



23 August 2002

Special Order
No. 384 :
Series of 2002)

SUBJECT: **Added Provisions to Special Order No. 241 (series of 2002) on the Creation of a Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) for the Implementation of DA Administrative Order No. 8, Series of 2002, entitled "*Rules and Regulations for the Importation and Release into the Environment of Plants and Plant Products Derived from the Use of Modern Biotechnology*"**

In the interest of the service and in line with the implementation of DA Administrative Order No. 8 (series of 2002), an independent pool of experts called the ***Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)*** is hereby created, which shall be tapped by the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) to evaluate the potential risks of the proposed release of GMOs for field testing, propagation, food, feed to human health and the environment based on available scientific and technical information.

1. Composition

The initial list of scientists who have accepted membership to the STRP as attached in *Annex A* will compose the DA pool of STRP members.

2. Terms of Reference

Scientists from the pool for STRP shall be selected to provide the following services:

- a) Evaluation of applications for permit – for field testing, propagation, or importation for direct use – particularly the risk assessment and risk management strategies of the applicant and submit a report to BPI within thirty (30) days from its receipt of a copy of the application.
- b) Provision of recommendations to BPI regarding the conduct of public hearings by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), if based on its assessment, the proposed release into the environment of a regulated article may pose significant risks to human health and the environment.

- c) Evaluation of petitions for delisting of a regulated article, taking into account the nature and use of the regulated article and the scientific consensus, if any, on the effect of its release on human health and the environment, and submission of its report to BPI within thirty (30) days from its receipt of a copy of the application.
- d) During the transition period which is until 30 June 2003, an Ad Hoc STRP shall review the safety concerns posed by imported GM agricultural products for food, feed, or processing, with the use of available scientific risk assessment data and other technical information on a regulated article as per Section 19 of AO 8 (2002). If the Ad Hoc STRP determines that a regulated article poses no significant risks, then the Ad Hoc STRP will recommend it to be included in the BPI's Approval Registry.

3. Reporting Arrangements and Operational Requirements

Upon the receipt of an application for permit under AO 8, the BPI will tap the services of STRP members, choosing at most three (3) experts to do a particular service as indicated in item #2 of this S.O.

The STRP shall report directly to the BPI Director.

The BPI shall provide for Secretariat support to the STRP. In addition, the BPI shall also provide for office space, equipment, and furnishings in connection with the STRP activities.

Expenses incurred by the STRP in the performance of its functions shall be charged against the funds of the BPI and the Agriculture and Fisheries Biotechnology Program (c/o the Biotech Program Implementation Unit) subject to the usual accounting rules and regulations.

This order shall take effect immediately.

signed
LEONARDO Q. MONTEMAYOR
Secretary

ANNEX A

List of Experts Who Accepted Invitation to the STRP

Name	Affiliation/Field of Experts
1. Dr. Wilfredo L. Barraquio	Professor, Institute of Biology, College of Science, UP Diliman
2. Dr. Fernando Bernardo	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI); molecular biologist
3. Dr. Ernelea P. Cao	Assistant Professor, Institute of Biology, College of Science, UP Diliman
4. Dr. Reynaldo Dela Cruz	National Institute of Biotechnology & Microbiology
5. Dr. Teresita Espino	Director, National Institute of Biotechnology & Applied Microbiology, UPLB
6. Dr. Rhodora C. Estacio	Associate Professor IV, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, College of Medicine. UP Manila
7. Dr. Desiree Hautea	Director, Institute of Plant Breeding, UPLB
8. Dr. Ricardo M. Lantican	Professor, Department of Agronomy, UPLB
9. Dr. Rita P. Laude	Office of Institutional Linkages, UPLB; Experts on biology and genetics
10. Dr. Melyn S. Mendiolo	Institute of Biological Science, College of Arts and Science, UPLB
11. Dr. Filipinas F. Natividad	Professor, Institute of Biology, College of Science, UP Diliman
12. Dr. Delia DC Ontengco	Expert on microbiology; United Laboratories
13. Dr. Dolores A. Ramirez	Professor, Institute of Plant Breeding, UPLB; biologist
14. Dr. Eufemio Rasco	Dean, College of Science and Mathematics UP Mindanao
15. Dr. Marita V.T. Reyes	Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, College of Medicine, UP Manila
16. Dr. Claro M. Santiago	Industrial Technology Development Institute; Expert on microbiology
17. Dr. Dr. Vivian Tolentino	Department Chairman, Department of Biology, Ateneo de Manila, University
18. Dr. Lilian B. Ugson	Associate Professor, Institute of Biology, College of Science, UP Manila
19. Dr. Violeta Villegas	Research Professor, Institute of Plant Breeding, UPLB
20. Dr. Macrina T. Zafaralla	Associate Professor VI, Institute of Biological Science, College of Arts and Science, UPLB

