



Masaganang Agrikultura,  
Mamnlad na Ekonomiya

Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Elliptical Road, Diliman 1100 Quezon City  
+63(2) 8928-8741 to 64 and +63(2) 8273-2474

**MEMORANDUM ORDER**

NO. 18  
Series of 2024

**SUBJECT: Clarificatory Guideline to Memorandum Order No. 14, series of 2024**

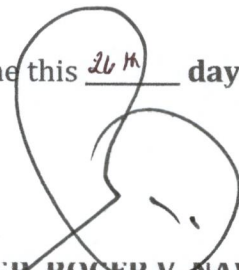
**WHEREAS**, Memorandum Order No. 14, series of 2024, was issued on 01 April 2024 suspending the issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Import Clearance (SPSIC) for the importation of Round Scad, Mackerel, and Bonito under Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) No. 195;

**WHEREAS**, Section 32 of Republic Act 8550 (Philippine Fisheries Code) as amended by Republic Act 10654 (An Act to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing) provides that fish caught by Philippine-flagged fishing vessels with distant water fishing permit shall be considered as caught in the Philippine waters and therefore not subject to all import duties and taxes when the same is landed in duly designated fish landings and fish ports in the Philippines;

**WHEREFORE**, considering that fish caught by Philippine-flagged fishing vessel are not considered imported, this clarificatory guidelines is hereby issued.

Relative to the implementation of the Memorandum Order No. 14, species caught as by-catch by Philippine-flagged fishing vessel operating by virtue of a valid Distant Water Fishing Permit shall not be considered as imported fish, and thus, not covered by said Memorandum provided that, its traceability documents could sufficiently prove that such by-catch are indeed from a Philippine-flagged fishing vessel.

Done this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

  
**ENGR. ROGER V. NAVARRO**  
Officer-in-Charge  
Office of the Secretary



DA-CO-05E-MO20240426-00008