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Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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JAN 24 2022

(Please see Distribution List)

Subject: INVITATION TO THE “ONLINE DISCUSSION ON EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING ONLINE BUSINESSES”

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

Warm greetings!

This pertains to the ongoing formulation of the Joint Administrative Order (JAO) on the "Guidelines for Online Businesses Reiterating the Laws and Regulations Applicable to Online Businesses and Consumers".

The drafting of the JAO was initiated by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in partnership with other partner government agencies, including the Department, in response to the compelling need to apprise online businesses, whether digital platform or marketplace, an e-retailer, or an online merchant, that there are existing laws and regulations, including those concerning the environment, that online businesses must comply with.

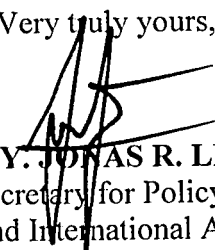
The draft JAO is also a result of consultation meetings with regulators conducted by DTI between April and July 2021, and dialogue with online platforms regarding the sale of restricted and prohibited products which was held in May 2021. Three (3) public consultations were also conducted in October 2021 with each session on focusing on the type of online business: platform, e-retailers, and online merchants. Consultations were conducted to have a better grasp of the challenges faced not only by consumers but also online businesses.

The Government recognizes that online businesses play a significant role in boosting the economy towards its safe reopening after significant decline as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In line with the intents of the draft JAO and in support to the efforts of DTI and other government agencies in reiterating compliance of online businesses on existing laws and regulations, the Department is cordially inviting you and/or your representative/s to an **Online Discussion on Existing Environmental Laws and Regulations Governing Online Businesses**, which will be held on **27 January 2022 (Thursday), 10:00AM – 03:00PM**, via Zoom. The event is an initial step of the Department to forging partnership with online businesses in upholding compliance to environmental laws and regulations.

For questions and confirmation of your attendance, please contact our Policy Studies Division via e-mail at psddivision@gmail.com, or through phone numbers 8925-1183 / 09075230059. For confirmed participants, kindly provide the following details: Name, Designation, Agency/ Organization, E-mail Address, and Phone Number, **on or before 25 January 2022**. The Zoom details and Program will be sent upon confirmation of the participants.

Very truly yours,


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning
and International Affairs

ONLINE DISCUSSION ON EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING ONLINE BUSINESSES

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