



NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD
Resolution No. 12
Series of 2016

**RECOMMENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR ENTITLED
 "TRANSITION PERIOD FOR THE USE OF THE ORGANIC MARK ON THIRD PARTY
 CERTIFIED ORGANIC FOOD AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS"**

WHEREAS, Section No. 05 of Republic Act No. 10068 otherwise known as the "Organic Agriculture Act of 2010" established the National Organic Agriculture Program (Program);

WHEREAS, the Honorable Board is the policy-making body mandated under Section 6 of RA No. 10068 to provide direction and general guidelines for the implementation of the Program;

WHEREAS, Section 17 (*Labeling of Organic Produce*) of the Republic Act No. 10068 (*Organic Agriculture Act of 2010*) states that the label of organic produce shall contain the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying body and the official accreditation number issued by the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards of the Department of Agriculture (DA-BAFS);

WHEREAS, Rule 17.3 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 states that the guidelines, rules, and procedures for labeling shall be developed by DA-BAFS through consultation and substantive participation of OA stakeholders;

WHEREAS, Department Circular (DC) No. 06, Series of 2015 (*Revised Guidelines for the Official Accreditation of Organic Certifying Bodies*), Article 12 states that the organic mark issued by the DA-BAFS shall always accompany the logo of the OCB and its official accreditation number and may appear only on, organic certification issuances and on all certified products;

WHEREAS, DC No. 05, Series of 2015 (*Revised Rules and Regulations on the Registration of Organic Fertilizers*) Section 15 and DC No. 03, Series of 2015 (*Rules and Regulations on the Registration of Primary and Postharvest Organic Food and Non-food Products*) Section 10 both state that in addition to the relevant existing standards and requirements for labeling, the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying body, the organic mark, the official accreditation number issued by the DA-BAFS, and the registration number given by DA-BAFS or concerned DA Regulatory Agency shall appear on the label of organic products;

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WHEREAS, the abovementioned Department Circulars have been approved last June 2015 and shall be effective after its publication on the daily newspaper of national circulation;

WHEREAS, upon effectivity of these Circulars, there is a need for a transition period for the use of the organic mark for third party certified organic products by the officially accredited organic certifying bodies to allow operators to use up existing stocks of labels and packaging materials, and to identify how best to comply with the new requirement;

WHEREAS, a Department Circular has been crafted to provide the transitory provisions for the enforcement of labeling requirements of third party certified organic food and non-food products by the officially accredited organic certifying bodies.

NOW, THEREFORE, this Honorable Board, by virtue of the powers vested in it by RA 10068, has **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to recommend for the approval of the Department Circular entitled "Transition Period for the Use of the Organic Mark on Third Party Certified Organic Food and Non-Food Products" (*Annex A*) by the Secretary of Agriculture;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the Department Circular shall provide the transitory provisions for the enforcement of labeling requirements of third party certified organic food and non-food products by the officially accredited organic certifying bodies.

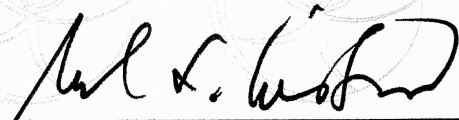
RESOLVED, FINALLY, that should this recommendation be adhered to, the DA-BAFS shall immediately endorse the Department Circular to the Office of the Secretary for the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture.

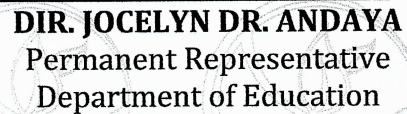
APPROVED by the following Members of the Board via referendum:

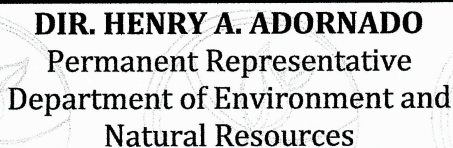
USEC BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Alternate Chairperson
Permanent Representative
Department of Agriculture (DA)

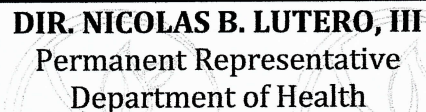
USEC. EDWIN R. ENRILE
Vice - Chairperson
Permanent Representative
Department of Interior and Local Government

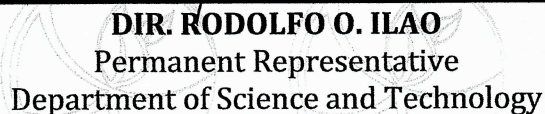


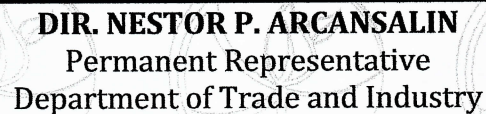

USEC. ROSALINA L. BISTOYONG
Permanent Representative
Department of Agrarian Reform

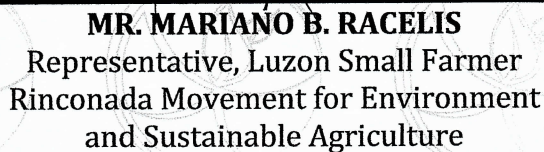

DIR. JOCELYN DR. ANDAYA
Permanent Representative
Department of Education

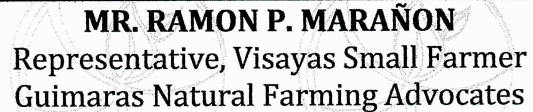

DIR. HENRY A. ADORNADO
Permanent Representative
Department of Environment and
Natural Resources

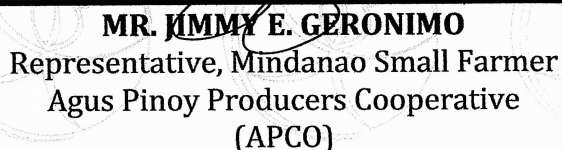

DIR. NICOLAS B. LUTERO, III
Permanent Representative
Department of Health

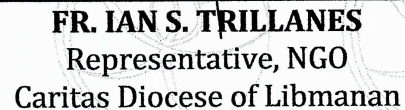

DIR. RODOLFO O. ILAO
Permanent Representative
Department of Science and Technology

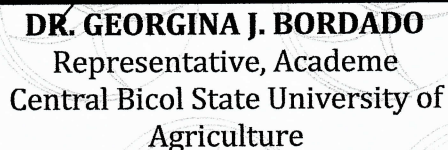

DIR. NESTOR P. ARCANSALIN
Permanent Representative
Department of Trade and Industry

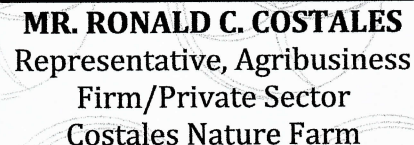

MR. MARIANO B. RACELIS
Representative, Luzon Small Farmer
Rinconada Movement for Environment
and Sustainable Agriculture


MR. RAMON P. MARAON
Representative, Visayas Small Farmer
Guimaras Natural Farming Advocates


MR. JIMMY E. GERONIMO
Representative, Mindanao Small Farmer
Agus Pinoy Producers Cooperative
(APCO)


FR. IAN S. TRILLANES
Representative, NGO
Caritas Diocese of Libmanan


DR. GEORGINA J. BORDADO
Representative, Academe
Central Bicol State University of
Agriculture


MR. RONALD C. COSTALES
Representative, Agribusiness
Firm/Private Sector
Costales Nature Farm