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Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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SPECIAL ORDER
NO. 667

OCT 23 2023

SUBJECT : DEFINING THE ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENT FOR THE EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND CREATING THE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PMO) FOR THE PURPOSE

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11898, *“An Act Institutionalizing the Extended Producer Responsibility on Plastic Packaging Waste, Amending for This Purpose Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000”* and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and in order to effectively carry out the mandates under the aforementioned law with our development partners, the organizational arrangement for the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program implementation is hereby defined.

A. THE EPR PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To provide direction and oversight in the implementation of EPR Act of 2022, an EPR Program Advisory Committee is hereby created, composed of the following:

Chairperson : DENR Secretary
Alternate : Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment

Members:

| ASSIGNED UNDERSECRETARY | FOCUS |
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| Undersecretary for Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment | Policy Coordination, Registration of EPR Programs (including Amendments) |
| Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs | Policy, Systems, and Procedures Formulation |
| Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change | Compliance Monitoring and Audit |

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| ASSIGNED UNDERSECRETARY | FOCUS |
|---|--|
| Supervising Undersecretary for Strategic Communications and Initiatives Service | Partnership and Strategic Collaboration Building, Communications |
| Undersecretary for Field Operations - Mindanao | Registration of EPR Programs (including Amendments) |
| Undersecretary for Integrated Environmental Science | Data Management, Innovations and Technology Development |
| Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs | Management of Confidential Information |
| Undersecretary for Organizational Transformation and Human Resources | Organizational Transformation and Capacity Development |
| Undersecretary for Legal and Administration | Incentives and Cost Recovery, including Rewards and Recognitions Mechanism |

The EMB Director and the Executive Director of the National Ecology Center (NEC) shall work closely with the members of the Program Advisory Committee and report directly to the Secretary and/or her designated Alternate.

B. THE EPR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PMO)

The Program Management Office (PMO) under the Office of the Secretary is hereby constituted.

The EPR - PMO shall undertake the day-to-day implementation of the EPR Act of 2022 to ensure that deliverables required are provided properly and in timely manner, such as:

1. Formulate the activity and implementation plan with corresponding budgetary requirement;
2. Implement the program plan based on the Terms of Reference for EPR Program Implementation, in close coordination with EMB, NEC and other concerned offices, experts and stakeholders;
3. Document systems and processes in the implementation of the EPR Act;
4. Develop metrics and performance standards to measure progress and quality of accomplishments;
5. Mobilize private sector, development partners and other stakeholders to gather technical and financial support;
6. Conduct monitoring and evaluation of performance of the EPMT/O, EMB, NEC, EMB Regional Ecology Centers (RECs);
7. Prepare regular reports to the Secretary and the Congressional Oversight.

The Program Management Office (PMO) shall be composed of a pool of experts, technical, and administrative support staff. It shall be headed by Atty. Zoilo L. Andin, Jr. as the Program Manager. He shall report to, coordinate and work closely with the EMB Director and the Executive Director of the National Ecology Center.

The EPR - PMO Technical and Administrative Staff shall be composed of (a) Information Systems Specialist, (b) Knowledge Management Specialist, (c) Capacity Development Specialist, (d) Technical Staff from EMB – SWMD, and (e) Technical Staff from EMB - EEID.

The Assistant Secretary and EMB Director in concurrent capacity shall issue a Special Order for the designation of personnel as technical and administrative staff.

C. THE EPR PROGRAM COMMITTEES

The Program Management Office (PMO) shall be supported by the following committees:

1. **EPR Review Committee** - tasked to review EPR Programs submitted by OEs, Collectives, or Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs);

It shall be headed by Ms. Delia Valdez, Environmental Management Bureau

2. **EPR Monitoring Committee** - tasked to monitor progress and compliance of OEs to their submitted EPR Programs;

It shall be headed by Atty. Ivy de Pedro, Environmental Management Bureau

3. **Compliance Audit Committee** –tasked to :

- a) Develop the uniform standards for EPR Act of 2022 auditing and reporting, with the Auditing and Assurance Council (AASC) of the Philippines and other relevant organizations;
- b) Develop and promulgate a standardized compliance auditing manual for the EPR Act of 2022;
- c) Develop and implement the system for the accreditation of EPR Act of 2022 independent third-party auditors.

It shall be headed by Atty. Janice Regoso – Pammit, Environmental Management Bureau.

The Committee Heads shall report to the Program Manager.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA
Secretary

