

29 November 2002

Special Order  
No. 533 :  
Series of 2002

**SUBJECT: Creation of a DA Biotechnology Advisory Team 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"**

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In interest of the service and in line with the implementation of DA Administrative Order No. 8 (series of 2002) a **DA Biotechnology Advisory Team**, to be composed of relevant senior scientists from the Department and its bureaus and attached agencies, is hereby created, as follows:

### **1. Composition**

For technical advice on the over-all technical assessment

- Dr. Saturnina C. Halos (BAR) – Chairperson
- Dr. Rhodora R. Aldemita (PhilRice)

For feed safety concerns

- Dr. Libertado Cruz (PCC)

For food safety concerns

- Dr. Alicia O. Lustre (FDC)

For environmental safety concerns

- Dr. Aida Solsoloy (CODA)
- Dr. Hernani G. Golez (BPI-NMRDC)
- Dr. Valentino Perdido (DA-RFU II)

For socio-political and legal concerns

- Atty. Hector Soliman (DA-Legal Office)
- Dr. Viriginia Duldulao (BAR)

## **2. Terms of Reference**

The DA Biotech Advisory Team shall be tasked to provide in-house technical advice to the different technical and regulatory units established under the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Products Standards (BAFPS), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), and Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA), as per AO 8, on the following:

- a) risk assessment and management strategies; and
- b) the formulation of transparent, science-based protocols for biosafety, food and feed safety, and ecological management for transgenic crops

## **3. Reporting Arrangements and Operational Requirements**

The DA Biotech Advisory Team shall report directly to the BPI Director and/or to the Biotech Core Technical Teams of the BPI, BAI, BAFPS, and FPA. It shall be assisted by a Secretariat which shall be composed of staff from the BPI-Plant Quarantine Service, DA Policy Research Service, and the Biotech-PIU.

Expenses incurred by the DA Biotechnology Advisory Team in the performance of its functions shall be charged against the funds of the BPI and the Agriculture and Fisheries Biotechnology Program subject to the usual accounting rules and regulations.

This order shall take effect immediately.

(signed)

**LEONARDO Q. MONTEMAYOR**  
Secretary