



**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY**

JOINT MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. \_\_\_\_\_, Series of 2019.

**SUBJECT: PROVIDING FOR THE COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) PURSUANT TO THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 11203, ENTITLED “AN ACT LIBERALIZING THE IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION AND TRADING OF RICE, LIFTING FOR THE PURPOSE THE QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTION ON RICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to ensure food security and to make the country’s agricultural sector viable, efficient and globally competitive.

WHEREAS, the Philippines adopts the use of tariff in lieu of non-tariff import restrictions in accordance with the country’s trade obligations enshrined under Article 4 (2) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Agriculture (AoA).

WHEREAS, the Philippine Congress enacted Republic Act 11203 entitled, “*An Act Liberalizing the Importation, Exportation and Trading of Rice, Lifting for the Purpose the Quantitative Import Restriction on Rice, and for Other Purposes*”.

WHEREAS, Rule 13.11 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 11203 provides for the establishment of the Program Steering Committee (PSC) to oversee and provide policy directions on the integrated implementation of the programs funded by the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund and the fund in excess to PhP 10 billion tariff collection, in accordance with the Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap.

WHEREAS, Rules 13.12, 13.13, 13.16, 13.17, 13.18, 13.21, 13.25, 13.29 and 13.30 of the IRR provides for the establishment of different Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to assist in the implementation of the provisions of the IRR.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Department of Agriculture, the National Economic and Development Authority, Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Land Bank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, and the Land Registration Authority issue this Joint Memorandum Order governing the establishment of the composition of the PSC and the different TWGs, and other matters related thereto.

**Section 1: Composition.**

- Chair** : Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary
- Co-chair** : National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Secretary
- Members** :
- Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Secretary
  - Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary
  - Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Director General
  - Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech) Director
  - Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) Executive Director
  - Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) President and Chief Executive Officer
  - Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) President and Chief Executive Officer
  - Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Director
  - Land Registration Authority (LRA) Administrator
  - Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC) President
- Secretariat** : Department of Agriculture Field Operations Service (DA-FOS)

The members of the PSC shall submit to the Chair, through its Secretariat, the names of two (2) permanent alternate representatives who can act on behalf of the head of the Implementing Agencies.

The PSC shall include as permanent Resource Persons representatives from the Department of Finance (DOF) and Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for them to be updated on the progress of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Programs and the projects to be funded from the excess of PhP 10 billion tariff revenue. Other relevant agencies may also be invited as resource persons, if necessary.

## **Section 2. Powers and Functions of the PSC.**

The PSC shall oversee and provide policy directions on the integrated implementation of the programs funded by the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) and the fund in excess of PhP 10 billion tariff revenue to ensure their complementation with the DA's National Rice Program, in accordance with the Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap and to ensure sustained improvement of farm production and farmers' income. Specifically, the PSC shall:

1. Provide direction and advice to the RCEF Implementing Agencies in crafting their guidelines on the utilization of the fund;
2. Review and approve the guidelines and proposals on the utilization of the RCEF and the fund in excess of the PhP 10 billion;
3. In relation to item 2 above, submit the proposals, for programs to be implemented in the excess of PhP 10 billion, to the DBM for inclusion in the National Expenditure Program (NEP) of the government;
4. Coordinate with relevant government agencies and the Congress, if necessary, to ensure that necessary funding and resources to implement RCEF-related activities are secured;
5. Monitor the implementation of activities funded by the RCEF and the excess of PhP 10 billion tariff revenue, parallel to the activities being undertaken by the National Rice Program by setting up a web-based Rice Fund Monitoring System for this purpose.
6. Submit to the Congressional Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization (COCAFAM) a yearly report on the usage of RCEF and the excess tariff collection including their impacts; and
7. Engage a third party to conduct an evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the percentage allocation of the PhP 10 billion RCEF on the third year of the implementation of the law.

The PSC Chair, through the DA Undersecretary for Operations, shall coordinate the joint planning and integrated implementation of the programs under the Act and the Rice Industry Roadmap, including the mobilization of DA Regional Field Offices (DA-RFOs), National Irrigation Administration (NIA), National Food Authority (NFA), concerned Local Government Units (LGUs), and other entities.

Should the tariff collected not exceed PhP 10 billion, only the PhilRice, PHilMech, LBP, DBP, ATI and TESDA shall form part of the quorum.

