



Republic of the Philippines  
 Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD**  
 3rd Floor, ATI Bldg., Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City 1100 Philippines

**NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE BOARD**

Resolution No. 18

Series of 2024

**APPROVING THE “GUIDELINES FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF CERTIFYING BODIES PERFORMING THIRD-PARTY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION, REPEALING DA DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 1, SERIES OF 2018 (REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION OF ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES)”**

**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 13 of R.A. 10068, as amended, designates and authorizes the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (DA-BAFS) to grant accreditation to organic certifying bodies (OCB) or entities;

**WHEREAS**, DA Department Circular No. 01, series of 2018, currently serves as the technical regulation for the official accreditation of third-party OCB, marking the fifth revision of the accreditation guidelines since the DA began recognizing OCB;

**WHEREAS**, Rule 13.2 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the amended Organic Agriculture Act mandates the DA-BAFS to review and revise, as appropriate, existing guidelines, rules, and procedures for the accreditation of OCB;

**WHEREAS**, it has been deemed necessary to (1) harmonize the regulations with the provisions of R.A. 11511 and its IRR; (2) align the regulations with the ASEAN Certification Scheme for Organic Agriculture in preparation for the Philippines’ participation in the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Organic Agricultural Products (MRA-OAP); and (3) refine and streamline the requirements and procedures, while sufficiently harmonizing them with international standards relative to conformity assessment;

**WHEREAS**, the NOAB Technical Working Group (TWG), during its October 22, 2024 meeting, discussed the proposed revised guidelines for the accreditation of OCB performing third-party organic certification, and agreed to endorse the same to the NOAB for approval, on the conditions that DA-BAFS (1) implements a stakeholder consultation mechanism that allows for the participation of NOAB members and ensures that both the consultative meetings and the draft guidelines are accessible to the public, (2) subjects the guidelines for legal review, and (3) collaborates with the NOAP-National Program Coordinating Office (NPCO), in addition to the identified DA offices and the DTI-Philippine Accreditation Bureau;

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**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 approve the draft guidelines, attached herewith as Annex A, for the accreditation of certifying bodies performing third-party organic certification, subject to adherence to the enumerated conditions. Upon effectivity, these guidelines shall repeal and replace DA Department Circular No. 01, Series of 2018, entitled "Revised Guidelines for the Official Accreditation of Organic Certifying Bodies."

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that a copy of this Board Resolution and the draft guidelines (Annex A), be forwarded to the Secretary of Agriculture, through the DA-BAFS, for the issuance of the corresponding Circular;

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2024 in Butuan City, Philippines by the following NOAB members present:

**USEC. CHERYL MARIE NATIVIDAD-CABALLERO, MTM**  
 Chairperson  
 Department of Agriculture (DA)  
 Date signed: 11-12-24

**ASEC. ELIZABETH N. LOPEZ DE LEON**  
 Vice - Chairperson  
 Permanent Representative  
 Department of the Interior and Local  
 Government (DILG)  
 Date signed: 11-05-24

Digitally signed  
 by Gabuna  
 Gommel  
 Clemmnte  
 Date:

2024.11.05  
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**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: 11-05-24

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**DIR. JUANITO T. BATALON**  
 Permanent Representative  
 Department of Science and Technology  
 (DOST)  
 Date signed: 11-06-24

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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 Representative, Luzon Small Farmers  
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 Representative, Mindanao Small  
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 Peoples Action for Liberal Agriculture  
 Industry (PALAI), Inc.  
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**MS. AIMEE LOO PAREDES**  
 Representative, Non-Government  
 Organizations  
 Cares Channels, Inc.  
 Date signed: 11-05-24

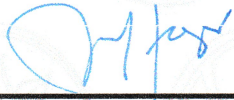
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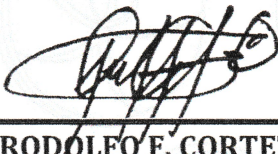


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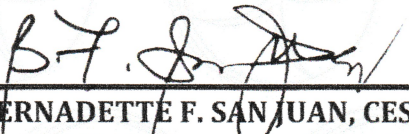
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**DR. NOEL B. LUMBO**  
 Representative, Agricultural Colleges  
 and Universities  
 University of the Philippines Los Baños  
 Date signed: 11-05-24

**HON. ROMMEL C. ARNADO**  
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 League of Organic Agriculture  
 Municipalities, Cities and Provinces of  
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 Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
**MR. RODOLFO F. CORTEZ, JR.**  
 Representative, National Association of  
 PGS Groups  
 Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)  
 Pilipinas  
 Date signed: 11-05-24

**Attested by:**

  
**DIR. BERNADETTE F. SAN JUAN, CESO II**  
 NOAB Secretary  
 Date signed: 11-08-24

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Date signed: 11-12-24

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Vice - Chairperson

Permanent Representative

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)

Date signed: 11-05-24

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