

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



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S E N A T E

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 625

Submitted by the Committee on Agriculture and Food on
FEB - 4 2019.

Re: Senate Bill No. 2203 (Prepared by the Committee)

Recommending its approval in substitution of S. Nos. 1309 and 1911

Sponsor: Senator Cynthia A. Villar

Mr. President:

The Committee on Agriculture and Food to which were primarily referred Senate Bill No. 1309, introduced by Senator Grace L. Poe, entitled:

"AN ACT STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR SMALL ORGANIC FARMERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010"

Senate Bill No. 1911, introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF RA 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010"

has considered the same and has the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, S. No. 2203, prepared by the Committee, entitled:

**"AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE ORGANIC
AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010"**

be approved in substitution of S. Nos. 1309 and 1911 with Senators Grace L. Poe and Cynthia A. Villar as authors thereof.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture and Food



RICHARD J. GORDON

Members



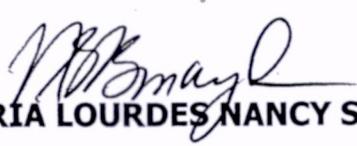
LOREN B. LEGARDA

GRACE L. POE

EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY


FRANCIS PANGILINAN

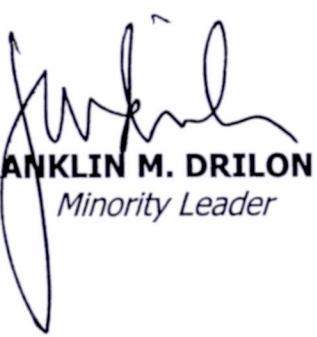
ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV


PAOLO BENIGNO AQUINO IV

Ex-Officio Members

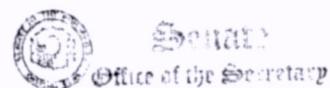

RALPH G. RECTO
President Pro-tempore


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Majority Leader


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Minority Leader

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President
Senate of the Philippines

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE
Office of the Secretary

19 FEB -4 P 3:53

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2203

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(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 1309 and 1911)

Prepared by the Committee on Agriculture and Food with Senators Grace L. Poe and Cynthia A. Villar as authors thereof

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE ORGANIC
AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10068, otherwise known as
2 "An Act Providing for the Development and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in
3 the Philippines and for Other Purposes," is hereby amended, to read as follows:
4

5 "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of
6 the State to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the
7 practice of organic FARMING AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE agriculture
8 PRACTICES in the Philippines that will cumulatively condition and enrich
9 the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity AND FARMERS'
10 INCOMES, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent
11 the depletion of natural resources, further protect the health of farmers,
12 consumers, and the general public, [and] save on imported farm inputs
13 AND PROMOTE FOOD SELF- SUFFICIENCY. Towards this end, a
14 comprehensive program for the promotion of community-based organic

1 agriculture systems, which include, among others, farmer-produced
2 purely organic fertilizers such as compost, [pesticides] BIO-PESTICIDES
3 and other farm inputs, together with a nationwide educational and
4 promotional campaign for their use and processing[,] SHALL BE
5 ESTABLISHED.

6

7 LIKEWISE, A NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS
8 CAMPAIGN AMONG CONSUMERS ON THE BENEFITS OF CONSUMING
9 ORGANIC PRODUCTS TO BOOST LOCAL PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC
10 FOOD AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS, as well as adoption of organic
11 agricultural system as a viable alternative shall be undertaken.

12

13 XXX"

14

15 **SEC. 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby amended, to read
16 as follows:

17

18 "SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.*- For purposes of this Act, the
19 following terms shall be defined as follows:

20

21 XXX

22

23 (O) *BIO-HERBICIDE* REFERS TO A SUBSTANCE USED IN THE CONTROL
24 OF WEEDS WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS POSED BY OTHER
25 SYNTHETIC COUNTERPARTS. IT IS MADE UP OF MICROORGANISMS
26 (E.G. BACTERIA, VIRUSES, FUNGI) AND OTHER MICROBES THAT
27 POSSESS INVASIVE GENES THAT CAN ATTACK THE DEFENSE GENES
28 OF SPECIFIC WEEDS THEREBY KILLING THEM.

