



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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06 November 2007

SPECIAL ORDER
No. **567**
Series of 2007

Subject: Creation of an Inter-agency Technical Support Working Group for the Implementation of Commitments under the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) is an agreement by Governments that seeks to formalize a system of access to plant genetic resources in the public domain, called the Multilateral System of Exchange (MSE). For this purpose, Annex I of the ITPGRFA lists the crops of importance to global food security to which the Contracting Parties have agreed to provide access via a Standard Material Transfer Agreement. Access will be granted to natural and legal persons under the jurisdiction of the Contracting Parties to the Treaty, solely for the purpose of utilization for research, breeding and training for food and agriculture. The MSE is an important feature of the ITPGRFA together with the realization of farmers' rights and the conservation, exploration, collection, characterization, evaluation, documentation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Countries are obliged to ensure that their laws, regulations and procedures conform to the provisions of the Treaty.

In the interest of the service, a Technical Support Working Group is hereby created under the Office of the Undersecretary for Policy and Planning to support the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) in its implementation of the Philippine commitments under the ITPGRFA. The Technical Support Working Group shall have the following composition:

Technical Support Working Group

Chair :	Director Joel S. Rudinas	Bureau of Plant Industry
Co-Chair:	Prof. Nestor C. Altoveros	Crop Science Cluster – Institute of Plant Breeding -UPLB
Members:	Prof. Teresita H. Borromeo	Crop Science Cluster- Institute of Plant Breeding -UPLB
	Dr. Anastacia M. Gochangco	Bureau of Plant Industry
	Ms. Teresita E. Guevarra (Alternate of Dr. Gochangco)	Bureau of Plant Industry

Dr. Jocelyn E. Eusebio

Philippine Council for
Agriculture, Forestry and
Natural Resources
Research and
Development (PCARRD)

Mr. Noel A. Catibog

Philippine Council for
Agriculture, Forestry and
Natural Resources
Research and
Development (PCARRD)

Atty. Ronilo M. Beronio

Philippine Rice Research
Institute

Mr. Ramon L. Rivera

Philippine Coconut
Authority

Mr. Milo D. Delos Reyes

GMA Corn Program

Ms. Amparo C. Ampil

PALSD-PRS

Secretariat

Ms. Grace Aurora F. Pastores
Mr. Dennis A. Barrogo
Ms. Maria Helen G. Rantugan

PALSD-PRS
PALSD-PRS
Bureau of Plant Industry

The Technical Committee shall:

1. Formulate the modalities of implementation of the provisions of the ITPGRFA through plans, programs, projects and activities and/or propose legislation consistent with the ITPGRFA objectives of promoting the: (a) conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources; (b) access to plant genetic resources and (c) protection of farmers' rights;
2. Serve as technical experts and advisers to, and recommend a Philippine position for the Philippine representative to the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA in the discussions of issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
3. For plant genetic resources, recommend guidelines and necessary institutional measures on access to and benefit sharing for PGRFA not included in Annex 1 of the MSE between and among local public institutions and foreign research institutions and organizations consistent with national laws related or relevant to plant genetic resources;

4. Serve as a temporary clearing house for MTAs entered into by natural and legal persons under the jurisdiction of the Philippines in order to monitor agreements and compliance;
5. Invite private sector and/or non-government organization to meetings of the TWG as necessary;

The operational expenses of the TWG-ITPGRFA shall be chargeable against the regular fund of the Office of the Secretary subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules.

This Order shall take effect immediately.



ARTHUR C. YAP
Secretary



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Dilliman, Quezon City

31 March 2008

SPECIAL ORDER

No: 222
Series of 2008

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL ORDER NO. 567 DATED 06
NOVEMBER 2007**

In the interest of the service, Special Order No. 567 dated 06 November 2007 is hereby amended to include the following as members of the Technical Support Working Group for the implementation of the Philippine commitments under the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA):

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|----|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim | Director | Protected Areas and
Wildlife Bureau
DENR-PAWB |
| 2. | Teodoro S. Solsoloy | Assistant
Director | Bureau of Agricultural
Research (BAR) |
| 3. | Salvacion M. Ritual | Assistant
Division
Chief | Bureau of Agricultural
Research (BAR) |

This Order takes effect immediately and shall remain in force until revoked.


ARTHUR C. YAP
Secretary

