

## Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

## Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

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APR 2 4 2003

DENR SPECIAL ORDER NO. 2003 - <u>2,95</u>

SUBJECT: CREATING A DENR AD HOC COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS POLICY ISSUES ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs)

In the best interest of the service and pending the completion of the national framework on biosafety to be developed under the "Development of National Biosafety Framework Project" of PAWB-DENR, a DENR *Ad Hoc* Committee to address policy issues on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) is hereby created composed of the following:

1) Director, Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau - Chairperson

2) Director, Ecosystems Research & Development Bureau - Vice-Chairperson

3) Director, Environmental Management Bureau - Member

4) Director, Forest Management Bureau - Member

5) Director, Policy Service - Member

The Committee shall draft the interim DENR guidelines to address the possible adverse impacts of GMOs on the Philippine environment. The Committee shall look into the possibility of incorporating the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system in the said guidelines.

The Committee shall be assisted by a Technical Working Group composed of the following:

1) Chief, Wildlife Resources Division, PAWB - Head

2) Ms. Veronica Sinohin, ERDB - Member

3) Mr. Victorino Diaz, EMB - Member

4) Ms. Josefina L. de Leon, PAWB - Member

5) Project Coordinator, National Biosafety

Framework Project, PAWB - Member

6) Representative, FMB - Member

The Committee and its Secretariat are authorized to avail of the services of other DENR personnel in the performance of its tasks. The Committee and its TWG are likewise authorized to claim reasonable expenses, chargeable against the members' respective offices, subject to the availability of funds and to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

This Order takes effect immediately and remains valid and in force unless revoked in writing.

ELISEA G. GOZUM Secretary