



**NOAB Resolution No. 002**  
**Series of 2013**

**WHEREAS**, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10068 otherwise known as the "Organic Agriculture Act of 2010" ("Act") established the National Organic Agricultural Program (NOAP);

**WHEREAS**, Section 6 of the Act created the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) which shall be the policy-making body that shall provide direction and general guidelines for the implementation of the NOAP;

**WHEREAS**, Section 27 of the Act provides that the NOAB shall adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of the Act subject to the review and approval of the COCAFAM.

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of the Act provides that only third party certified products may be labeled as organically produced;

**WHEREAS**, Section 15 of the Act designated the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Products Standards (BAFPS) as the agency authorized to grant official accreditation to organic certifying bodies, as such, BAFPS is undergoing ISO/IEC 17011 accreditation to enable it to grant accreditation that is recognized in different territories and is expected to complete the process at the end of 2014;

**WHEREAS**, Section 26 (c) of the Act provides for penal sanctions for mislabeling of organic products;

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that the small farmers are not yet ready to cope with the cost of certification and that the subsidy scheme for organic certification is not yet fully operational, thus they need more time to prepare for the full implementation of Section 17 and Section 26 (c);

**WHEREAS**, PGS Pilipinas, an advocacy group has represented their request for the extension of the transition period provided in Rule 15.1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 10068 until April 2016;

**WHEREAS**, the Board is cognizant of all factors affecting the effective implementation of all the provisions of the law and deems it just to extend the transition period until April 2016;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that Rule 15.1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 10068 be amended to extend

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the transition period until April 2016 subject to the review and approval of the COCAFAM in accordance with Section 27 of the Act;

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, that the Secretary of Agriculture and the COCAFAM be furnished a copy of this Resolution, for reference and appropriate action.

**APPROVED** on the 15<sup>th</sup> NOAB Regular Monthly Meeting on 15 January 2013 at BAFPS Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, BAFPS Building, Visayas Avenue, Quezon City.

**U/SEC. BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT**

Chairperson

Permanent Representative

Department of Agriculture (DA)

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Vice-Chairperson

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Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)

**MEMBERS:**

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Department of Education (DepEd)

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Department of Agrarian Reform  
(DAR)



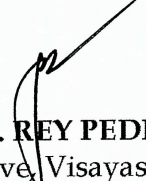
Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD SECRETARIAT**  
**BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES PRODUCT STANDARDS**  
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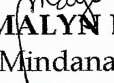


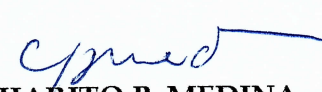
**DIR. NESTOR P. ARCANSALIN**  
Permanent Representative  
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

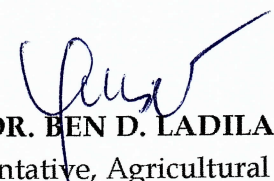
  
**DR. SUZETTE H. LAZO**  
Permanent Representative  
Department of Health (DOH)

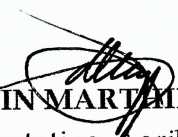
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**MR. REY PEDROSO**  
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**MS. EMALYN LEGAL**  
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