



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION

11th Floor, Upper Class Tower, Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tel No. (02) 8374-3987 / Fax No. (02) 8374-2505 / website: nta.da.gov.ph
ISO 9001: 2015 QMS CERTIFIED

OFFICE OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH (124TH) SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM, 11TH FLOOR,
UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
22 DECEMBER 2023 (9:00 AM)**

PRESENT:

Adm. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ	-	Vice-Chair of the Board and Administrator & CEO
Dir. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA	-	Member, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector
Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA	-	Member, Academic Community Sector
Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. GIOVANNI B. PALABAY	-	OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations
Mrs. MYRNA O. LOZANO	-	Manager, Industrial Research Department
Mr. REYNALDO R. AQUINO	-	OIC - Finance Department
Atty. JUN FRED V. PARADO	-	Attorney V, Office of the Administrator Acting Board Secretary V
Mr. LEXTER C. CABANTING	-	Administrative Assistant I (JO)

THRU VIRTUAL PLATFORM/ONLINE:

Mr. BENEDICTO M. SAVELLANO	-	Deputy Administrator for Support Services Operations
Mrs. DINAH E. PICHAY	-	Manager, Internal Audit Department
Mrs. FORTUNA C. BENOSA	-	Manager, Corporate Planning Department
Atty. ROHBERT A. AMBROS	-	Manager, Regulation Department
Mrs. ZENAIDA T. ARROJO	-	Manager, Administrative Department
Mrs. EVANGELINE C. CABIGAN	-	OIC - Farm Technology & Services Department
Department Managers / OICs	-	NTA Branch Offices

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Administrator and CEO, Belinda Sarmiento-Sanchez, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

ATTY. PARADO: Good morning to each and every **ong.**

1 For the 124th Special Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held
2 at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Avenue,
3 Quezon City, please witness the honorable Administrator & CEO
4 Belinda S. Sanchez to call to order. Ma'am...

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6 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** May I call the meeting to order...the 124th Special Meeting of the NTA
7 Governing Board.

8
9 **ATTY. PARADO:** Okay. Thank you very much, madam Chair.

10
11 Next... for the determination of the quorum madam Chair.

12
13 **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

14
15 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** May I now call on the Acting Board Secretary to determine the Quorum.

16
17 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

18
19 So, for the 124th Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, we have,
20 of course, the Presiding Officer, the honorable Belinda S. Sanchez,
21 Administrator and CEO.

22
23 We also have the Members of the NTA Governing Board, as follows: the
24 honorable Director Nestor C. Casela, representing the Academic
25 Community Sector; Director Danilo C. Trongco, representing the
26 Tobacco Farmers Sector; Director Jessie Pat M. Serna, representing the
27 Tobacco Exporters/Traders Sector; Dir. Luzviminda U. Padayao,
28 representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector; and, Dir. Wilfredo C.
29 Martinez, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector.

30
31 We would like also to acknowledge the presence of the Department
32 Managers and Branch Managers of the NTA Central Office and the
33 different Branch Offices.

34
35 As such, Madam Chair, we have a Quorum.

36
37 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, since there's a being Quorum, may I call on Atty. Parado for the
38 reading of the Agenda.

39
40 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

41
42 For the agenda of 124th Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board,
43 we have agenda (A), the "**Request for the Approval of the Agenda of**
44 **the 124th Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 22**
45 **December 2023 at 09:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor**
46 **Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.**" Madam Chair...

47
48 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?

49
50 **DIR. SERNA:** Madam Chair, I respectfully move for the approval of the "Agenda of the
51 124th Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 22
52 December 2023 at 09:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor Upper
53 Class Bldg., Quezon Avenue, **Quezon** City."

54
55 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, there's a motion.

56

1 **DIR. TRONGCO:** I second the motion.
2
3 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (A) having been duly seconded, the
4 same is hereby **APPROVED**.
5

6 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 182, S. 2023**
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8 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
9 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AGENDA OF THE
10 124TH SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,
11 HELD ON 22 DECEMBER 2023, AT 9:00 AM, AT THE NTA BOARD
12 ROOM, 11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE.,
13 QUEZON CITY.***

14
15 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
16

17 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

18
19 For our next agenda, we have Agenda (B). This is the **“Request for
20 Approval of the Minutes of the 169th Regular Meeting of the NTA
21 Governing Board, held on 14 December 2023, at 9:00 AM, at the
22 NTA Ilocos Norte Branch Office, Batac City, Ilocos Norte”**. Madam
23 Chair...

24
25 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** As our practice, can anyone move for the wholesale approval of the
26 Minutes of the Meeting, subject to the submission of amendments, if
27 any, within five (5) days from today.
28

29 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Madam Chair. I respectfully move for the approval of the “Minutes of
30 the 169th Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 14
31 December 2023, at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Ilocos Norte Branch Office,
32 Batac City, Ilocos Norte”. Madam Chair...
33

34 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
35

36 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (B) on the Minutes of the Previous
37 Meeting having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**,
38 subject to submission of amendments, if any, within five (5) days from
39 today.
40

41 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 183, S. 2023**
42

43 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
44 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE
45 169TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,
46 HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2023, AT THE NTA ILOCOS NORTE
47 BRANCH OFFICE, BATAC CITY, ILOCOS NORTE.***

48
49 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
50

51 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

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53 So, our next agenda, we have Agenda (C), which is the **“Request for the
54 Approval of the Comparative Analysis of Tobacco Production Per**

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Tobacco-Growing Municipality/City for the Preceding Three (3) Years.”

To report on the Summary of Discussions and Recommendations, may we call upon Director Jessie Pat M. Serna, Chairman of the Committee on Trading Operations and Regulation. Sir...

DIR. SERNA:

Honorable Chair, I would like to report the summary of discussions regarding this agenda.

The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAOP) presented the agenda. He then called upon Ms. Evangeline C. Cabigan, the OIC of FTSD, to render her Report on the agenda. Ms. Cabigan then presented before the Board a comparative analysis of tobacco production for every tobacco-growing municipality/city for the past three (3) years.

She mentioned that the Report covers Crop Years 2020 – 2021; 2021 – 2022; and 2022 – 2023.

Also, that it represents the average yield level obtained by each municipality/city for the last 3 years, for Virginia, Burley, and Native – for the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan, Isabela, and Cagayan (no Candon & Abra – no record can be extracted from these areas) – the data reported being based on reported total acceptances (except some). During the deliberations, the Members of the Board made the following observations and recommendations, to wit:

- The disparities in the reported data were observed; lots of Questions are to be asked
- Data constitutes good statistical representation; if the plus & minus is insignificant, then the data is credible
- The data based on PIV should be considered; area planted of tobacco should be the determining factor, but without discounting the PIV; the average yield per hectare should be the guide
- We have to safeguard the integrity of the NTA by providing credible data on tobacco production; FTSD only consolidated the data
- The study on the cost of production must ride on the data on area planted in tobacco – based on scientific trial / measure
- A study should be conducted to establish the yield per hectare per tobacco type and sub-type; there should be consistency in the data to be used
- To go back to the data of each municipality/city from the Branch Offices and to determine homogeneous data before removing the outlier/extremes – to show the actual picture of the yield performance of each municipality; to have staff to monitor
- All concerns are already answered by the Efficient System of Documentation; proposal is to separate data on Improved and Neutral tobacco types
- Not to divulge information to other government agencies; unverified report; LGU's request for data on tobacco production from the BOs shall be forwarded to the NTA-CO for appropriate action, thru the Regulation Department

- To come up with a realistic data for Board formulation policies

The Resource Speaker then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda, subject to inclusion of the recommendations made by the Board, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly / exhaustively discussed in the Committee Meeting proper and, with a Motion to Approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussion...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

Thank you!

DIR. TRONGCO: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of agenda (C) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 184, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REPORT ON THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TOBACCO PRODUCTION PER TOBACCO-GROWING MUNICIPALITY/ CITY FOR THE PRECEDING THREE (3) YEARS.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you very much, madam Chair.

For our next agenda, we have agenda (D), the **"Request for the Approval of the Status of Operations of the NTA-Kadiwa Ni Ani at Kita."** To report on the Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations, may we be allowed to call Director Danilo C. Trongco, the Chairman of the Committee on Risk Management. Sir...

DIR. TRONGCO: Madam Chair. 'ito po ang report ng summary of the discussion and recommendations of the Request for the Approval of the Status of Operations of the NTA-Kadiwa Ni Ani at Kita.

The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAOP), presented the agenda. He then called upon Engr. Noralyn I. Idica, the Acting Project Manager of the NTA-Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita, to render her Report on the agenda.

Engr. Idica then presented before the Board her Report on the present status of operations of the NTA-Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita. She mentioned that the NTA Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita is a Special Project of the NTA, originally known as NTA-Agripinoy Tobacco Farmers Food Processing Plant and Trading Center.

Also, that due to the damages incurred by reason of two (2) separate typhoons, there is a need to rehabilitate the facility. Expenses to be incurred would total PhP1,604,782.57 per Detailed Unit of Price Analysis (DUPA). She concluded her Report with the following:

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- That the NTA Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita is a good project especially for the tobacco farmers; but there is a need for the stewardship of its operations
- That it would be best if the designated Project Manager is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and if designated in a concurrent capacity, should be based at the NTA Central Office to have better access with the Corporate Planning Department, the Internal Audit Department, the Finance Department, the Administrative Department, and with top management for immediate action to address pressing concerns.