B. For Ecology, Crop Protection and Environmental Science

Name	Affiliation/Field of Experts
21. Dr. Carlito Barril	Expert on Crop Protection, UPLB
22. Dr. Adelina A. Barrion	Expert on Insect Genetics Professor, Institute of Biological Science, College of Arts and Science UPLB

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| 23. | Dr. Emiliana Bernardo | Professor, Department of Entomology, UPLB |
| 24. | Dr. Feliciano Calora | Professor, Department of Entomology, UPLB |
| 25. | Dr. Virginia Cariño | Professorial Lecturer, Institute of Biology,
College Science, UP Diliman |
| 26. | Dr. Miguel Fortes | Associate Professor of marine Ecology of
Science, UP Diliman |
| 27. | Dr. Reynaldo M. Lesaca | Senior Vice-President, TEST Consultant, Inc.;
Expert on environmental management, and
impact assessment |
| 28. | Dr. Arturo O. Lluisma | Professor, Marine Science Institute, UP Diliman |
| 29. | Dr. Celso Lantican | College of Forestry, UPLB |
| 30. | Dr. Marina P. Natural | Associate Professor, department of Plant
Pathology, College of Agriculture, UPLB |
| 31. | Dr. Perry S. Ong | Deputy Director for Research and Extension,
Institute of Biology, College of Science, UP
Diliman |
| 32. | Dr. Belen Maralio Rejesus | Professor, Department of Entomology, UPLB |
| 33. | Dr. Reynaldo A. Tabbada | Professor, Institute of Biology, College of
Science, UP Diliman |

B. For Human Health, Animal Health, and Nutrition

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| 34. | Dr. Teodoro Abilay | Former Director of the Bureau of Animal
Industry Private practitioner |
| 35. | Dr. Placido Alcantara | Professor on Animal Nutritional; Institute of
Animal |
| 36. | Dr. Nina Barzaga | Director, Institute of Molecular Biology &
Biotechnology |
| 37. | Dr. Veronica Chan | Expert on virology, College of Public Health,
UP Manila |
| 38. | Dr. Sonia De Leon | Professor, College of Home Economics, UP
Manila |
| 39. | Dr. Josefa Eusebio | President and Chair, BIDANI Credit Fund;
Expert on Food and Nutrition |
| 40. | Dr. Rodolfo Florentino | Food Fortification Consultant, IDEA ISLA,
Center for Health Protection |
| 41. | Dr. Kenneth Hartigan-Go | Professor, Department of Pharmacology,
College of Medicine, UP Manila |
| 42. | Dr. Concepcion Lizada | Professor, Post Harvest Research Center, UPLB |
| 43. | Dr. Mauro Manuel | Private Practitioner, Veterinarian |
| 44. | Dr. Carmencita Mateo | Institute of Animal Nutrition, UPLB |
| 45. | Dr. James Mateo | Institute of Animal Nutrition, UPLB |
| 46. | Dr. Bernadette Libranda-Ramirez | Assistant Professor Department of
Biochemistry, College of Medicine, UP Manila |
| 47. | Dr. Nora Panlasigui | Professor, College of Home Economics, UP
Diliman |
| 48. | Dr. Edna Zenaida Villacorte | Private Practitioner, Veterinarian; Former Chief
of the Animal Feeds Standards Division of the
Bureau of Animal Industry |