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MEMORANDUM

TO

All Regional Executive Directors

DENR Regions I-XIII, CAR, NCR and MIMAROPA

ATT'N : Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officers Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices

National Greening Program Coordinators

FROM

The Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment

The Undersecretary for Field Operations - Mindanao

SUBJECT

USE **OF OUALITY PLANTING MATERIALS** IN THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED AND EXPANDED

NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM (ENGP)

DATE

OCT 1 4 2022

This pertains to the use of quality planting materials in the implementation of the Enhanced and Expanded National Greening Program (ENGP).

The DENR is an active member of Subcommittees and industry councils for coffee, cacao, rubber, bamboo, and fiber-crops since it included these crops as priority species for reforestation in the National Greening Program (NGP) on its early phase of implementation. It has been the advocacy and the watch of these industry councils to make sure that all planting materials and products are of good quality and tended according to standards set by the country through the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (DA-BAFS). During meetings, the DENR was always being called out for producing inferior planting materials that may affect the industry when harvest time comes.

For rubber, it has come to our attention that there are plantations that face challenges in having lower yield of latex production. This can be pointed to the quality of the planting materials planted before. The PHLRUBBER Technical Working Group has called out the DENR's attention on planting inferior rubber seedlings and requested the DENR to redirect the implementation of ENGP on rubber plantation development by sourcing rubber seedlings and budwoods from certified nurseries, to ensure clones that will be outplanted are of superior quality and may produce higher yield of harvest.

Should the field offices identify areas for agroforestry and use high value crop species like coffee, cacao or rubber, you are advised to follow the national standards set in utilizing the said high-value crops species. The DA-BAFS has issued Philippine National Standards (PNS) and Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for these high value crops to ensure that producers and farmers will get optimum yield and quality products from the plantations to be established.

The said standards can be accessed through DA-BAFS' website: https://bafs.da.gov.ph/pns.php.

The designated focal persons for each commodity should ensure that the partner families and organizations do away from planting inferior planting materials. The DENR should be in sync with the standard protocol used for these species as we gear towards the economic goals of the plantations to upland communities and therefore, this should start on producing quality planting materials given the national standards.

FOR YOUR STRICT COMPLIANCE.

ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, CESO I

JOSELIN MARCUS E. FRAGADA, CESO III