During the deliberations, the Members of the Board made the following observations and recommendations, to wit:

- That this Project should not be outrightly abandoned as this will set a bad precedent for DBM, especially as to NTA's subsequent requests for funding of future projects; that the issue will be deliberated by the Board some other time; top management shall consider that if the facility is rehabilitated, it may not be enough for it to compete with other established business/es
- It was suggested for the Board to explore other available options to make the facility operational. A Feasibility Study should be conducted whether or not to continue on its operations
- The Board suggested for NTA to come up with a proper assessment of the property to identify its proper valuation prior to determination whether the facility shall be offered for sale or for lease to third parties
- That a Focal Person shall be designated by top management for this purpose

The Resource Speaker then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda, subject to inclusion of the recommendations made by the Board, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly / exhaustively discussed in the Committee Meeting proper and, with a Motion to Approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussion...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

Thank you!

- DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
- ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (D) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED.**

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 185, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF OPERATIONS OF THE NTA-KADIWA NI ANI AT KITA.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

1 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
2
3 For our final agenda, we have agenda (E), the **“Approval of the Report**
4 **on the Development and Commercialization of Veterinary**
5 **Products Derived from Tobacco Leaf Extracts and Other**
6 **Alternative Uses of Tobacco, and Possible Tie-Up/Partnership**
7 **with EDL Group of Companies for the Purpose.”**
8
9 To report the Summary of Discussions and Recommendations, may we
10 request the honorable Luzviminda U. Padayao, the Chairperson of the
11 Committee on Research and Extension. Ma’am...
12
13 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Thank you Attorney. Good afternoon and Merry Christmas to all.
14
15 For the summary report of discussions and recommendations of
16 agenda (E), I will have to report to you.
17
18 The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy
19 Administrator for Operations (DAOP), presented the agenda. He then
20 called upon Mrs. Myrna O. Lozano, Manager of the Industrial Research
21 Department, to render her Report on the agenda.
22
23 Mrs. Lozano then presented before the Board her Report on the
24 development and commercialization of veterinary products derived
25 from tobacco leaf extracts and other alternative uses of tobacco,
26 including a possible tie-up/partnership with EDL Group of Companies
27 for the purpose.
28 The Resource Speaker also provided a summary of matters discussed
29 between NTA and The EDL Group of Companies, Inc., a business entity
30 that ventures on animal care, especially game fowls, as follows:
31
32 - Scale-up production of tobacco leaf extract (TLE) for use of EDL in
33 developing products
34 - EDL conducts scale-up production / manufacturing, marketing, and
35 distribution of NTA-developed TLE products like soap, ointment, and
36 shampoo
37 - Expand the use of TLE products for wound control or management to
38 large and small ruminants, small animals, game fowl, and pets
39 - EDL develops a shampoo for game fowl based on the previous study
40 conducted by NTA IRD-PDD on the use of tobacco leaf extract emulsion
41 (TLEE) to control chicken ectoparasites
42 - EDL conducts nationwide marketing and distribution of Tobacco Dust
43 Plus, as EDL sees this as the most feasible or fastest to commercialize as
44 Tobacco Dust Plus is already available in the market. EDL has access to
45 at least 14,000 poultry outlets nationwide.
46
47 During the deliberations, the Members of the Board made the following
48 observations and recommendations, to wit:
49
50 - The Board suggested that the registration of the products should still
51 be in the name of the NTA; that it should be known as the product of
52 NTA, but EDL will be in-charge with the product’s marketing
53 - That the NTA shall also explore the sharing when it comes to income
54 - To determine sharing; identify prices; levelling our effort for the
55 product
56

1 The Resource Speaker then requested the Board for the approval of the
2 agenda, subject to inclusion of the recommendations made by the
3 Board, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the
4 request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.
5

6 This subject matter having been thoroughly / exhaustively discussed in
7 the Committee Meeting proper and, with a Motion to Approve, which
8 was duly seconded and unless there is a need for further discussion...I
9 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.
10

11 **DIR. TRONGCO:** I second the motion.
12

13 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (E) having been duly seconded,
14 the same is hereby **APPROVED**.
15

16 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 186, S. 2023**
17

18 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
19 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REPORT ON THE***
20 ***DEVELOPMENT AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF VETERINARY***
21 ***PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM TOBACCO LEAF EXTRACTS AND***
22 ***OTHER ALTERNATIVE USES OF TOBACCO, AND POSSIBLE TIE-***
23 ***UP/PARTNERSHIP WITH EDL GROUP OF COMPANIES FOR THE***
24 ***PURPOSE.***
25

26 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
27

28 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
29

30 We now proceed to **Other Matters**. We have here the proposed
31 schedule for the **170th Regular Board Meeting** of the NTA Governing
32 Board, which will be on **11 January 2024, Thursday, at 9:00 AM**
33 (tentative) to be held at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor Upper Class
34 Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City.
35

36 It follows that the **Committee Meeting** will be on **10 January 2024,**
37 **Wednesday, at 9:00 AM,** also at NTA Board Room.
38

39 We have no other agenda to discuss. So, our next agenda is for
40 Adjournment. Madam Chair...
41

42 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** There being no other matters, we can now adjourn. Can we have a
43 motion?
44

45 **DIR. CASELA:** Madam Chair, I move for the Adjournment of this 124th Special Meeting.
46

47 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
48

49 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Acting upon the motion for adjournment, today's meeting is hereby
50 **ADJOURNED**.
51

52 **SO, ORDERED.**
53

54 Thank you.
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Note: **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT EXACTLY 10:00 AM.**

PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:



ATTY. JUN FRED V. PARADO
Acting Board Secretary
NTA Governing Board

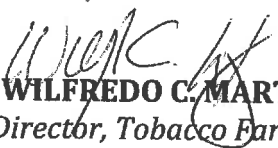
ATTESTED:



Hon. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ, CPA
Administrator/CEO and Vice-Chairman,
NTA Governing Board



Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA
Appointive Director, Academic Community Sector



Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

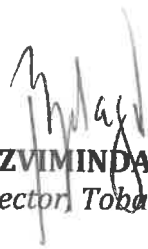


Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

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Hon. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA
Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector



Hon. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



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OFFICE OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH (169TH) REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AT THE NTA –ILOCOS NORTE
BRANCH OFFICE, BATAK CITY, ILOCOS NORTE
14 DECEMBER 2023 (9:00 AM)**

PRESENT:

Adm. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ	-	Vice-Chair of the Board and Administrator & CEO
Dir. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA	-	Member, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector
Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA	-	Member, Academic Community Sector
Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. GIOVANNI B. PALABAY	-	OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations
Mrs. MYRNA O. LOZANO	-	Manager, Industrial Research Department
Mr. REYNALDO R. AQUINO	-	OIC - Finance Department
Mrs. EVANGELINE C. CABIGAN	-	OIC - Farm Technology & Services Department
Atty. JUN FRED V. PARADO	-	Attorney V, Office of the Administrator
Mr. LEXTER C. CABANTING	-	Acting Board Secretary V Administrative Assistant I (JO)

THRU VIRTUAL PLATFORM/ONLINE:

Mr. BENEDICTO M. SAVELLANO	-	Deputy Administrator for Support Services Operations
Mrs. DINAH E. PICHAY	-	Manager, Internal Audit Department
Mrs. FORTUNA C. BENOSA	-	Manager, Corporate Planning Department
Atty. ROHBERT A. AMBROS	-	Manager, Regulation Department
Mrs. ZENAIDA T. ARROJO	-	Manager, Administrative Department
Department Managers / OICs	-	NTA Branch Offices

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Administrator and CEO, Belinda Sarmiento-Sanchez, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

1 **ATTY. PARADO:** Good morning to each and every one.
2
3 For the 169th Regular Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board,
4 witness the honorable Belinda S. Sanchez, Administrator and CEO. May
5 I request our Administrator & CEO to call to order the meeting.
6 Ma'am...
7
8 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** I now call to order the meeting of the 169th Regular Board Meeting of
9 the NTA Governing Board.
10
11 **ATTY. PARADO:** Okay. Thank you very much madam Chair.
12
13 Next agenda is for the determination of Quorum. Madam Chair...
14

15 **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
16

17 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** May I now call on the Acting Board Secretary to determine the quorum.
18

19 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Madam Chair.
20

21 So, for the 169th Regular Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board we
22 have the honorable Belinda S. Sanchez, Administrator and CEO.
23

24 We also have here with us, today, the Honorable Director Nestor C.
25 Casela, representing the Academic Community Sector; Director Danilo
26 C. Trongco, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector; Director Jessie
27 Pat M. Serna, representing the Tobacco Exporters/Traders Sector; Dir.
28 Luzviminda U. Padayao, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector; and
29 thru the virtual platform, we have Director Wilfredo C. Martinez,
30 representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector.
31

32 We are also joined by our OIC - Deputy Administrator for Operations,
33 Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, as well as our Deputy Administrator for
34 Support Services, Mr. Benedicto M. Savellano, thru the online platform.
35 Also, the Department Managers, OIC's and the Branch Managers of the
36 NTA Central Office and the different Branch Offices. 'Magandang umaga
37 po sa ating lahat'.
38

39 As such, Madam Chair, we have a Quorum.
40

41 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, since there's a Quorum, let's now proceed to the reading of the
42 agenda.
43

44 **ATTY. PARADO:** Madam Chair, for the agenda of 169th Regular Board Meeting, we have
45 Agenda (A), which is the "**Request for the Approval of the Agenda of**
46 **the 169th Regular Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held**
47 **on 14 December 2023 at 09:00 AM, at the NTA-Ilocos Norte Branch**
48 **Office, Batac City, Ilocos Norte."** Madam Chair...
49

50 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?
51

52 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Madam Chair, I respectfully move for the approval of the "Agenda of the
53 169th Regular Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 14
54 December 2023, at 9:00 AM, at the NTA-Ilocos Norte Branch Office,
55 Batac City, Ilocos Norte."
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1
2 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, there's a motion.

