



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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SPECIAL ORDER

No.: 578

Series of 2024:

SUBJECT: AMENDING SPECIAL ORDER NO. 216, S. 2023, "COMPOSITION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES BIOTECHNOLOGY PROGRAM (DA BIOTECH PROGRAM)"

In the exigency of service and to ensure effective and efficient 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. 216 s., 2023, and to delineate the roles and functions of the SC members. The SC shall be composed of the following:

Chair: **ATTY. ASIS G. PEREZ**, *Undersecretary*
DA Policy, Planning, and Regulations

Vice-Chair: **NOEL A. PADRE**, *Assistant Secretary*
DA Planning and Project Development

Members: **JUNEL B. SORIANO, PhD**, *Director*
(with Asst. Dir. Joell H. Lales as alternate)
Bureau of Agricultural Research

REYNALDO M. EBORA, PhD, *Executive Director*
Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural
Resources Research and Development

EUFEMIO T. RASCO, PhD
National Academy of Science and Technology

DANILO V. FAUSTO, *President*
Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food, Inc.

SEGFREDO R. SERRANO, PhD
Expert in Trade and Policy

GLENN B. GREGORIO, PhD, *Director*
(with Mr. Jerome Cayton Barradas as alternate)
Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and
Research in Agriculture

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

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

SATURNINA C. HALOS, PhD, President
Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines, Inc.

The SC shall provide advice in the formulation of policies and guidelines to the DA Biotech Program based on the over-all thrust and strategic direction of the Department. Specifically, the SC shall have the following responsibilities:

1. Steering Committee Chair

- Holds the authority to approve the DA Biotech Program's plans, programs, and line-up of new projects endorsed by the DA BPO Director for funding consideration/support; including specific project-related requests based on the provisions stipulated in DA Administrative Order No. 08, s.2022, "DA Biotech Program Updated Guidelines and Manual of Operations"
- Act on concerns that are beyond the DA BPO Director's scope of work as outlined in the DA Administrative Order No. 08, s.2022

2. Vice-Chair

- In the absence of the SC Chair, the Vice-chair shall assume all the responsibilities of the SC Chair stated herein

3. Members


- Contribute expertise and insights
- Participate in discussions to provide valuable inputs for decision-making
- Provide guidance in areas relevant to the Program's objectives
- Engage in periodic evaluation of the Program's program and projects

The DA Biotech Program shall serve as the Secretariat to the committee.

All expenses incurred by the Committee in 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 immediately and shall remain in force until February 28, 2026. All orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 23rd day of April 2024.


FRANCISCO P. TIUA LAUREL JR
Secretary *P* *A*



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