



SPECIAL ORDER

No. 1379

Series of 2023

SUBJECT : CREATION OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON THE FORMULATION OF GUIDELINES ON THE DEFINITION AND SCOPE OF HOARDING AND OTHER ACTS OF ILLEGAL PRICE MANIPULATION OF AGRI-FISHERY COMMODITIES

In the exigency of the service, and to effectively implement the relevant provisions of Republic Act No. 7581, otherwise known as the Price Act of 1992, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), a Technical Working Group (TWG) for the formulation of the guidelines on the definition and scope of hoarding and other acts of illegal price manipulation with respect to agri-fishery commodities is hereby created and shall be composed of the following:

- Chair:** **Mercedita A. Sombilla, Ph.D.**
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations
- Vice Chair:** **Paz J. Benavidez II**
Assistant Secretary for Regulations
- Co-Vice Chair:** **James A. Layug**
Assistant Secretary for Inspectorate and Enforcement
- Members:** **Director Willie Ann M. Angsiy, DA Legal Service**
Representative, Bureau of Animal Industry
Representative, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Representative, Bureau of Plant Industry
Representative, National Meat Inspection Service
Representative, Sugar Regulatory Administration
Stakeholder Representative from the Animal Sector
Stakeholder Representative from the Fisheries Sector
Stakeholder Representative from the Plant Sector
- Secretariat:** **Office of the Assistant Secretary for Inspectorate and Enforcement**
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Regulations

The TWG shall:

1. Review existing policies and guidelines implementing RA 7581, including its IRR, with respect to agri-fishery commodities;
2. Facilitate the formulation of a memorandum circular to clarify and determine the scope of hoarding and other illegal acts of price manipulation as stipulated in Section 5 of the Price Act;
3. Oversee the conduct of public consultations and other activities for the implementation of the memorandum circular; and
4. Endorse to the Secretary through the Senior Undersecretary the final draft of the memorandum circular for approval.

All expenses to be incurred by the TWG in the performance of their duties and functions shall be charged against DA OSEC and DA IE funds, subject to the existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

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

Done this 14th day of November 2023.


FRANCISCO TU LAUREL, JR.
Secretary