3
4 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.

5
6 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (A) having been duly seconded, the
7 same is hereby **APPROVED**.

8
9 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 173, S. 2023**

10
11 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
12 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AGENDA OF THE***
13 ***169TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,***
14 ***HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2023, AT 9:00AM, AT THE NTA-ILOCOS***
15 ***NORTE BRANCH OFFICE, BATAK CITY, ILOCOS NORTE.***

16
17 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***

18
19 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

20
21 For our next agenda, we have Agenda (B). This is the "**Request for the**
22 **Approval of the Minutes of the 123rd Special Meeting of the NTA**
23 **Governing Board, held on 29 November 2023, at the NTA Board**
24 **Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City."**
25 Madam Chair...

26
27 **DIR. SERNA:** Madam Chair, I move for the approval of the "Minutes of the 123rd
28 Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 29 November
29 2023, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon
30 Ave., Quezon City", with corrections and amendments within five (5)
31 days from today.

32
33 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.

34
35 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (B) on the Minutes of the Previous
36 Meeting having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**,
37 subject to submission of amendments, if any, within five (5) days from
38 today.

39
40 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 174, S. 2023**

41
42 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
43 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE***
44 ***123RD SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,***
45 ***HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2023, AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM,***
46 ***11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***

47
48 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***

49
50 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

51
52 So, for our next agenda, we have agenda (C), which is the "**Request for**
53 **the Approval of the Proposal for the Conduct of a Tobacco**
54 **Agricultural Summit in Mindanao, with Budgetary Requirements".**
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Madam Chair, we would like to recognize the honorable Dir. Jessie Pat M. Serna, who will be reporting the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations on the Agenda.

DIR. SERNA: Thank you madam Chair.

The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAOP), presented the agenda. Mr. Reynaldo R. Aquino, OIC - Finance Department then gave his comments on the budgetary requirements.

The OIC-DAOP reported that the Mindanao Tobacco Industry Summit will be held on January 25, 2024 at the Audio-Visual Room, El Salvador City Hall, of El Salvador City, Misamis Oriental, with a proposed budget of Php544,600.00, to be attended by an expected 250 attendees.

During the deliberations, the Members of the Board made the following observations and recommendations:

- To include "plantable" or suitable areas for tobacco to the Mindanao Summit proposal
- The conduct of a Tobacco Summit is a breakthrough for Mindanao
- There was a reduction in the proposed budget for the project
- The reduced cap for RA 8240, which stands at Php4 billion, was noted
- The Road Map and the Future Plans should be merged
- The Resource Speaker was requested to identify who are the 17 NTA Officials who will be joining in the Tobacco Summit
- To provide time limits for each program/subject of discussion
- To have a dry-run on the presentation of the topics prior to presentation in Mindanao

Dr. Palabay then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda, subject to inclusion of Board recommendations, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

Thank You!

DIR. TRONGCO: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of agenda (C) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 175, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE PROPOSAL FOR THE CONDUCT OF A TOBACCO AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT IN MINDANAO, WITH BUDGETARY REQUIREMENT.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you very much, madam Chair.

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Next is agenda (D). We have the **“Request for the Approval of the CY 2024 Audit Plan”**.

To report on the Summary of the Discussions and Recommendations, may we recognize the Chairman of the Committee on Risk Management, the honorable Director Danilo C. Trongco. Sir...

DIR. TRONGCO: Magandang umaga’. Ito po ang Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations.

The Resource Speaker, Mrs. Dinah C. Pichay, Manager of the Internal Audit Department (IAD), presented the agenda. She manifested that the CY 2024 Audit Plan shall guide the IAD in the conduct of its audit and non-audit activities; and is designed to provide coverage of core and support processes over a reasonable period of time.

As to budgetary requirements, for CY 2024, the estimated budget totals Php1,630,651.00, which is needed for IAD to undertake its planned activities for the whole year. The Board then suggested for the IAD to concentrate on the follow-thru on the compliance to audit findings previously issued; and that the importance of function of internal audit is imperative to the management and NTA’s success.

Mrs. Pichay then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

Thank You!

DIR. SERNA: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of agenda (D) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 176, S. 2023

“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE CY 2024 AUDIT PLAN.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you, Madam Chair.

For our next agenda, we have the **“Appeal for Approval of the Request for Amendments to the Implementing Guidelines of the Integrated Farming and Other Income Generating Activities Project - Tobacco Contract Growing System (IFOIGAP-TCGS) CY 2023-2024, Particularly the Deletion of Section H.B.4 Thereof”**.

1 To report the Summary of Discussions and Recommendations, may we
2 recognize the honorable Luzviminda U. Padayao, the Chairperson of the
3 Committee on Research and Extension. Please proceed, ma'am...

4
5 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Madam Chair, I respectfully report the Summary of Discussions and
6 Recommendations of Agenda (D), on the "Appeal for Approval of the
7 Request for Amendments to the Implementing Guidelines of the
8 Integrated Farming and Other Income Generating Activities Project –
9 Tobacco Contract Growing System (IFOIGAP-TCGS) CY 2023-2024,
10 Particularly the Deletion of Section H.B.4 Thereof".

11
12 The Resource Speaker, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC-DAOP, presented
13 the agenda. He manifested that the provision, "No Incentives and/or
14 Subsidies shall be availed by the FC (Farmer-Cooperator) if he fails to
15 deliver the volume of tobacco to the contracted BF (Buying Firm) as
16 stipulated target level in this guideline except for force majeure causes
17 for low production" shall be completely deleted/removed. The Board
18 commented that, there was already a pronouncement by USEC. DV
19 Savellano made during one of the previous meetings of the NTA
20 Governing Board, with a reservation for its amendment.

21
22 Hence, the Board again resolved for the deferment of any further action
23 on the matter. Instead, it was agreed upon that the subject matter of the
24 appeal will be referred to USEC. Savellano for his guidance for whatever
25 action shall be undertaken moving forward. A motion was then made
26 for the temporary deferment of the agenda. Finding merit to the
27 agenda, the Board then seconded for its deferment.

28
29 However, recognizing the merit and propriety of the request to
30 introduce amendments to the Implementing Guidelines, by causing the
31 deletion of the afore-mentioned provision, Dr. Palabay then requested
32 the Board for the approval of the agenda, thru the issuance of a Board
33 Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the
34 approval of the agenda.

35 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee
36 Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly
37 seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I
38 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

39
40 Thank you!

41
42 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.

43
44 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (E) having been duly seconded,
45 the same is hereby **APPROVED**.

46
47 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 177, S. 2023**

48
49 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
50 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REQUEST FOR***
51 ***AMENDMENTS TO THE IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE***
52 ***INTEGRATED FARMING AND OTHER INCOME GENERATING***
53 ***ACTIVITIES PROJECT – TOBACCO CONTRACT GROWING SYSTEM***
54 ***(IFOIGAP-TCGS) CY 2023-2024, PARTICULARLY THE DELETION***
55 ***OF SECTION H.B.4 THEREOF.***
56

1 **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."**

2
3 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Madam Chair.

4
5 So, for our next Agenda, we have agenda (F), the **"Request for the**
6 **Approval of the Proposed Amendments to the Implementing**
7 **Guidelines of the Tobacco Farmers' Dependents Scholarship**
8 **Program, as amended on November 24, 2023.**

9
10 To report the Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations, may
11 we recognize the honorable Director Nestor C. Casela, the Chairman of
12 the Committee on Audit and Finance.

13
14 **DIR. CASELA:** Thank you, madam Chair.

15
16 The Deputy Administrator for Support Services, Mr. Benedicto M.
17 Savellano, presented the agenda. He thereafter called upon the
18 Resource Speaker, Mr. Neyo E. Valdez, Division Chief of the Corporate
19 Planning Department, to render his report.

20
21 Mr. Valdez manifested that he would only report the salient points of
22 the amendments to the Implementing Guidelines, among which are the
23 following:

24
25 - On the Scope of the Program: That the scholarship program shall
26 cover the courses preferably agriculture-related courses as the
27 priority/major and other relevant programs and field of discipline.

28
29 - On the Responsibilities of the NTA: Monitors or documents
30 employment rate of their scholars after graduation.

31
32 Mr. Valdez then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda,
33 thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request,
34 the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

35
36 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee
37 Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly
38 seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I
39 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

40 Thank you!

41
42 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.