29

30 (P) *BIO-PESTICIDE* REFERS TO A CERTAIN TYPE OF PESTICIDE
31 DERIVED FROM SUCH NATURAL MATERIALS AS ANIMALS, PLANTS,
32 BACTERIA, AND CERTAIN MINERALS. IT INCLUDES NATURALLY

1 OCCURRING SUBSTANCES THAT CONTROL PESTS BY NON-TOXIC
2 MECHANISM THAT INTERFERE WITH MATING, AS WELL AS VARIOUS
3 SCENTS OF PLANTS THAT ATTRACT INSECT PESTS TO TRAPS. IT CAN
4 ALSO INCLUDE MICRO ORGANISMS SUCH AS BACTERIUM, FUNGUS,
5 VIRUS OR PROTOZOAL AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT.

6

7 (Q) *PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM (PGS)* REFERS TO LOCALLY
8 FOCUSED QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPED AND
9 PRACTICED BY PEOPLE WHO ARE ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN ORGANIC
10 AGRICULTURE. IT IS USED TO CERTIFY PRODUCERS AND FARMERS AS
11 ACTUAL AND ACTIVE PRACTITIONERS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE,
12 AND IS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF TRUST, SOCIAL NETWORK AND
13 KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE.

14

15 IT SHALL ALSO REFER TO AN ORGANIZATION OR ASSOCIATION
16 THAT ADOPTS THIS KIND OF SYSTEM.

17

18 (R) *PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION* REFERS TO A
19 DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT A PERSON/ENTITY IS COMPLIANT WITH
20 THE REQUIREMENTS, STANDARDS AND NORMS OF ORGANIC
21 FARMING/AGRICULTURE.

22

23 (S) *RECOGNITION* REFERS TO AN AUTHORIZATION PROVIDED BY THE
24 GOVERNMENT TO ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY OR PARTICIPATORY
25 GUARANTEE SYSTEM GROUP TO PERFORM CERTIFICATION AND
26 INSPECTION ACTIVITIES.

27

28 (T) *SMALL FARMERS* REFER TO THOSE CULTIVATING NOT MORE THAN
29 FIVE (5) HECTARES OF LAND AND/OR THOSE ENGAGED
30 AS POULTRY/LIVESTOCK RAISERS WITH NOT MORE THAN THE
31 FOLLOWING:

- 1 • POULTRY – 1,000 POULTRY LAYERS OR 5,000 BROILERS
2 • SWINE – 10 SOW LEVEL OR 20 FATTENERS
3 • NATIVE PIGS – 30 HEADS
4 • CATTLE – 10 FATTENERS OR 5 BREEDERS
5 • DAIRY – 10 MILKING COWS
6 • GOAT – 50 HEADS

7
8 (U) *AGRIBUSINESS* REFERS TO AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES
9 THAT PUT FARMERS, PROCESSORS, DISTRIBUTORS AND CONSUMERS
10 WITHIN A SYSTEM THAT PRODUCES, PROCESSES, TRANSPORTS,
11 MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.”

12 **SEC. 3.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby amended, to read

13 as follows:

14 “SEC. 4. *Coverage.* - The provisions of this Act shall apply to the
15 development and promotion of organic agriculture and shall include, but
16 not limited to, the following:

17 XXX

18 (c) Promotion and encouragement of the establishment of facilities,
19 equipment and processing plants that would accelerate the production
20 and commercialization of organic fertilizers, [pesticides] BIO-
21 PESTICIDES, [herbicides] BIO-HERBICIDES and other appropriate farm
22 inputs; and

23 (d) Implementation of organic agricultural programs, projects and
24 activities, including the provision and delivery of support services with
25 focus on the farmers, PRIORITIZING SMALL FARMERS AND THEIR
26 ORGANIZATIONS and other stakeholders.”

