

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

SPECIAL ORDER No. 198 Series of 2024

## SUBJECT: AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE FISHERIES YIELDS AND ECONOMIC GAINS FROM THE WEST PHILIPPINE SEA (LAYAG-WPS)

In the interest of the service, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-Vessel Operations Center is hereby authorized to conduct the Livelihood Activities to Enhance Fisheries Yields and Economic Gains from the West Philippine Sea (LAYAG-WPS) on April 15-20, 2024 to be held in Subic, Zambales.

This activity aims to bring the government support closer to the fishing communities, including those in the WPS; equip Filipino fisherfolk with fishing gears and technology to boost their productivity in the resource-rich WPS; reduce post-harvest losses; encourage sustainable fisheries management anchored on applicable laws, codes, authorizations, or rules; collaborate with concerned government agencies and units to ensure the seamless delivery of livelihood services to WPS fisherfolk; and increase fisheries production to help in the Administration's campaign to attain food security.

In line with this, the following are hereby authorized to attend the activity:

	Agency/Office	Number of Participant(s)
1.	BFAR Central Office and Regional Offices I, III and IV-A	50
2.	DA, PCG, NICA, WESCOM, PCO, LGU and Senate	10
3.	BFAR-Vessel Operations Center Personnel, MV DA-BFAR and MCS 3005 Officers and Crew	95
4.	Fishing Vessels Operators and Officials	70
5.	Fisherfolk Organizations	190
6.	Various Media Outlet	30
	Total	445



The BFAR-VOC shall serve as the organizer, coordinator, and secretariat in the activity, with assistance from BFAR Regional III as the host region. Only the abovementioned concerned divisions are authorized to participate in the activity.

All expenses relative to the conduct of the above activities shall be chargeable against BFAR-VOC funds while traveling expenses and per diem of participants shall be chargeable against their respective office's funds, subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with the existing accounting rules and regulations.

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

Done this 16 h day of April 2024

FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR. Secretary