43
44 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (F) having been duly seconded,
45 the same is hereby **APPROVED.**

46
47 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 178. S. 2023**

48
49 **"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT**
50 **THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE PROPOSED**
51 **AMENDMENTS TO THE IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE**
52 **TOBACCO FARMERS' DEPENDENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM,**
53 **AS AMENDED ON NOVEMBER 24, 2023**

54
55 **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."**

56

1 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
2
3 For our next agenda, agenda (G) is the **“Request for the Approval of**
4 **the Implementing Guidelines of the Tobacco Contract Growing**
5 **System (TCGS) Project, Calendar Year (CY) 2023 - 2024, for**
6 **Mindanao”.**
7
8 Once again, for this Agenda, the Summary of Discussion and
9 Recommendations will be reported by the honorable Director Nestor C.
10 Casela, Chairman of the Committee on Audit and Finance. Sir...

11
12 **DIR. CASELA:** Thank you, madam Chair.
13
14 The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy
15 Administrator for Operations (DAOP) presented the agenda.
16
17 Dr. Palabay manifested that the Implementing Guidelines is an
18 adoption of the already-approved Implementing Guidelines for
19 IFOIGAP-TCGS, which is being implemented by the Agency. The OIC-
20 DAOP likewise mentioned that the only inclusion to the new IG is the
21 Manner of Release of the production assistance (cash); that the funding
22 will be the same; and the only question for TCGS is the manner of
23 marketing of tobacco products.

24
25 Dr. Palabay then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda,
26 thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request,
27 the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.
28

29 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee
30 Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly
31 seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I
32 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.
33

34 Thank you!

35
36 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.
37

38 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of the agenda (G) having been duly
39 seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED.**
40

41 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 179, S. 2023**

42
43 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
44 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE IMPLEMENTING***
45 ***GUIDELINES OF THE TOBACCO CONTRACT GROWING SYSTEM***
46 ***(TCGS) PROJECT, CALENDAR YEAR (CY) 2023 - 2024, FOR***
47 ***MINDANAO.***

48
49 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
50

51 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
52
53 For our next agenda, we have agenda (H), the **“Request for the**
54 **Approval of the Implementing Guidelines of the Curing Barn**
55 **Assistance Project (CBAP), Calendar Year (CY) 2023 - 2024, for**
56 **Mindanao”.**

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To report the Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations, may we call on the Chairman of the Committee on Trading Operations and Regulation, the honorable Director Jessie Pat M. Serna.

DIR. SERNA: Thank you, madam Chair.

The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy Administrator for Operations (DAOP), presented the agenda.

Dr. Palabay manifested that the Implementing Guidelines is an adoption of the already-approved Implementing Guidelines for CBAP, which is being implemented by the Agency.

The OIC-DAOP likewise mentioned that the only inclusion to the new IG is the Total Amount for approval.

Dr. Palabay then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.

Thank you!

DIR. PADAYAO: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of the agenda (H) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 180, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE CURING BARN ASSISTANCE PROJECT (CBAP), CALENDAR YEAR (CY) 2023 - 2024, FOR MINDANAO.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you, madam Chair.

For our last agenda, we have agenda (I), which is the **"Request for Approval on the Issuance of an Ante-Dated Board Resolution for the Quick Response Fund (QRF) - Curing Barn Assistance Grant Amounting to Php300,000.00, Prior to the Date of Approval of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Budget, which is December 27, 2022"**.

To report the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, may we call on our Administrator and CEO, Belinda S. Sanchez, Chairperson of the Committee on Remuneration, Nomination and Personnel Administration. Ma'am...

1 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The Resource Person, Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC - Deputy
2 Administrator for Operations (DAOP) presented the agenda. Dr.
3 Palabay manifested that the NTA Governing Board previously issued a
4 Board Resolution on the QRF-Curing Barn Assistance grant, the funding
5 of which was provided by the DA.
6

7 The OIC-DAOP likewise mentioned that the DA was requesting for an
8 ante-dated Board Resolution, prior to December 27, 2022, as a
9 necessary requirement for compliance.
10

11 Dr. Palabay then requested the Board for the approval of the agenda,
12 thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request,
13 the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.
14

15 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee
16 Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly
17 seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussion, I
18 respectfully move for the approval of this agenda.
19

20 Thank you!
21

22 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Respectfully seconded.
23

24 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of the agenda (I) having been duly
25 seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**.
26

27 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 181, S. 2023**
28

29 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
30 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE ISSUANCE OF AN***
31 ***ANTE-DATED BOARD RESOLUTION FOR THE QUICK RESPONSE***
32 ***FUND (QRF) – CURING BARN ASSISTANCE GRANT AMOUNTING***
33 ***TO Php300,000.00, PRIOR TO THE DATE OF APPROVAL OF THE***
34 ***DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) BUDGET, WHICH IS***
35 ***DECEMBER 27, 2022***
36

37 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
38

39 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
40

41 We now proceed to **Other Matters**. The proposed schedule for the
42 **124th Special Meeting** of the NTA Governing Board will be on **28**
43 **December 2023, Thursday, at 9:00 AM** (tentative) to be held at the
44 NTA Board Room, 11th Floor Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon
45 City.
46

47 It follows that the **Committee Meeting** will be on **27 December 2023,**
48 **Wednesday, at 9:00 AM,** also at the NTA Board Room.
49

50 If there are no other comments and suggestions from the Members of
51 the NTA Governing Board, we now go to the next agenda, which is
52 **Adjournment**. Madam Chair...
53

54 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?
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DIR. CASELA: Madam Chair, I move for the adjournment of this 169th Regular Board Meeting.

DIR. SERNA: I second the motion.

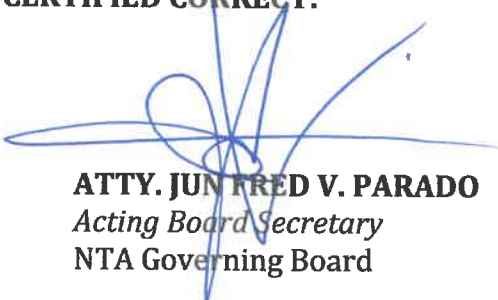
ADMIN. SANCHEZ: Acting upon the motion for adjournment, today's meeting is hereby **ADJOURNED.**

SO, ORDERED.


Thank you.

Note: **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT EXACTLY 10:00 AM.**

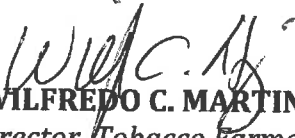
PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:


ATTY. JUN FRED V. PARADO
Acting Board Secretary
NTA Governing Board

ATTESTED:


Hon. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ, CPA
Administrator/CEO and Vice-Chairman,
NTA Governing Board

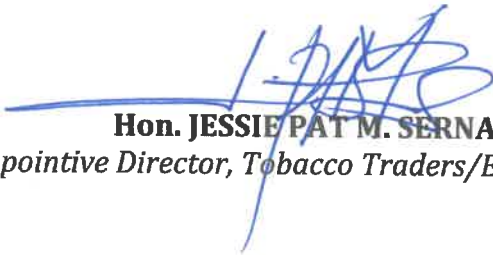

Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA
Appointive Director, Academic Community Sector


Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

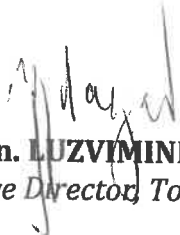
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Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Hon. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA
Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector



Hon. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION
 11th Floor, Upper Class Tower, Quezon Ave., Quezon City
 Tel No. (02) 8374-3987 / Fax. No. (02) 8374-2505 / website: nta.da.gov.ph
ISO 9001: 2015 QMS CERTIFIED

OFFICE OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT (123RD) SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
 OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM,
 11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
 29 NOVEMBER 2023 (09:00 AM)**

PRESENT:

- Adm. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ** - **Vice-Chair of the Board and Administrator & CEO- Presiding Officer**
- Dir. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA** - **Member, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector**
- Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA** - **Member, Academic Community Sector**
- Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ** - **Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector**
- Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO** - **Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector**
- Dir. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO** - **Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector**

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Dr. GIOVANNI B. PALABAY** - **OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations**
- Mrs. ZENAIDA T. ARROJO** - **Manager, Administrative Department**
- Atty. JUN FRED V. PARADO** - **Attorney V, Office of the Administrator**
- Mr. LEXTER C. CABANTING** - **Acting Board Secretary V**
Administrative Assistant I (JO)

THRU VIRTUAL PLATFORM/ONLINE:

- Mrs. DINAH E. PICHAY** - **Manager, Internal Audit Department**
- Mrs. FORTUNA C. BENOSA** - **Manager, Corporate Planning Department**
- Mrs. MYRNA O. LOZANO** - **Manager, Industrial Research Department**
- Mr. REYNALDO R. AQUINO** - **OIC - Finance Department**
- Department Managers / OICs** - **NTA Branch Offices**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable Administrator & CEO Belinda S. Sanchez, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

ATTY. PARADO: Good morning to each and every one. So, for the 123rd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, witness the honorable Belinda Sarmiento-Sanchez, Administrator & CEO and Presiding Officer, to call to order.