1 **SEC. 4.** Section 7 is hereby amended, to read as follows:

2

3 "SEC. 7. *Composition of the NOAB.* - The NOAB shall consist of:

4

5 XXX

6

7 (j) A representative each from the NGOs involved in sustainable

8 agriculture for at least three (3) years; agricultural colleges and

9 universities; and private sector or agribusiness firms INVOLVED OR

10 PRACTICING IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR THE LAST THREE

11 YEARS; as members.

12

13 (K) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATIONAL PGS, TO BE

14 CHOSEN FROM AMONG AND BY THEMSELVES.

15

16 XXX

17

18 The representatives of small farmers and NGOs, and of

19 agricultural colleges and universities, shall be chosen by the Secretaries

20 of Agriculture and Science and Technology, respectively, from among

21 nominees submitted to the agency concerned by their respective

22 national organizations. These representatives must REPRESENT

23 FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS AT LEAST FROM THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL,

24 ACTUALLY AND ACTIVELY PRACTICING, PROMOTING ORGANIC AND

25 OTHER SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES, be conversant in

26 organic agriculture and committed to the policies and programs provided

27 under this Act. THE THREE SEATS GIVEN TO SMALL FARMERS SHALL

28 BE CHOSEN FROM THE LIVESTOCK AND CROP SECTORS, WHICH WILL

29 HAVE ONE (1) AND TWO (2) SEATS RESPECTIVELY.

30

31 XXX"

1 **SEC. 5.** Section 8 is hereby amended, to read as follows:

2

3 *"SEC. 8. Organization of the NOAB. –*

4

5 XXX

6

7 The Chairperson shall call the members of the NOAB, or a majority
8 thereof if not all have been designated, to a meeting to organize
9 themselves and prescribe its rules and procedures for the attainment of
10 the objectives of this Act. A majority of all the members of the NOAB
11 shall constitute a quorum. THE MEMBERS OF THE NOAB SHALL MEET
12 AT LEAST ONCE EVERY QUARTER AFTER ITS CONSTITUTION.

13

14 XXX"

15

16 **SEC. 6.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby repealed and a
17 new Section 10 is hereby inserted, to read as follows:

18

19 *"SEC. 10. The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product*
20 *Standards (BAFPS) of the DA. -* The BAFPS of the DA shall be
21 strengthened and empowered in terms of establishing functional
22 divisions and incremental staffing to serve as the national technical and
23 administrative secretariat of the NOAB with the member agencies
24 providing additional staff support as the need arises. THE BAFTS, ACTING
25 AS THE SECRETARIAT OF THE NOAB, SHALL COORDINATE AND
26 ADMINISTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC
27 AGRICULTURE PROGRAM PROMULGATED BY THE NOAB. IT SHALL BE
28 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF A DATABASE ON THE
29 ORGANIC FARMING/AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT IN THE COUNTRY AND
30 SHOWROOM OF ALL AVAILABLE ORGANIC PRODUCTS AND
31 TECHNOLOGIES IN THE MARKET, WHICH SHALL BE READILY
32 ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC.

1 THE BAFS SHALL ALSO BE TASKED TO FORMULATE
2 GUIDELINES IN THE RECOGNITION OF ORGANIC CERTIFYING
3 BODIES (OCB) AND PGS GROUPS, AND RULES AND REGULATIONS IN
4 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT AND NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
5 STANDARDS.

6
7 TOWARDS THIS END, THE ALREADY ESTABLISHED FUNCTIONAL
8 DIVISION FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WITHIN BAFPS SHALL BE
9 FURTHER STRENGTHENED AND EMPOWERED TO PERFORM AS THE
10 DESIGNATING-AUTHORITY FOR THE RECOGNITION OF ORGANIC
11 CERTIFYING BODIES (OCB) AND PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM
12 (PGS) GROUPS: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES OF
13 THE DA SHALL IMPLEMENT THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM IN
14 THE REGIONS PURSUANT TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC
15 FARMING/AGRICULTURE PROGRAM COORDINATED AND
16 ADMINISTERED BY THE BAFPS."

