REYNALDO V. EBORA, CESO III**  
Executive Director, Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD)
- TIRSO A. RONQUILLO, Ph.D**  
President, Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC)  
Representative, Academe
- ALONSO L. TAN**  
President, Alliance of the Philippine Fishing Federations, Inc.  
Representative, Commercial Fisheries Sector
- GAVINA P. TUMBAGA**  
Member, National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (NFARMC)  
Representative, Municipal Fisheries Sector
- JOSEPH MARTIN H. BORROMELO**  
President, Three Light Aqua Resources, Inc.  
Representative, Aquaculture Sector
- NORBERTO O. CHINGCUANCO**  
Vice President, Feedmix Nutrition Specialist Inc.  
Representative, Postharvest Sector

**BOARD SECRETARY :**            **DR. MA. THERESA M. MUTIA**  
Center Chief/Scientist I  
NFRDI-Freshwater Fisheries Research and Development  
Center

The reconstitution of the NFRDI Governing Board was made in consonance with the Department of Agriculture (DA) Special Order (SO) No. 26 series of 2023 which designated Drusila Esther E. Bayate as Undersecretary for Fisheries to replace Cheryl Marie Natividad-Caballero and SO No. 691 series of 2022 which designated Atty. Demosthenes R. Escoto as Officer-In-Charge, National Director, Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) to supplant Commodore Eduardo B. Gongona.

Hence, the overall governance of the Institute shall be vested in the Governing Board which shall formulate policy guidelines for its operation. The plans, programs and operational budget shall be passed by the Board. The Board may create such committees as it may deem necessary for the proper and effective performance of its functions.

All expenses to be incurred in the performance of duties and functions of the Governing Board shall be charged against NFRDI funds, subject to the availability of funds and existing government laws, rules, and regulations.

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

Done this 24th day of January 2023.

**DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN**  
Senior Undersecretary



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