1
2 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Good morning to everybody here in the Board Room and to those who
3 are in the virtual platform.
4

5 **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
6

7 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** As an Acting Chair and Presiding Officer, I call now to order the 123rd
8 Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board.
9

10 May I call on the Acting Board Secretary to determine Quorum.
11

12 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
13

14 So, for today's 123rd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, we
15 have, of course, the honorable Belinda S. Sanchez, Administrator and
16 CEO.
17

18 The honorable Dir. Nestor C. Casela, representing the Academic
19 Community Sector; Dir. Danilo C. Trongco, representing the Tobacco
20 Farmers Sector; Dir. Jessie Pat M. Serna, representing the Tobacco
21 Exporters/Traders Sector; and, we are joined through the virtual
22 platform by Dir. Wilfredo C. Martinez and Dir. Luzviminda U. Padayao,
23 both representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector.
24

25 We would like to acknowledge also the presence of our Executive
26 Assistant IV and Special Assistant to the Administrator, Mr. Benjamin V.
27 Sarmiento, together with Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, our OIC-Deputy
28 Administrator for Operations. We would like also to acknowledge our
29 Department Managers / OICs and Resource Person from the different
30 Branch Offices and the NTA Central Office.
31

32 As such, Madam Chair, we have a Quorum.
33

34 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** There being a Quorum, may I call the acting Board Secretary for the
35 reading of the Agenda.
36

37 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
38

39 So, for the first Agenda, we have the request for the "**Approval of the**
40 **Agenda of the 123rd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board,**
41 **held on 29 November 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room,**
42 **11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City**". Madam
43 Chair...
44

45 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?
46

47 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Madam Chair, I respectfully move for the approval of the "Agenda of the
48 123rd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 29
49 November 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper
50 Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City".
51

52 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, there's a motion.
53

54 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
55

1 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (A) having been duly seconded, the
2 motion is hereby **APPROVED**. Next Item...

3
4 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 167, S. 2023**

5
6 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
7 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AGENDA OF THE
8 123rd SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD, HELD
9 ON 29 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 9:00 AM, AT THE NTA BOARD
10 ROOM, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***

11
12 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***

13
14 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

15
16 For our next agenda, we have Agenda (B). This is the request for the
17 **“Approval of the Minutes of the 168th Regular Meeting of the NTA
18 Governing Board, held on 14 November 2023, at the NTA Board
19 Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City.”**
20 Madam Chair...

21
22 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?

23
24 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Madam Chair, I move for the approval of the “Minutes of the 168th
25 Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 14 November
26 2023, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon
27 Ave., Quezon City”.

28
29 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, there’s a motion.

30
31 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.

32
33 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Seconded. The request for approval of agenda (B) having been duly
34 seconded, the motion is hereby **APPROVED**.

35
36 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 168, S. 2023**

37
38 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
39 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE
40 168TH SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,
41 HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2023, AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM,
42 11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***

43
44 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***

45
46 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

47
48 Next agenda, we have agenda (C), which is the request for the
49 **“Approval of the Audit Report on the Integrated Farming and
50 Other Income Generating Activities Program-Tobacco Contract
51 Growing System (IFOIGAP-TCGS). Madam Chair...**

52
53 For our agenda, we would like to acknowledge Dir. Nestor C. Casela,
54 Chairman of the Committee on Audit and Finance, for the Summary
55 Report of the Discussion and Recommendations.

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DIR. CASELA: Madam Chair. Is this agenda on the audit report conducted by the Internal Audit (Department) on the implementation of IFOIGAP-TCGS?

ATTY. PARADO: Yes sir, that's correct apo Director.

DIR. CASELA: For further discussion and background on this, may I request Dr. Palabay to give the background on the implementation of IFOIGAP-TCGS, prior to my discussion as to the findings of Internal Audit with respect to the implementation of IFOIGAP-TCGS for 2022. Thank you.

DR. PALABAY: The Internal Audit Department, represented by the Chief of the Operations Audit Division, reported on the findings of their audit on IFOIGAP-TCGS 2022-2023. There were some findings as to the implementation of IFOIGAP-TCGS Project, such as, as follows: (1) Conflicting Forms used by the different branches in the application and the use of financial assistance allocated for the project; (2) Absence of Guidelines for Penalties and Accountant Certifications, which was reported by the Resource Speaker yesterday; (3) Incomplete, Improper Filling-up, Unnotarized, Unapproved and Missing Forms; (4) Unqualified Farmer-beneficiaries who were given production assistance for a total of 798 selected farmer-beneficiaries which were found to be unqualified; and we have (5) Delayed Official Receipts Issuance by some of the branches collecting loans. Also, (6) Uncollected Service Fees; (7) Persuaded Farmer-Beneficiaries; (8) Conditional Financial Subsidy; (9) Low Collection Efficiency; (10) Unutilized Farm Inputs; and, (11) Underbilled TCGS Fees. These are some of their findings as far as the implementation of IFOIGAP-TCGS 2021-2022 is concerned. Thank you.

DIR. CASELA: Thank you very much, Dr. Palabay. For the Board, may I please give a summary on the Report of Mr. Cambe, the Chief of the Operations Audit Division of the Internal Audit (Department). May I report that in the agenda, there were issues that affect the effective, ethical, and efficient economical implementation of the IFOIGAP-TCGS Project, and the corresponding management actions to address these issues were recommended by the Internal Audit Team for approval.

Dr. Palabay mentioned all about these findings and correspondingly made recommendations as to how this seemingly non-compliance with the implementing guidelines will be corrected. I then suggested that this will not deter the conduct of study, but rather I suggested to management that a corresponding Memo will be issued to concerned managers, where their findings will be given in that Memo, and that the managers will correspondingly make a response to these. This will manifest that management is interested in coming up with measures, so that the respective managers concerned will have to come up with solutions to the issues presented, as reported.

Likewise, Dir. Padayao opined that the audit report will be compiled with to contain all these findings for reference, which will be used for policy making as reference in the near future. At this juncture, I requested for the approval of the Audit Report on the IFOIGAP-TCGS through the issuance of Board Resolution. Finding merit to the advantages of coming up with this Report, the Board then moved for

1 the approval of the Report made by Mr. Cambe. The topic has been
2 thoroughly discussed and emphasized considering all the merits of
3 implementation. There was a motion, which was correspondingly
4 approved, as was duly seconded. Unless there are further
5 recommendations and suggestions on the Agenda, I respectfully move
6 for the approval of the agenda.
7

8 Thank you, madam Chair.
9

10 **ATTY. PARADO:** Any second to the motion?
11

12 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
13

14 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (C) having been duly seconded
15 the same is hereby **APPROVED**.
16

17 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 169, S. 2023**
18

19 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
20 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AUDIT REPORT
21 ON THE INTEGRATED FARMING AND OTHER INCOME
22 GENERATING ACTIVITIES PROGRAM- TOBACCO CONTRACT
23 GROWING SYSTEM (IFOIGAP-TCGS).***

24 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
25

26
27 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you very much, madam Chair.
28

29 So, under the agenda (D) we have the request for **“Appeal for
30 Approval of the Request for Amendments to the Implementing
31 Guidelines for the Integrated Farming and Other Income
32 Generating Activities-Tobacco Contract Growing System (IFOIGAP-
33 TCGS) CY 2023-2024, Particularly Section H.B.4 Thereof”**.
34

35 To report the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, may we
36 call on Dir. Jessie Pat M. Serna, Chairperson of the Committee on
37 Trading Operations and Regulation.
38

39 **DIR. SERNA:** Good morning, madam Chair. This agenda should be deferred since the
40 appeal to the subject matter is referred to USEC. DV (Savellano) for his
41 guidance. So, I move for the deferment of this subject matter and
42 agenda Madam Chair.
43

44 **DIR. TRONGCO:** I second the motion.
45

46 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the deferment of agenda (D) having been duly seconded
47 the agenda is **DEFERRED**.
48

49 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 170, S. 2023**
50

51 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
52 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE DEFERMENT OF
53 THE APPEAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE IMPEMETING
54 GUDIELINES FOR THE INTEGRATED FARMING AND OTHER
55 INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES PROJECT- TOBACCO***

1 **CONTRACT GROWING SYSTEM (IFOIGAP-TGCS) CY 2023-2024,**
2 **PARTICULARLY SECTION H.B.4 THEREOF.**

3
4 **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."**

5 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you very much, madam Chair.

