



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
Elliptical Road, Diliman  
Quezon City 1100, Philippines

June 9, 2016

Special Order  
No: 597  
Series 2016

**BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY**  
Office of the Director 231

**RECEIVED**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 6/27

Re: **Creation of a DA-Biosafety Committee pursuant to DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Department Circular No1.s2016 "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"**

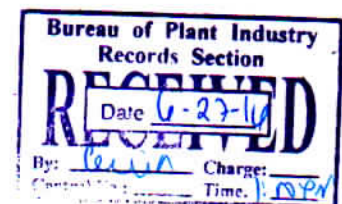
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In the interest of service and in compliance with Article III, Administrative Framework of the DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Department Circular No1.s2016, a Biosafety Committee at the Department of Agriculture is hereby constituted:

**Co-Chairs** : Ms. Amparo C. Ampil, Chief, Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Policy Division, Policy Research Service  
Ms. Merle Palacpac, Chief, Quarantine, Bureau of Plant Industry

**Members** : Ms. Ma. Lorelei Agbagala, NPQSD-BPI  
Ms. Geronima Eusebio, NPQSD-BPI  
Dr. Lilia Portales, CPMD-BPI  
Ms. Ma. Lourdes de Mata, PPSSD-BPI  
Ms. Esperanza Uy, PPSSD- BPI  
Representative, BAI

**Secretariat** : Ms. Grace Pastores, FAFPD  
Ms. Frances Adao, FAFPD  
Ms. Ardibel Vilanueva, FAFPD  
Mr. Ian Go, FAFPD



In addition, the services of experts on molecular biology, socio-economic, cultural and ethical considerations, and environment assessment, and the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority in the case of the registration of a plant-incorporated protectant, shall be obtained for the evaluation of an application.



**Terms of Reference:**

Upon the completion of the submission of the risk assessments, socio-economic, cultural and ethical considerations and results of public consultations/hearings and other requirements of an application for a biosafety permit in accordance with DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Joint Department Circular No1.s2016, the Bureau of Plant Industry shall prepare a consolidated report that shall be transmitted to the DA Biosafety Committee.

The risk assessments include those conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Department of Health, the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority for registration of a pest-incorporated protectant.

The DA Biosafety Committee (DA-BC) shall evaluate the consolidated reports for all applications and renewals for field trials, commercial propagation and direct use for food and feed or processing, and deregulation within a period of 10 days. The DA-BC will transmit its evaluation to the Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry who shall make a final decision.

The DA-BC shall report to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Regulations and the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Regulations.

All expenses of the individual members in the exercise of their functions shall be charged to the funds of their individual agencies. The expenses and honoraria of the technical experts will be charged against the funds of the Bureau of Plant Industry

For immediate implementation.

  
PROCESO J. ALCALA  
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
  
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