



MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 41
Series of 2018

Subject: CREATION OF BPI BIOTECH TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

In the interest of the service and for the smooth implementation of DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Joint Department Circular (JDC) No. 1, Series of 2016 entitled "Rules and Regulations for the Research and Development, Handling and Use, Transboundary Movement, Release into the Environment, and Management of Genetically-Modified Plant and Plant Products Derived from the Use of Modern Biotechnology" issued on March 30, 2016, the Bureau of Plant Industry Biotech Technical Advisory Group (BPI BioTAG) is hereby created to assist the BPI Director in the implementation of the biotech activities related to the aforementioned Circular.

The BPI BioTAG shall be reconstituted as follows:

Chairman	:	Ma. Lorelie Agbagala	Supervising Agriculturist
Vice-Chair	:	Geronima Eusebio	Supervising Agriculturist
Members	:	Amor Dimayacyac	Supervising Agriculturist
		Lilia Portales	Senior Agriculturist
		Joel Adorada	Senior Agriculturist
		Esperanza Uy	Chemist IV
		Sonny Conde	Chemist III
		Peter Magdaraog	Senior Agriculturist
		Sheeb Kaiserin Quiaonza	Senior Agriculturist
		Zyrine Lorizo	Agricultural Technologist II

BPI BioTAG Secretariat

Members	:	Sherilynne Leoncio	Senior Admin. Asst. III
		Sheeb Kaiserin Quiaonza	Senior Agriculturist
		Zyrine Lorizo	Agricultural Technologist II
		Lynne Arevalo	Project Assistant IV
		Viola Katherine Gambo	Science Research Technician III'
		Nicholas Palacpac	Information System Researcher II



Duties and responsibilities of BPI BioTAG


1. Supervise activities relevant to the implementation of the DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG JDC No.1, Series of 2016;
2. Review public consultation documents submitted by applicant;
3. Document and evaluate reports and proposals relevant to biotechnology;
4. Review conditions in the Biosafety Permit of approved GM application;
5. Coordinate network activities with other government and private agencies on biotech regulation;
6. Resolve issues pertaining to biotechnology matters within the purview of the BPI;
7. Coordinate with the Post Approval Monitoring Group (PAMG) regarding Insect and Weed Resistance Management activities;
8. Act as an adviser to the BPI Director in making decisions related to biotechnology; and
9. Perform other functions related to DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG JDC No.1, Series of 2016.

Duties and Responsibilities of BioTAG Secretariat

1. Process GM applications and conduct evaluation for its completeness and sufficiency
2. Facilitate the farming-out of documents to agencies, STRP members, and other relevant institutions;
3. Prepare and consolidate risk assessment reports of genetically modified (GM) crops submitted by concerned agencies and Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) members
4. Document reports and proposals relevant to biotechnology
5. Prepare office memoranda and letters pertaining to biotechnology
6. Provide support in the conduct of seminars, workshops, trainings and other Biotech activities;
7. Formulate and maintain a library system in the implementation of the JDC No.1, S2016; and
8. Perform other relevant functions assigned by the Chair and Vice-Chair

Expenses incurred by the BPI Director (Approving officer), the BPI BioTAG and its Secretariat in the performance of their respective duties and functions shall be charged to the Biotechnology trust fund derived from the fees collected as Risk Assessment Review Cost (RARC) based on MC No.9, Series of 2003 subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This order shall take effect immediately upon signing and supersedes all other Memorandum Orders inconsistent herewith.


GEORGE SULASTE
OIC Director
Bureau of Plant Industry

February 14, 2018