### Section 3: Technical Working Groups.

To assist the PSC in the implementation of the provisions of the IRR, the following Technical Working Groups (TWG), to be supervised by the DA Undersecretary for Operations, shall be created:

<b>TWG</b>	<b>Responsible Agencies/Entities</b>
1. Mechanization	<b>Lead:</b> PhilMech <b>Members:</b> DA Regional Field Offices, DA FOS, PhilRice, Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering (BAFE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), NEDA, Bureau of Customs (BOC), Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PCAF) private sector representative, LGUs, private sector, and farmers' groups and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency
2. Rice Seed Development, Propagation, and Promotion	<b>Lead:</b> PhilRice <b>Members:</b> NEDA, Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), DA Regional Field Offices, DA FOS, PCAF private sector representative, LGUs, private sector, and farmers' groups and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency
3. Credit	<b>Leads:</b> LBP and DBP <b>Members:</b> DA-FOS, NEDA, DOF, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC), PCAF, other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agencies
4. Extension	<b>Lead:</b> ATI <b>Members:</b> PhilRice, PhilMech, TESDA, NEDA, Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), PCAF, DA-FOS, and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency
5. Rice Farmer Financial Assistance	<b>Lead:</b> DA Field Operations Service <b>Members:</b> DA Regional Field Offices, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), NEDA, and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency
6. Titling of Agricultural Rice Lands	<b>Leads:</b> DAR <b>Members:</b> DENR, LRA, NEDA, and relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agencies
7. Expanded Crop Insurance Program on Rice	<b>Lead:</b> PCIC <b>Members:</b> DA-FOS, NEDA, and relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency

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| 8. Crop Diversification Program   | <p><b>Lead:</b> DA High Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP)</p> <p><b>Members:</b> NEDA, DA-FOS, DA Regional Field Offices, Livestock Program, National Organic Agriculture Program, and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency</p>                        |
| 9. Updating of the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) | <p><b>Leads:</b> DA Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS) and DA-FOS</p> <p><b>Members:</b> Other concerned DA operating units, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), NEDA, DAR, DILG, DSWD and other relevant agencies as identified by the Lead Agency</p> |
| 10. RCEF Monitoring   | <p><b>Lead:</b> DA Financial Management Service and DA Planning and Monitoring Service</p> <p><b>Members:</b> NEDA, DA Rice Program, all heads of the different TWGs and other relevant agencies/offices as identified by the Lead Agency</p>                                    |

The TWGs shall submit to the PSC, for approval, the final list of their members and their specific terms of reference and deliverables within fifteen (15) days upon the effectivity of this Order. Furthermore, unless stated in this Order, the heads of these TWGs may include representatives from concerned Local Government Units (LGUs) and sectoral stakeholders (e.g. representatives from Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries Committees) to promote and implement participatory planning and implementation.

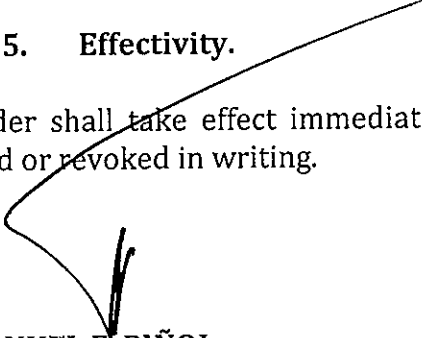
The TWGs shall also provide the PSC regular updates on the implementation of RCEF activities and their integration to the Rice Industry Roadmap, and the status report on the achievement of the targets and utilization of the Fund as collected by the TWG on RCEF Monitoring.


**Section 4. Funding.**

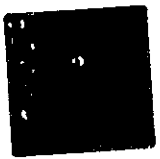
All expenses to be incurred in the conduct of the PSC and TWG activities shall be charged to the available funds of the respective agencies.

**Section 5. Effectivity.**

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless otherwise amended or revoked in writing.

  
**EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL**  
 Secretary  
 Department of Agriculture


  
**ERNESTO M. PERNIA**  
 Secretary  
 National Economic and  
 Development Authority




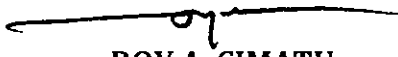



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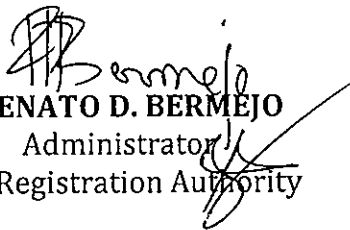
  
**JOHN R. CASTRICIONES**  
Secretary  
Department of Agrarian Reform

  
**CECILIA C. BORROMELO**  
President  
Land Bank of the Philippines

  
**ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA**  
Director General  
Technical Education and Skills  
Development Authority

  
**ROY A. CIMATU**  
Secretary  
Department of Environment and  
Natural Resources


  
**EMMANUEL G. HERBOSA**  
President and CEO  
Development Bank of the Philippines


  
**RENATO D. BERMEJO**  
Administrator  
Land Registration Authority





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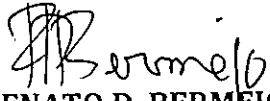
  
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