NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD
Resolution No. 13
Series of 2024

REQUESTING THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) ON THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF MAYOR'S PERMITS TO PGS CORE GROUPS/OCB UNDER R.A. 11511

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10068 or the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010, as amended by Republic Act No. 11511, declares the policy of the State to promote, propagate, develop further, and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Section 6 of R.A. 10068, as amended, created the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) as the policy-making body that shall provide direction and general guidelines for the implementation of the National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP);

WHEREAS, Section 14(a) of R.A. 10068, as amended, has identified the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) as the mechanism by which small farmers/fisherfolk, their farms/associations/cooperatives shall be certified as engaged in organic agriculture and as producers of organic agriculture products;

WHEREAS, Section 3(t) and 3(u) of R.A. 10068, as amended, define ***PGS group*** and ***Core PGS group,*** as:

> *"(t)* ***PGS group*** *refers to a legal association or cooperative of registered farmer members and other stakeholders in a participatory guarantee system; and*
> *(u)* ***Core PGS group*** *refers to the basic grouping unit in the PGS."*

WHEREAS, Section 14(b) of R.A. 10068, as amended, requires that ***the core PGS group*** applying for certification shall be registered with the municipality/city where the PGS group is predominantly located, that it ***shall secure a mayor's permit*** from said municipality/city, ***possession of which shall suffice as proof of registration and the grant of legal personality***, which shall however be limited only to PGS transactions; Further, an ***organic certifying body (OCB) shall also secure a mayor's permit*** from the municipality/city where it intends to operate and ***possession of which shall suffice to grant them legal personality for purposes of accreditation*** by the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS);

WHEREAS, some PGS Core Groups applying for certification/accreditation encounter challenges in securing mayor's permit from their municipalities/cities because they were required to present a registration either from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) or the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA);

WHEREAS, Articles III.6 and VII of the DA-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2022, encourages all local government units (LGUs) to support the operations of PGS groups in their locality through the provision of technical and financial assistance; Further,

the LGUs are encouraged to facilitate the issuance of the mayor's permit to PGS groups and PGS farms, the possession of which shall grant them legal personality;

WHEREAS, Article XIV of the same DA-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular directs the DILG to enjoin the LGUs to implement the provisions under the Circular and assist the DA in monitoring compliance of LGUs with the amended organic agriculture act and its implementing rules and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Board, by virtue of the power vested in it by R.A. 10068, as amended, has **RESOLVED,** as it is hereby **RESOLVED,** to request the assistance of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to enjoin the LGUs to support the PGS groups in their locality and facilitate the issuance of the mayor's permit to PGS core groups/PGS organic certifying body as provided for under R.A. 11511;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary of the DILG for appropriate action;

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of August 2024 in the City of San Fernando, Province of La Union, Philippines by the following NOAB members present:

USEC. ZAMZAMIN L. AMPATUAN
Chairperson
Department of Agriculture (DA)
Date signed: 9/4/2024

ASEC. ELIZABETH N. LOPEZ DE LEON
Vice - Chairperson
Permanent Representative
Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
Date signed: _____

DIR. VON MARK R. MENDOZA
Permanent Representative
Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)
Date signed: _____

DIR. GOMEL C. GABUNA
Permanent Representative
Department of Health (DOH)
Date signed: 9/18/2024

DIR. JUANITO T. BATALON
Permanent Representative
Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
Date signed: 9/3/2024

ASEC. GRACE FALGUI BALUYAN
Permanent Representative
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
Date signed: _____

DEP. DIR. GEN. ROSANNA A. URDANETA
Permanent Representative
Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
Date signed: _____

COMM. RHODEX P. VALENCIANO
Representative, Indigenous Farmers
National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)
Date signed: _____

MR. GABRIEL A. ARUBIO
Representative, Luzon Small Farmers
Yakap at Halik Multi-Purpose Cooperative Cavite
Date signed: 9/4/2024

MR. GODYNEL D. ISEDENIA
Representative, Visayas Small Farmers
Aklan Provincial Organic Producers Association (APOPA)
Date signed: 9/4/2024

MR. MAEL JETHEL J. KAPUNAN
Representative, Mindanao Small Farmers
Peoples Action for Liberal Agriculture Industry (PALAI), Inc.
Date signed: 9/4/2024

MS. AIMEE LOO PAREDES
Representative, Non-Government Organizations
Cares Channels, Inc.
Date signed: 9/2/2024

MS. DONNA LAO-PADRE
Representative, Private Sector
Lao Integrated Farms, Inc.
Date signed: 9/3/2024

DR. NOEL B. LUMBO
Representative, Agricultural Colleges and Universities
University of the Philippines Los Baños
Date signed: 9/2/2024

HON. ROMMEL C. ARNADO
Representative, National Organization of Local Government Units
League of Organic Agriculture Municipalities, Cities and Provinces of the Philippines
Date signed: _____

MR. RODOLFO F. CORTEZ, JR.
Representative, National Association of PGS Groups
Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Pilipinas
Date signed: _____

Attested by:

DIR. BERNADETTE F. SAN JUAN, CESO II
NOAB Secretary
Date signed: 9/18/2024

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DIR. BERNADETTE F. SAN JUAN, CESO II
NOAB Secretary
Date signed: 9/15/2024