17
18 **SEC. 7.** A new provision is hereby inserted after Section 10 of Republic
19 Act No. 10068, to read as follows:

20
21 "SEC. 11. *PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS (PGS).*-
22
23 A. *FEATURES AND CHARACTERISTICS.* THE PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC
24 CERTIFICATION FROM ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS, ACTUALLY
25 PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, AND ORGANIZED IN
26 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT, SHALL BE PROMOTED AND
27 ACCEPTED. THE PRODUCTS CERTIFIED BY THESE GROUPS SHALL
28 BE TRADED ONLY IN THE DOMESTIC MARKET.

29
30 AN ASSOCIATION OR GROUP UNDER THE PGS SHALL ADHERE
31 TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS (PNS) FOR ORGANIC
32 AGRICULTURE ISSUED BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND

1 FISHERIES PRODUCT STANDARDS, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2 (BAFPS-DA) AND TO THE FOLLOWING BASIC ELEMENTS SET FORTH
3 BY THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ORGANIC
4 AGRICULTURAL MOVEMENT (IFOAM):

- 5
- 6 1. SHARED VISION
 - 7 2. PARTICIPATORY
 - 8 3. TRANSPARENCY
 - 9 4. TRUST – INTEGRITY BASED APPROACH
 - 10 5. LEARNING PROCESS
 - 11 6. HORIZONTALITY

12

13 FURTHER, ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS UNDER THE PGS SHALL
14 ADOPT THE FOLLOWING FEATURES AND CHARACTERISTICS:

- 15
- 16 i. EXISTENCE OF NORMS CONCEIVED BY THE STAKEHOLDERS
17 THROUGH DEMOCRATIC AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES,
18 WHICH SHALL ALWAYS BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
19 COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD SENSE OF WHAT CONSTITUTES
20 AN ORGANIC PRODUCT. THE NORMS SHOULD STIMULATE,
21 RATHER THAN INHIBIT, CREATIVITY, WHICH IS A
22 CHARACTERISTIC OF ORGANIC FARMERS.
 - 23 ii. GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION: THE PARTICIPATORY
24 CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE PERCEIVED AS A RESULT OF A
25 SOCIAL DYNAMIC, BASED ON THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
26 OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS.
 - 27 iii. EXISTENCE OF NORMS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE TO
28 SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE, BECAUSE THE
29 PARTICIPATORY NATURE AND HORIZONTAL STRUCTURE OF
30 THE PROGRAMS ALLOW FOR MORE APPROPRIATE AND LESS
31 COSTLY MECHANISMS OF CERTIFICATION, AND ACTUALLY

- HIGHLIGHT AND CELEBRATE AND ENCOURAGE CONSUMERS TO SEEK OUT SMALLHOLDERS.
- iv. EXISTENCE OF PRINCIPLES AND VALUES THAT ENHANCE THE LIVELIHOODS AND WELL BEING OF FARMING FAMILIES AND PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.
 - v. DOCUMENTED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES – THERE MAY BE MINIMAL PAPERWORK REQUIRED OF FARMERS, BUT THERE SHALL BE WAYS IN WHICH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR ORGANIC COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY. THESE WAYS SHALL BE DOCUMENTED BY THE PGS.
 - vi. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS TO VERIFY FARMER'S COMPLIANCE TO ESTABLISHED NORMS, WHICH SHALL BE ABLE TO STIMULATE PARTICIPATION, ORGANIZATION, AND ALLOW A LEARNING PROCESS FOR ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS.
 - vii. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS FOR SUPPORTING FARMERS TO PRODUCE ORGANIC PRODUCTS AND BE CERTIFIED AS ORGANIC FARMERS, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE FIELD ADVISORS, NEWSLETTERS, FARM VISITS, WEB SITES, ETC.
 - viii. EXISTENCE OF A BOTTOM-LINE DOCUMENT, SUCH AS A FARMER'S PLEDGE, THAT SHALL STATE HIS/HER AGREEMENT TO THE ESTABLISHED NORMS.
 - ix. INTRODUCTION OR USE OF SEALS OR LABELS PROVIDING EVIDENCE OF ORGANIC STATUS.
 - x. EXISTENCE OF A CLEAR AND PREVIOUSLY DEFINED SET OF CONSEQUENCES FOR FARMERS WHO DO NOT COMPLY WITH STANDARDS, WHOSE ACTIONS SHALL BE RECORDED IN A DATA BASE OR MADE PUBLIC IN A CERTAIN MANNER.