6
7 For our next agenda, we have Agenda (E), the request for "**Approval of**
8 **the NTA 2024 Performance Scorecard**".
9

10 To report the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, may we
11 call on Director Danilo C. Trongco, Chairperson of the Committee on
12 Risk Management. Sir, please proceed...
13

14 **DIR. TRONGO:** Madam Chair, "ito po 'yung Summary Report of Discussion and
15 Recommendations.
16

17 The Resource Person, Mr. Neyo E. Valdez, Division Chief III, Corporate
18 Planning Department, presented the agenda.
19

20 He discussed the NTA Strategy Map 2023-2028, including the agency's
21 Vision, Mission and Core Values, as follows: Performance Excellence,
22 Resiliency, Innovation, Client Focus and Entrepreneurship. Mr. Valdez
23 likewise presented NTA's Goal or Strategic Objectives, Performance
24 Measures, and Targets for 2023, among others.
25

26 Also, he elaborated on the different perspectives, consisting of: Social
27 Impact, Customers/Stakeholders, Internal Process, Learning and
28 Growth, and Financial Stewardship. Mr. Valdez then requested the
29 Board for the approval of the NTA 2024 Performance Scorecard, thru
30 the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the
31 Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.
32

33 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the Committee
34 Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly
35 seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussion, I
36 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.
37

38 Thank you.
39

40 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.
41

42 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (E) having been duly seconded,
43 the same motion is hereby **APPROVED**.
44

45 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 171, S. 2023**

46
47 **"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT**
48 **THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE NTA 2024**
49 **PERFORMANCE SCORECARD.**
50

51 **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."**
52

53 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you very much, madam Chair.
54

1 For our next item, we have agenda (F), that is the request for
2 **“Confirmation of Promotional and/or Original Appointments to**
3 **Vacant Plantilla Positions”**.
4

5 To report the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, we will
6 be having the Administrator & CEO, ma’am Belinda S. Sanchez,
7 Chairperson of the Committee on Nomination, Remuneration and
8 Personnel Administration. Ma’am...
9

10 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The Resource Speaker, Ms. Zenaida T. Arrojo, Manager of the
11 Administrative Department, presented the agenda.
12

13 She submitted, for the consideration of the Board, the Shortlist of
14 Candidates for the Vacant Positions to be filled at the NTA, with
15 simultaneous request for the Confirmation of the Appointments of
16 Selected Applicants to their respective Plantilla Positions, as follows:
17

- 18 (1) For the position of Supervising TPRO, of the Regulation
19 Department, NCR, Mr. Franklin Ross S. Mendoza;
- 20 (2) For the position of Senior Science Research Specialist, of the Farm
21 Technology & Services Department, Region 1, Mr. Kenneth Russel I.
22 Tanaval;
- 23 (3) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer III, of
24 the Regulation Department, NCR, Ms. Joannaliza D. Ordinante;
- 25 (4) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer III, of
26 the Farm Technology & Services Department, Region 1, with two
27 (2) Items, to wit: (1) Mr. David Villa P. Ogatis; and (2) Mr. Raymart
28 P. Guzman;
- 29 (5) For the position of Agriculturist I, Pangasinan Branch Office, Region
30 I, Mr. Dan Denes P. Mariano;
- 31 (6) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer I,
32 Pangasinan Branch Office, Region I, Mr. Christian N. Carino;
- 33 (7) For the position of Agriculturist I, under item nos. 110-1 to 110-3,
34 Candon Branch Office, Region I, the following: (1) Ms. Rheamay D.
35 Ogatis; (2) Ms. Karen Anne Micah V. Ea; and, (3) Ms. Angelica C.
36 Dayap; and
- 37 (8) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer I,
38 Candon Branch Office, Region I, Mr. Ed A. Bustillos, Jr.
39

40 Ms. Arrojo then requested the Board for the approval of the
41 Confirmation of Promotional and/or Original Appointments to Vacant
42 Plantilla Positions of the above-named applicants, thru the issuance of
43 a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved
44 for the approval of the agenda.
45

46 This subject matter having been thoroughly discussed in the
47 Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was
48 duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussion, I
49 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda.
50

51 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.
52

53 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (F), having been duly seconded
54 the same motion is hereby **APPROVED**.
55
56

1 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

2
3 So, our next agenda, on Other Matters, we have here the proposed
4 schedule for the **169th Regular Meeting** of the NTA Governing Board,
5 which will be on **14 December 2023, Thursday, at 9:00 AM**
6 (tentative) to be held at the NTA Ilocos Norte Branch Office, Batac City,
7 Ilocos Norte.

8
9 The **Committee Meeting** will be on **13 December 2023, Wednesday,**
10 **at 9:00 AM,** to be held at the Tobacco Farmers Training Center/NTA
11 Vigan Branch Office, San Juan, Ilocos Sur.

12
13 Since we no longer have any remaining agenda madam Chair, we are
14 now ready for adjournment.

15
16 **DIR. SERNA:** Madam Chair, I move for the adjournment of the 123rd Special Meeting
17 of the NTA Governing Board held today.

18
19 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.

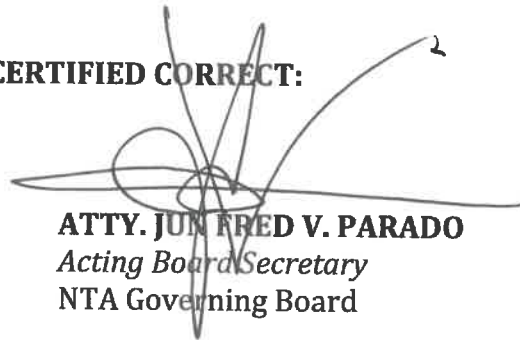
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21 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The Board Meeting is hereby **ADJOURNED.**

22
23 **SO, ORDERED.**

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 Note: **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT EXACTLY 11:30 PM.**

28
29
30 **PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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36 **ATTY. JUN FRED V. PARADO**
37 *Acting Board Secretary*
38 *NTA Governing Board*

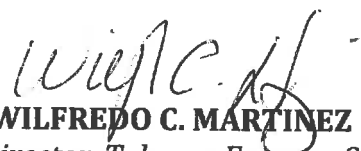
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43 **ATTESTED:**

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53 **Hon. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ, CPA**
54 *Administrator/CEO and Vice-Chairman,*
55 *NTA Governing Board*

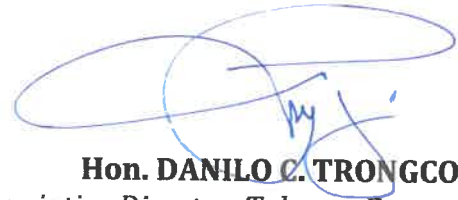
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Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA
Appointive Director, Academic Community Sector

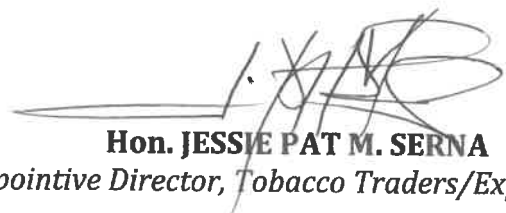
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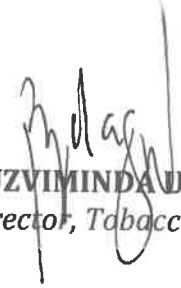
Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Hon. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA
Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector



Hon. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION
 11th Floor, Upper Class Tower, Quezon Ave., Quezon City
 Tel No. (02) 8374-3987 / Fax. No. (02) 8374-2505 / website: nta.da.gov.ph
ISO 9001: 2015 QMS CERTIFIED

OFFICE OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD

**ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT (168TH) REGULAR BOARD MEETING
 OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM,
 11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
 14 NOVEMBER 2023 (10:00 AM)**

PRESENT:

Hon. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR B. SAVELLANO	-	Undersecretary/ Department of Agriculture & Alternate Chairman-Designate- Presiding Officer
Adm. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ	-	Vice-Chair of the Board and Administrator & CEO
Dir. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA	-	Member, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector
Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA	-	Member, Academic Community Sector
Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. BENEDICTO M. SAVELLANO	-	Deputy Administrator for Support Services
Dr. GIOVANNI B. PALABAY	-	OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations
Mrs. ZENAIDA T. ARROJO	-	Manager, Administrative Department
Atty. JUN FRED V. PARADO	-	Attorney V, Office of the Administrator
Mr. LEXTER C. CABANTING	-	Acting Board Secretary V
		Administrative Assistant I (JO)

THRU VIRTUAL PLATFORM/ONLINE:

Mrs. DINAH E. PICHAY	-	Manager, Internal Audit Department
Mrs. FORTUNA C. BENOSA	-	Manager, Corporate Planning Department
Atty. ROHBERT A. AMBROS	-	Manager, Regulation Department
Mrs. MYRNA O. LOZANO	-	Manager, Industrial Research Department
Mr. REYNALDO R. AQUINO	-	OIC - Finance Department
Mrs. EVANGELINE C. CABIGAN	-	OIC - Farm Technology & Services Department
Department Managers / OICs	-	NTA Branch Offices

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable DA Undersecretary Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

1 **ATTY. PARADO:** Good morning to each and every one. So, for the 168th Regular Board
2 Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, witness the honorable
3 Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Undersecretary of the Department
4 of Agriculture and NTA Oversight Official/Alternate Chairman-
5 Designate and Presiding Officer, to call to order. Sir...

6
7 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** It's my honor to call to order the 168th Regular Meeting of the NTA
8 Governing Board.

9
10 **ATTY. PARADO:** Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

11
12 **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

13
14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Next item is for determination of the quorum. May I request the Acting
15 Board Secretary to determine the quorum.

16
17 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18
19 So, for today's Regular Meeting, we have, of course, the honorable
20 Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, present here at the NTA Board Room,
21 with the honorable Belinda S. Sanchez, Administrator and CEO.

