



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

**SPECIAL ORDER**

No.: 215  
Series of 2023

**SUBJECT: COMPOSITION OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES OF THE PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES BIOTECHNOLOGY PROGRAM (DA BIOTECH PROGRAM)**

In the exigency of service, the following experts are hereby engaged to become part of the Technical Committee of the DA Biotech Program. They shall perform to ensure meaningful implementation of the programs and projects of the Program.

COMMITTEE	NAME	AFFILIATION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Saturnina C. Halos, PhD	Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines	Plant Breeding and Genetics
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Gabriel O. Romero, PhD	Philippine Seed Industry Association	Plant Breeding and Genetics
<b>Members:</b>	Rhodora R. Aldemita, PhD	International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications	Plant Breeding and Genetics
	Narceo B. Bajet, PhD	Tarlac Agricultural University and Mariano Marcos State University (Balik Scientist)	Plant/Seed System Pathology
	Ma. Anita M. Bautista, PhD	National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (UP Diliman)	Bioinformatics, Entomology (Insect Biochemistry, Insect Resistance, Insect Physiology, Insect Population Genomics,)
	Ernelea P. Cao, PhD	University of the Philippines Diliman	Genetics, Molecular Biology, Microalgal Biotechnology
	Cleofas P. Cervancia, PhD	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Entomology

COMMITTEE	NAME	AFFILIATION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
	Casiano H. Choresca, Jr., PhD	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute	Fish cloning and reproductive biotechnology, Aquatic animal health, Assisted reproductive technologies in fish
	Alan P. Dargantes, DVM, PhD	Central Mindanao University	Animal Epidemiology
	Billy P. Divina, DVM	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Animal Epidemiology and Parasitology
	Ron Leonard V. Dy	National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (UP Diliman)	Bacterial Engineering
	Ma. Rowena R. Eguia, PhD	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center	Population genetics, Mudcrab Genomics, Aquaculture, and Fish Breeding
	Leny C. Galvez, PhD	Philippine Fiber Development Authority	Plant Pathology/Virology
	Rafael D. Guerrero III, PhD	Aquatic Biosystems	Fisheries Aquaculture and Management
	Desiree M. Hautea, PhD	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Genetic Engineering, Traditional, and Modern Crop Breeding
	Joyce A. Ibana, PhD	University of the Philippines Diliman	Cell Biology, Immunology, Parasitology, and Microbiology
	Ma. Carmen Ablan-Lagman, PhD	De la Salle University	Population genetics, Mudcrab Genomics, Aquaculture, and Fish Breeding
	Arturo O. Lluisma, PhD	The Marine Science Institute (UP Diliman)	Marine Genomics, Molecular Genetics, and Bioinformatics
	Camila Flor Y. Lobarbio	University of San Carlos	Enzyme engineering



COMMITTEE	NAME	AFFILIATION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
	Mary Beth B. Maningas	University of Sto. Tomas	Marine Biotechnology, Fish and Shellfish Immunology
	Benedict A. Maralit, PhD	Philippine Genome Center	Marine Biotechnology
	Florinia E. Merca, PhD	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Agricultural Chemistry and Biochemistry
	Reynante L. Ordonio, PhD	Philippine Rice Research Institute	Plant Breeding and Genetics
	Jessica D. Rey, PhD	University of the Philippines Diliman	Molecular Plant Genetics
	Agapita J. Salces, PhD	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Animal Breeding, Animal Biotechnology, Animal Nutrition
	Dennis V. Umali, DVM	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Molecular Epidemiology
	Jerwin R. Undan, PhD	Central Luzon State University	Plant Breeding, Molecular Biology, and Genetics
	Emmanuel M. Vera Cruz, PhD	Central Luzon State University	Aquaculture, Inland Fisheries, Molecular Biology
	Adrian P. Ybañez, DVM	Cebu Technological University	Veterinary microbiology, parasitology, and epidemiology
<b>POLICY RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Abraham J. Manalo, PhD	Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines	Public Policy, Policy Research
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Jaine C. Reyes , PhD	University of the Philippines Diliman	R&D management science and technology, Technology Assessment and Commercialization, Knowledge Management, Open, and Distance E-Learning
<b>Members:</b>	Atty. Edmund Jason G. Baranda	Baranda & Associates	Intellectual Property Law

COMMITTEE	NAME	AFFILIATION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
	Ramon L. Clarete, PhD	University of the Philippines Diliman	Multilateral Trade Policy, Agricultural Economics, Development Economics
	Sonny N. Domingo, PhD	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	Agricultural Science and Resource Economics, Disaster Risk Management, Applied Mathematical Programming
	Merle B. Palacpac		Biotech Biosafety Legislation and Regulation
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT			
Chair:	Evelyn Mae T. Mendoza, PhD	National Academy for Science and Technology	Assessing capacity building needs of government institutions, food safety, and public management
Vice-Chair:	Vivencio R. Mamaril, PhD		
Members:	Teresita M. Espino, PhD	O'Mark Enterprises	
	Nina G. Gloriani, MD, PhD	St. Lukes Medical Center	
	Minda S. Manantan, DVM		
INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNICATION			
Chair:	Ronan G. Zagado, PhD	Philippine Rice Research Institute	Science Communication, Development Communication
Vice-Chair:	Fr. Emmanuel N. Alparce	Archdiocese of Sorsogon	Strategic Communications, Grassroots/ community organizing
Members:	Inez Z. Ponce de Leon, PhD	Ateneo de Manila University	Science and Risk Communication
	Ma. Aileen G. Garcia	International Rice Research Institute	Science and Risk Communication
	Ellaine DC. Llarena, PhD	University of the Philippines Los Baños	Science and Risk Communication, Knowledge Management
	Annalyn L. Lopez	Department of Agriculture	Science and Risk Communication



COMMITTEE	NAME	AFFILIATION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
	Ma. Angelina Resurreccion	Business Mirror	Science communication, Journalism

The Technical Committee shall have the following functions:

1. Assist the Program Steering Committee in the implementation of the various components of the Program;
2. Serve as the technical advisory group;
3. Develop criteria for project prioritization;
4. Evaluate proposals and project reports; and
5. Assist in the monitoring and evaluation of project activities implemented by the Program.

The pool of experts shall serve as technical reviewers of project proposals and project implementation based on their field of expertise and shall be engaged on an on-call basis.

The DA Biotech Program shall serve as Secretariat to the Technical Committees.

The experts are entitled to receive honoraria, traveling allowance, per diems, and other incidental expenses that may be incurred in the performance of their functions, duties, and responsibilities, chargeable against the DA Biotech Program funds, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and procedures.

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced until February 28, 2026. All orders inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 21st day of February 2023.

**DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN**  
Senior Undersecretary



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