B. *REGISTRATION.* A PGS SHALL BE REGISTERED WITH THE BAFPS ONLY IF IT HAS AT LEAST FIVE (5) MEMBERS, COMING FROM DIFFERENT FARMS IN THE LOCALITY AND WHO ARE ACTUALLY

1 PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. THE BAFPS SHALL PROVIDE
2 THE GUIDELINES FOR SUCH REGISTRATION.

3

4 THE BAFPS SHALL ISSUE ITS DECISION ON THE APPLICATION
5 FOR REGISTRATION BY A PGS WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM
6 THE SUBMISSION OF THE COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS FOR
7 APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION, AND FAILURE TO RENDER
8 DECISION WITHIN SUCH PERIOD SHALL BE UNDERSTOOD AS AN
9 APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF THE PGS.
10 THE BAFPS SHALL NOT CHARGE ANY REGISTRATION OR
11 APPLICATION FEES.

12

13 UPON APPROVAL OF ITS APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION
14 WITH THE BAFPS, A PGS MAY BEGIN TO OPERATE ONCE IT IS
15 RECOGNIZED BY THE SANGGUNIAN PANGBAYAN OR
16 PANGLUNGSOD.

17

18 C. *ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS.*

19

20 1. *THE CORE PGS.* EVERY PGS SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST FIVE (5)
21 MEMBERS, COMPOSED OF FARMERS FROM EITHER THE CROPS OR
22 LIVESTOCK SECTORS OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH SECTORS, AND
23 WHO ALL LIVE IN THE SAME MUNICIPALITY OR CITY AND REGULARLY
24 INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER. EACH CORE PGS WILL HAVE THE
25 FOLLOWING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 26
- 27 i. DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORGANIC
28 STANDARDS;
- 29 ii. MAKE SURE FARM PRACTICES ARE COMPLIANT;
- 30 iii. MAKE A PLEDGE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND AND ADHERE
31 TO THE ORGANIC STANDARDS;
- 32 iv. PARTICIPATE IN APPRAISALS/INSPECTIONS OF MEMBER

1 F FARMS. AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
2 CORE GROUP SHOULD BE PRESENT TO SIGN ON THE
3 TRUTHFULNESS OF THE FINDINGS OF THE
4 APPRAISAL/INSPECTION;

- 5 v. INITIATE KEY FIELD TRAININGS FOR FARMER-MEMBERS
6 AND RESIDENTS IN THEIR LOCALITY TO PROMOTE
7 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;
8 vi. ATTEND MUNICIPAL/PROVINCIAL PGS MEETINGS AND
9 SHARE INFORMATION;
10 vii. RECOMMEND WHICH FARMS WILL BE CERTIFIED;
11 viii. TAKE ACTIONS ON DEFAULTS/NON-COMPLIANCE AS PER
12 SANCTION GUIDELINES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE BAFPS
13 AND MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS; AND
14 ix. ASSIST DEFAULTING AND NON-COMPLIANT MEMBERS TO
15 REGAIN CERTIFICATION STATUS.

16
17 2. *MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS*. THE MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS SHALL BE
18 COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING: 1) MUNICIPAL/CITY AGRICULTURAL
19 OFFICER; 2) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM LOCAL STATE
20 UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE (SUC) OR LOCAL PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL
21 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION; 3) ONE (1) BARANGAY CAPTAIN FROM
22 THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY, DESIGNATED BY THE MAYOR,
23 REPRESENTING THE CONSUMERS; AND ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FOR
24 EACH CORE PGS IN THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY.