22
23 The honorable Dir. Nestor C. Casela, representing the Academic
24 Community Sector; Dir. Danilo C. Trongco, representing the Tobacco
25 Farmers Sector; Dir. Jessie Pat M. Serna, representing the Tobacco
26 Exporters/Traders Sector; and Dir. Luzviminda U. Padayao,
27 representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector. We would like to
28 acknowledge also the presence of Dir. Wilfredo C. Martinez, through the
29 virtual platform, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector.

30
31 Also, we have the Hon. Benjamin V. Sarmiento, our Executive Assistant
32 IV and Special Assistant to the Administrator, together with Dr.
33 Giovanni B. Palabay, our OIC-DAOP, and Mr. Benedicto M. Savellano,
34 our Deputy Administrator for Support Services, as well as our
35 Department Managers from the NTA Central Office, through the virtual
36 platform. We have: Mrs. Dinah E. Pichay, Manager of the Internal Audit
37 Department; Mrs. Fortuna C. Benosa, Manager of the Corporate
38 Planning Department; Atty. Rohbert A. Ambros, Manager of the
39 Regulation Department; Mrs. Myrna O. Lozano, Manager of the
40 Industrial Research Department; Mr. Reynaldo R. Aquino, the OIC of
41 Finance Department, as well as the Managers for our Branch Offices,
42 Engr. Roger T. Madriaga of Pangasinan Branch Office; Engr. Noralyn I.
43 Idica, Manager of Vigan Branch Office; Mr. Gilbert C. Taguiam, Manager
44 of Cagayan Branch Office; Mr. Adonis T. Lazo, Manager of Candon
45 Branch Office; Engr. Randy I. Abella, Manager of Ilocos Norte Branch
46 Office; Mr. Romeo Y. Paculdo, OIC-Manager of Abra Branch Office; Mrs.
47 Evangeline C. Cabigan, OIC-Manager of FTSD-Batac; and, Mr. Perpetuo
48 C. Dalloran, OIC-Manager of Isabela Branch Office.

49
50 As such, Mr. Chair, we have a Quorum.

51
52 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, since there's a Quorum, may I call the acting Board Secretary for the
53 reading of the Agenda.

54
55 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

56

1 So, for the first Agenda of the 168th Regular Meeting of the Board, we
2 have the request for the **“Approval of the Agenda of the 168th**
3 **Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 14**
4 **November 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor,**
5 **Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City”.** Sir...

6
7 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Any discussion?

8
9 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Mr. Chair, I respectfully move for the approval of the “Agenda of the
10 168th Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 14
11 November 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper
12 Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City”.

13
14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, there’s a motion.

15
16 **DIR. TRONGCO:** I second the motion.

17
18 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded. Any objection or discussion? I hearing none, the motion is
19 hereby **APPROVED.** Next Item...

20
21 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 159, S. 2023**

22
23 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
24 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AGENDA OF THE***
25 ***168TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,***
26 ***HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 9:00 AM, AT THE NTA BOARD***
27 ***ROOM, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***

28
29 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***

30
31 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32
33 For our next item, we have Agenda (A). This is the request for the
34 **“Approval of the Minutes of the 122nd Special Meeting of the NTA**
35 **Governing Board, held on 27 October 2023, at the NTA Board**
36 **Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City.”** Mr.
37 Chair...

38
39 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** What is the pleasure of the body?

40
41 **DIR. CASELA:** Honorable Chair, I move for the approval of the “Minutes of the 122nd
42 Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 27 October 2023,
43 at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave.,
44 Quezon City”.

45
46 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, there’s a motion.

47
48 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.

49
50 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded, any discussion or objection? I hearing none, the motion is
51 hereby **APPROVED.** Can we go to the next item?

1 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 160, S. 2023**

2
3 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
4 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE***
5 ***122ND SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,***
6 ***HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2023, AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM, 11TH***
7 ***FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***

8
9 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***

10
11 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12
13 Next agenda, we have agenda (B), which is the request for the **“Grant of**
14 **Authority for the Vice-Chairman / Administrator & CEO to Issue**
15 **Memorandum Circular No. 002, Series of 2023, Adopting the New**
16 **Tobacco Floor Prices of Virginia, Burley and Native Tobacco Types**
17 **Effective for Trading Years 2024 and 2025”.**

18
19 Mr. Chair, to report on the Summary of Discussion and
20 Recommendations, may we recognize Director Jessie Pat M. Serna,
21 Chairman of the Committee on Trading Operations and Regulation.
22 Sir...

23
24 **DIR. SERNA:** Good morning, Mr. Chair. I just would like to report the Summary of
25 Discussion and Recommendations in the said agenda.

26
27 The Resource Person, Atty. Rohbert A. Ambros, Manager of the
28 Regulation Department, presented the agenda. He manifested that by
29 virtue of the powers vested upon the NTA pursuant to its charter,
30 Executive Order No. 245, series of 1987, the New Tobacco Floor Prices,
31 Per Tobacco Type and Per Grade for Trading Seasons 2024 and 2025,
32 are adopted as follows:

- 33
34 - For **Virginia Type**, an increase of **Php9.90 per Kilogram**;
35 - For **Burley Type**, an increase of **Php5.90 per Kilogram**; and
36 - For **Native Type**, an increase of **Php3.90 per Kilogram**.

37
38 He likewise informed the Board that the Memorandum Circular shall
39 take effect for Trading Seasons 2024 and 2025, and shall be filed with
40 the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), U.P. Law
41 Center, Quezon City, and shall be posted in the NTA website.

42
43 Atty. Ambros then requested the Board for the approval of the Grant of
44 Authority for the Vice-Chairman/Administrator & CEO to Issue
45 Memorandum Circular No. 002, series of 2023, adopting the New
46 Tobacco Floor Prices of Virginia, Burley and Native Tobacco Types
47 Effective for Trading Years 2024 and 2025, thru the issuance of a Board
48 Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the
49 approval of the agenda.

50
51 This subject matter having been thoroughly and exhaustively discussed
52 in the committee meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which
53 was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions, I
54 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda. Thank you!

55
56 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay, what is the pleasure of the body on the report?

1
2 **ATTY. PARADO:** Mr. Chair, for the information of the body, there is a pending motion for
3 the approval of the agenda as manifested by Director Serna, Mr. Chair.
4

5 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, anybody seconding?
6

7 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
8

9 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded, any discussion or objection? If there's none, the same motion
10 is hereby **APPROVED**. So, we go to the next agenda.
11

12 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 161, S. 2023**
13

14 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
15 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REQUEST FOR***
16 ***GRANT OF AUTHORITY FOR THE VICE-***
17 ***CHAIRMAN/ADMINISTRATOR & CEO TO ISSUE MEMORANDUM***
18 ***CIRCULAR NO. 002, SERIES OF 2023, ADOPTING THE NEW***
19 ***TOBACCO FLOOR PRICES OF VIRGINIA, BURLEY AND NATIVE***
20 ***TOBACCO TYPES EFFECTIVE FOR TRADING YEARS 2024 AND***
21 ***2025.***
22

23 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....***
24

25 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26

27 For our next item, we have the request for **“Approval for the Conduct**
28 **of the 2023 Annual Seminar Workshop for Enhancing**
29 **Extensionists’ Capabilities (ASWEEC)”**. To report the Summary of
30 Discussion and Recommendations, may I call on Director Luzviminda
31 U. Padayao, Chairperson of the Committee on Research and Extension.
32 Please proceed, ma’am...
33

34 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Good morning to the honorable Chair, fellow Directors, Sir Ben, Sir
35 DAOP and all the Managers. I have the honor to report to everyone the
36 summary report in the discussion and recommendations for the
37 conduct of the “Annual Seminar Workshop for Enhancing Extensionists’
38 Capabilities”, or in short, ASWEEC.
39

40 The Resource Speaker yesterday, Ms. Evangeline C. Cabigan, OIC-
41 Manager of the Farm Technology & Services Department, emphasized
42 the objectives of the ASWEEC. First, it aims to familiarize extension
43 workers with pests and diseases in tobacco production and its
44 management, and to equip and familiarize them on how to digitize and
45 compute tobacco farm areas using the data generated by drones,
46 among others.
47

48 She also stated that the participants to the ASWEEC shall be those
49 occupying Agriculturist II, TPRO III, Agriculturist I, and TPRO I
50 positions of all Branch Offices with a total of 104 participants. She also
51 emphasized the topics to be discussed like: (1) Pest and Disease
52 Management; (2) Digitization Using Drones to Survey Tobacco Planting
53 Area; (3) Project Proposal Conceptualization and Preparation; and (4)
54 Values and Ethical Standards for Government Employees.
55

1 In this regard, each Branch Office will be required to conduct the Re-
2 Echo Seminar for two (2) days to their respective Job Order (JO)
3 Extension Workers within one (1) month after the ASWEEC Training.
4 The ASWEEC Training has a proposed budget of PhP1,750,000.00,
5 subject to adjustments upon finalization of the venue and dates for its
6 conduct. In here, sir, the budget was reduced, I believe, to less than
7 1.7M now. The venue will be at Linda Hotel, Vigan City, and the
8 schedule will be on November 30 - December 01, 2023.
9

10 Ms. Cabigan then requested the Board for the approval for the conduct
11 of the 2023 Annual Seminar-Workshop on Enhancing Extensionists'
12 Capabilities (ASWEEC), thru the issuance of a Board Resolution.
13 Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of
14 the agenda, subject to Board recommendations.
15

16 This subject matter having been thoroughly and exhaustively discussed
17 in the committee meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which
18 was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I
19 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda. Thank you!
20

21 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** There's a motion...

