



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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SPECIAL ORDER

No.: 1309

Series of 2023

SUBJECT : AUTHORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL CACAO CONGRESS 2023

In the exigency of service and as part of the continuous provision of technical assistance to the Project's cacao beneficiaries, the Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rural Development Project Enterprise Development Component (DA PRDP I-REAP) is hereby authorized to participate in the National Cacao Congress 2023 at the SMX Convention Center, Lanang, Davao City on November 16-17, 2023.

The event is organized by the Philippine Cacao Industry Association, Inc. (PCIA, Inc.) and Philippine Cacao Industry Council (PCIC) in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Rural Agro-Enterprise Partnership for Inclusive Development and Growth (RAPID), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and among others. This year's theme is "CACAO 2.0 SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY" and will highlight international and local speakers who will present on the plenary and breakout sessions to discuss new technologies to improve the quality of cacao. It will also feature various cacao experts who will share the harmonized technologies and best practices on cacao production and chocolate making. Major activities of this event include business matching, plenary and breakout sessions, and forum.

The authorized participants who will serve as exhibitors are the proponent groups of cacao-supported enterprises under DA PRDP I-REAP, cacao beneficiaries under the AMAS/AMADs and staff from the National, Project Support, Regional Project Coordination Offices (NPCO, PSOs, RPCOs), Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS), and Agribusiness Marketing Assistance Divisions (AMADs).

As such, expenses relative to the participation to include payment for booth space, booth design and construction, amenities, information materials, food and accommodation of the exhibitors during the event and incidental expenses are chargeable against the PRDP NPCO I-REAP funds, while travelling expenses, including plane fare of the exhibitors are chargeable against the concerned PSO/RPCO and DA RFO; and further, travelling expense and per diem of staff from PRDP, AMAS and AMAD are chargeable against the funds of their respective offices, subject to the availability of funds and the existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall be considered revoked upon the completion of the event. All orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 13th day of October 2023.

DOMINGO F. PANGANIBAN
Senior Undersecretary



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