25
26 THE MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS SHALL CONDUCT ITS BUSINESS AND
27 AFFAIRS BASED ON MAJORITY DECISION OF MEMBERS PRESENT,
28 AFTER HAVING SECURED A QUORUM.

29
30 THE MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING
31 POWERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
32

- i. DEVELOP OR UPDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE GUARANTEE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PGS ORGANIC GUARANTEE SCHEME;
- ii. ENSURE THAT GUARANTEED FARMER MEMBERS COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPLICABLE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS (PNS) ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND RELEVANT REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS;
- iii. CONDUCT PEER REVIEWS, AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES (E.G. ANNUAL ON-SITE INSPECTIONS) OF APPROVED SCOPE/S BASED ON THE PGS ORGANIC GUARANTEE SCHEME;
- iv. HEAR AND ADDRESS APPEALS OF THE FARMER MEMBERS;
- v. SUBMIT THEIR ORGANIZATION TO INSPECTION AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES OF THE BAFPS (INCLUDING OBSERVER/S), THE COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS COMMITTEE, AND THE AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL OF THE DA REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES. THIS SHALL INCLUDE THE ANNUAL SURVEILLANCE THROUGH WITNESS AUDITS OF THE BAFPS;
- vi. MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF CORE PGS OPERATING WITHIN ITS AREA OF JURISDICTION, WHICH SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE BAFPS FOR THE LATTER'S NATIONAL DATA BASE;
- vii. ISSUE PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION AND THE "PGS GUARANTEED ORGANIC" LABEL/MARK TO COMPLIANT CORE PGS, AFTER BEING BESTOWED ITSELF WITH RECOGNITION BY THE BAFPS.

3. PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL PGS. IT SHALL BE THE OPTION OF THE PGS TO FORM THEIR AGGREGATION AT THE PROVINCIAL AND

1 NATIONAL LEVELS. THEY SHALL RECEIVE THE ASSISTANCE, SUPPORT
2 AND GUIDANCE OF THE BAFPS-DA IN THIS REGARD.

3

4 D. *PROMOTION*. THE BAFPS SHALL ACTIVELY PROMOTE AND SEARCH
5 FOR ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS THAT HAVE BEEN PRACTICING
6 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR REGISTRATION AS PGS IN ACCORDANCE
7 WITH THIS ACT. THE BAFPS SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH PROVINCE IN
8 THE COUNTRY HAS A PGS. EVERY PGS SHALL CONDUCT TRAININGS
9 AND PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE IN THEIR SPECIFIC
10 LOCALITIES TO STRENGTHEN AND BOOST THE NUMBER OF ORGANIC
11 FARMS BY AT LEAST 1% ANNUALLY PER PROVINCE, MEASURED BY
12 AREA CULTIVATED.

13

14 E. *TRAINING AND INSPECTION*. THE BAFPS SHALL TRAIN AND
15 CONDUCT RANDOM INSPECTIONS OF PGS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE
16 ALL COMPLIANT WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS ON
17 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. IT SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF COMPLIANT
18 PGS IN THE COUNTRY AND SHALL PUBLISH A LIST OF SUCH
19 COMPLIANCE AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR.

20

21 F. *INCENTIVES*. ANY ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ENTITY/FARMER OR
22 ORGANIC INPUT PRODUCER, CERTIFIED BY A REGISTERED PGS TO BE
23 COMPLIANT FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS, WITHOUT ANY OFFENSE OR
24 INFRACTION, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A FULL GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY
25 OF THE COST FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION
26 ACCREDITATION.

27

28 **SEC. 8.** Sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Republic Act No. 10068 are
29 hereby renumbered accordingly.

30

31 **SEC. 9.** Section 16 is hereby renumbered and amended, to read as
32 follows:

1 "SEC. [16] 17. *Registration of Organic Food and Organic Input*
2 *Producers.* - All organic food and input establishments must register with
3 the director, BAFPS, registration under this section shall begin within
4 ninety (90) days of the enactment of this Act. Each such registration
5 shall be submitted to the director through an electronic portal and shall
6 contain such information as the director by guidance may determine to
7 be appropriate. Such registration shall contain the following information:

8
9 XXX
10

11 (f) For organic input producers, a list of materials used in the
12 production of each particular input.

