



NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD

Resolution No. 19
Series of 2017

**RECOMMENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED GUIDELINES FOR THE
OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION OF ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES**

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

WHEREAS, this Honorable Board as the highest policy-making body provides general guidelines and direction towards the implementation of the Program;

WHEREAS, Section 15 of RA 10068 mandates the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) of the Department of Agriculture to grant official accreditation to organic certifying bodies (OCB) in accordance to the Philippine National Standards (PNS) for organic agriculture and other relevant standards;

WHEREAS, the same section, particularly Rule 15.2 of the Implementing rules and regulations (IRR) authorizes the accreditation committee chaired by BAFS to revisit, update and regularly review the guidelines for official accreditation of OCB;

WHEREAS, Section 17 (*Labelling of Organic Produce*) of the Republic Act No. 10068 (RA No. 10068), otherwise known as Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 (OAA) states that only third party certified products are allowed to be labelled as "Organic", and, that the label of certified organic produce shall contain the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying body and the official accreditation number issued by Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards of the Department of Agriculture (DA-BAFS);

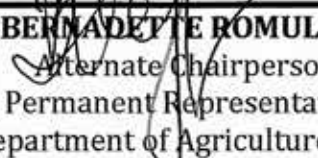
WHEREAS, in order to fully operationalize Sections 15 and 17 of RA 10068, the NOAB recommended the amendment of the guidelines for official accreditation of organic certifying bodies specifying the optional requirement for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065 and the optional use of OCB logo accompanying the "Organic" mark issued by DA-BAFS;

NOW, THEREFORE, considering the foregoing, this Honorable Board, by virtue of the powers vested in it by RA 10068, has **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to recommend the approval of the amended guidelines for the official accreditation of organic certifying bodies.




RESOLVED FINALLY, that should this recommendation be adhered to, the BAFS shall endorse the document to the Office of the Secretary for the approval of the Department Secretary.

APPROVED by the following Members of the Board via referendum:



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



ASEC. EPIMACO V. DENSING, III
Vice - Chairperson
Permanent Representative
Department of Interior and Local Government

REPRESENTATIVE
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Department of Education

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Permanent Representative
Department of Environment and
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Agriculture

REPRESENTATIVE
Agribusiness Firm/Private Sector