



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

SPECIAL ORDER

No. 214
Series of 2023

**SUBJECT: COMPOSITION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE
PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES BIOTECHNOLOGY
PROGRAM (DA BIOTECH PROGRAM)**

In the exigency of the service and to ensure meaningful implementation of the Philippine Agriculture and Fisheries Biotechnology Program (DA Biotech Program), this Special Order is issued to reconstitute its Steering Committee (SC) members amending DA S.O. No. 668, s. 2020. The SC shall be composed of the following:

- Chair:** **MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA**, *Undersecretary*
DA Policy, Planning, and Regulation
- Vice-Chair:** **NOEL A. PADRE**, *Assistant Secretary-designate*
DA Policy, and Research and Development
- Members:** **LEOCADIO S. SEBASTIAN**, *Undersecretary*
Department of Agriculture
- JOELL H. LALES**, *OIC-Director*
(with Dr. Anthony A. Obligado as alternate)
Bureau of Agricultural Research
- REYNALDO M. EBORA**, *Executive Director*
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural
Resources Research and Development
- EUFEMIO T. RASCO**, *Chair, Agricultural Science Division*
National Academy of Science and Technology
- MR. PHILLIP L. ONG**, *Chairman*
Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food, Inc.
- SEGFREDO R. SERRANO**
Expert in International Trade and Policy
- GLENN B. GREGORIO**, *Director*
(with Mr. Jerome Clayto Barradas as alternate)
Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and
Research in Agriculture

LIBERTADO C. CRUZ, *Livestock Biotech Expert*
Industry Representative

SATURNINA C. HALOS, *President*
(with Dr. Abraham J. Manalo as alternate)
Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines

RHODORA O. ALDEMITA, *Director*
International Service for the Acquisition of
Agri-biotech Applications

The Steering Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Provide overall direction for the conduct of projects and activities to be implemented by the Program;
2. Approve activities of the Program;
3. Approve the operational guidelines of the management, coordination, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the different components of the Program;
4. Regularly update the Secretary on the progress of the Program; and,
5. Perform other related tasks as may be necessary for the successful implementation of the Program.

The DA Biotech Program Office shall serve as the Secretariat to the Steering Committee.

All expenses incurred by the Committee in the performance of its functions shall be drawn 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.

Signed this day of 22nd day of February, 2023.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary



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