13 *PROVIDED, THAT IN CASE OF DIRECT SELLING TO CONSUMERS MADE*
14 *BY SMALL OR FAMILY FARMERS, WHO WERE ALREADY EARLIER*
15 *REGISTERED WITH BAFPS OR WITH THE LGU, COMPLIANCE WITH*
16 *THIS SECTION SHALL BE OPTIONAL."*

17 **SEC. 10.** Section 17 is hereby renumbered and amended, to read as

18 follows:
19

20 "SEC. [17] 18. *Labeling of Organic Produce.* - The label of organic
21 produce shall contain the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying
22 body and the accreditation number issued by the BAFPS. ~~[Only third~~
23 ~~party certification is allowed to be labeled as organically produced.] THE~~
24 ~~ORGANIC LABEL/MARK SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE TRADE NAME AND~~
25 ~~ORIGIN ADDRESS OF THE PRODUCE.~~

26 PRODUCTS WHICH ARE CERTIFIED AND GUARANTEED BY
27 THIRD-PARTY ORGANIC PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THOSE
28 WITH CERTIFICATION FROM THE PGS, SHALL BE ALLOWED TO BE
29 LABELLED AND SOLD AS ORGANIC.
30
31
32

1 ALL OTHER PRODUCTS, NON-CERTIFIED PRODUCTS AND FIRST-
2 PARTY CERTIFIED PRODUCTS, SHALL BE PROHIBITED FROM BEING
3 LABELLED AS ORGANIC."

4

5 **SEC. 11.** Section 19 is hereby renumbered and amended, to read as
6 follows:

7

8 "SEC. [19] 20. *Availability of Trading Post for Organic Inputs.* -
9 Local chief executives shall establish, as far as practicable, at least one
10 (1) trading post for organic inputs for every LGU in the area of
11 jurisdiction. THE TRADING POST SHALL BE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED
12 IN AN AREA SUCH AS IN THE PUBLIC MARKET AND IN OTHER CENTERS
13 OF TRADING AND LOCAL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES."

14

15 **SEC. 12.** Sections 20 to 25 of Republic Act No. 10068 are hereby
16 renumbered accordingly.

17

18 **SEC. 13.** Section 26 is hereby renumbered and amended, to read as
19 follows:

20

21 "SEC. [26] 27. *Penal Provisions AND OTHER PENALTIES.* – Any
22 person who willfully and deliberately:

23

24 XXX

25

26 (c) mislabels or claims that the product is organic when it is not in
27 accordance with the existing standards for Philippine organic agriculture
28 or this Act shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not
29 less than one (1) month nor more than six (6) months, or a fine of not
30 more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion
31 of the court. If the offender is a corporation or a juridical entity, the
32 official who ordered or allowed the commission of the offense shall be

1 punished with the same penalty. If the offender is in the government
2 service, he shall, in addition, be dismissed from office: *PROVIDED, THAT*
3 ANY PGS FOUND TO HAVE ISSUED A CERTIFICATION TO A FARM OR
4 PRODUCER ESTABLISHED TO BE NOT IN COMPLIANT WITH ANY OF
5 THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE,
6 SHALL BE PENALIZED AS FOLLOWS:

- 7
- 8 1. FIRST OFFENSE. WRITTEN WARNING.
 - 9 2. SECOND OFFENSE. SUSPENSION OF RECOGNITION."

10

11 **SEC. 14.** Sections 27 to 32 are hereby renumbered accordingly.

12

13 **SEC. 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The NOAB shall adopt
14 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90)
15 days from the effectivity of this Act and submit the same to the COCAFAM for
16 review and approval.

17

18 **SEC. 15. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared
19 invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall
20 remain in full force and effect.

21

22 **SEC. 16. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive
23 orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof
24 contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
25 accordingly.

26

27 **SEC. 17. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
28 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or
29 in the Official Gazette.

30

31 *Approved,*