22
23 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.
24

25 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded. Any discussion or objection? I hearing none, the motion is
26 hereby **APPROVED**. Can we go to the next item?
27

28 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 162, S. 2023**

29
30 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
31 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE CONDUCT OF THE***
32 ***2023 ANNUAL SEMINAR-WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING***
33 ***EXTENSIONISTS' CAPABILITIES (ASWEEC).***
34

35 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
36

37 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
38

39 For our next agenda item, we have the request for "**Confirmation of**
40 **Promotional and/or Original Appointments to Vacant Plantilla**
41 **Positions**". To render the Summary of the Discussion and
42 Recommendations, we will be calling the Administrator & CEO, Belinda
43 S. Sanchez, Chairperson of the Committee on Nomination,
44 Remuneration and Personnel Administration. Ma'am...
45

46 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Good morning USEC, and the Members of the Board.
47

48 Yesterday, the Manager of the Administrative Department presented
49 the agenda. She submitted, for the consideration of the Board, the
50 shortlist of candidates for the vacant positions to be filled at the NTA,
51 with simultaneous request for the confirmation of the appointments of
52 selected applicants to their respective plantilla positions, as follows:
53

54 1) For the position of Chief Agriculturist, of the NTA - Vigan Branch
55 Office, Mr. Tomasito G. Taloza;
56

- 2) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer III, of the NTA - La Union Branch Office, Ms. Rosita O. Gambito;
- 3) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer III, of the NTA- Abra Branch Office, Ms. Carmencita T. Bersalona;
- 4) For the position of Tobacco Production & Regulation Officer I, of the NTA - Abra Branch Office, Ms. Marianne A. Balasiw; and
- 5) For the position of Science Research Analyst, of the NTA – Industrial Research Department (IRD), Ms. Krizzel Ashleigh O. Guzman.

Ms. Arrojo then requested the Board for the approval of the Confirmation of Promotional and/or Original Appointments to Vacant Plantilla Positions of the above-named applicants, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the agenda.

This subject matter having been thoroughly and exhaustively discussed in the Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I respectfully move for the approval of the agenda. Thank you!

USEC. SAVELLANO: There's a motion.

DIR. PADAYAO: I second the motion.

USEC. SAVELLANO: Seconded. Any discussion or objection? I hearing none, the motion same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 163, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE CONFIRMATION OF PROMOTIONAL AND/OR ORIGINAL APPOINTMENTS TO VACANT PLANTILLA POSITIONS, AS FOLLOWS:

1. **MR. TOMASITO G. TALOZA** **CHIEF AGRICULTURIST,
NTA - VIGAN BRANCH OFFICE**
2. **MS. ROSITA O. GAMBITO** **TOBACCO PRODUCTION
REGULATION OFFICER III,
NTA - LA UNION BRANCH OFFICE**
3. **MS. CARMENCITA T. BERSALONA** **TOBACCO PRODUCTION &
REGULATION OFFICER III,
NTA - ABRA BRANCH OFFICE**
4. **MS. MARIANNE A. BALASIW** **TOBACCO PRODUCTION &
REGULATION OFFICER I,
NTA- ABRA BRANCH OFFICE**
5. **MS. KRIZZEL ASHLEIGH O. GUZMAN** **SCIENCE RESEARCH ANALYST,
NTA - INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT (IRD)**

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

1
2 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
3

4 So, for our next item, we have the request for the **“Approval of**
5 **Amendments to the Implementing Guidelines for the Integrated**
6 **Farming and Other Income Generating Activities Project- Tobacco**
7 **Contract Growing System (IFOIGAP-TCGS) CY 2023-2024,**
8 **Particularly Annex “C” Thereof”.**
9

10 Again, to report the Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations,
11 may we recognize the honorable Director Nestor C. Casela, the
12 Chairman of the Committee on Audit and Finance.
13

14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Director Casela is recognized.
15

16 **DIR. CASELA:** Thank you honorable Chair. Good morning to everybody. I am pleased
17 to report the Summary of the Discussion and Recommendations
18 regarding the “Request for Amendments to the Implementing
19 Guidelines of the Integrated Farming and Other Income Generating
20 Activities Project-Tobacco Contract Growing System, for CY 2023-2024,
21 particularly Annex “C”, thereof”.
22

23 The presenter of this agenda was Dr. Giovanni B. Palabay, OIC-Deputy
24 Administrator for Operations. He sought for the introduction of
25 amendments to the Implementing Guidelines of the IFOIGAP-TCGS,
26 particularly Annex “C” thereof, which reads: “In accordance with the
27 GCG Targets of the agency, which are based on historical performance,
28 the Target Yield in Kilograms Per Hectare for CY 2022-2023 for the
29 different Tobacco Types and Sub-Types, are as follows:
30

- 31 - **Virginia Neutral Flavor - 2,000 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 32 - **Virginia Improved Flavor - 2,200 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 33 - **Burley Neutral Flavor - 2,300 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 34 - **Burley Improved Flavor R1 - 2,400 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 35 - **Burley Improved Flavor R2 - 2,500 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 36 - **Native Batek Chewing - 2,400 Kilogram / Hectare”**
37

38 Upon further deliberation, the Board agreed for the reduction of 200
39 kilograms to the target yield, and for the deletion of the phrase “In
40 Accordance with the GCG Targets of the agency which are based on
41 historical performance”, so as Annex “C” to now read, as follows:
42

43 “The Target Yield in Kilograms Per Hectare for CY 2022-2023 for the
44 Different Tobacco Types and Sub-Types, are as follows:
45

- 46 - **Virginia Neutral Flavor - 1,800 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 47 - **Virginia Improved Flavor - 2,000 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 48 - **Burley Neutral Flavor - 2,100 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 49 - **Burley Improved Flavor R1 - 2,200 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 50 - **Burley Improved Flavor R2 - 2,300 Kilogram / Hectare**
- 51 - **Native Batek Chewing - 2,200 Kilogram / Hectare”**
52

53 Meaning to say your honor, that there is a reduction as to the targeted
54 yield per hectare reducing the production of 200 kilogram per type and
55 sub-types of tobacco, sir.
56

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Why?
2
3 **DIR. CASELA:** The reason is, some Branch Managers observed that for this provision,
4 since there is an Implementing Guideline with respect to the TCGS, COA
5 might be requesting NTA for the submission of the level of production
6 for each farmer-cooperator and since there is a guideline as to the
7 targeted level, COA might question the possibility of farmers producing
8 less than the targeted level of production, which was originally set at
9 2,200 kilograms.
10
11 So, the Branch Managers are requesting the Board to make a revision or
12 adjustment to this to lower the level of production so as to make it
13 more practical and reasonable for them to achieve, and therefore, if it
14 will be reduced, and this can be achieved, therefore COA might...
15
16 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** What is the reason? How did they come up with the lowering? Is there a
17 reason why the farmers cannot meet the 2,000?
18
19 **DIR. CASELA:** The reality on this sir, is that, we know for a fact that tobacco farmers
20 secure the various resources of loaning and, therefore, if it is Contract
21 Growing they are supposed to sell only to tobacco-contracted buying
22 firms, but more often enough some farmers with several sources of
23 financing for the production requirements, let's say from NTA, middle
24 man or some other sources, they might not be able to properly record
25 the tobacco they produced and the legal document for that is from the
26 trading centers or buying firms contracted for the production of their
27 tobacco, sir. So, that's the reason for the apprehension...
28
29 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes, how can we help the farmers 'para hindi na sila mag-loan'?
30
31 **DIR. CASELA:** Also, sir, the private buying firms provide all the incentives and
32 prescribe the level of production. If they could avail some incentives
33 with the level of production and this is stipulated, if ever, so that they
34 can avail the incentives coming from the buying firms. That's the
35 reason why there is a request of the Managers to reduce that
36 significantly and more realistically...
37
38 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** 'Kung kinakatakutan mo lang 'yung COA. 'Pero I think' ano 'yung
39 programa that we can have with the farmers' kasi 'yung performance
40 lang natin 'yung ina-ano natin eh', so, 'sa 'kin paano naman tayo
41 makatulong sa farmers, kasi pag concern natin ang COA mahigpit kung
42 ano'...
43 **DIR. CASELA:** Another thing, sir, is there is a standing policy of NTA that with respect
44 to the loaning program, the farmer cooperator must have to pay a
45 certain percentage so that he can be qualified for succeeding loaning
46 operations.
47
48 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pay to...?
49
50 **DIR. CASELA:** To NTA sir, 'yun ang gusto kung palabasin dito para' kasi pag may utang
51 ka' hindi ka puwedeng makautang ulit', so lowering the level of
52 production would ease out the burden of the farmer to produce with
53 higher requirements of production, sir.
54
55 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes, Dr. Palabay?
56

1 **DR. PALABAY:** I just would like to add to the explanation of Director Casela sir. One
2 main reason, sir, is that as per provision in the Implementing
3 Guidelines, that for the farmer cooperators to not be entitled in the 40%
4 subsidy, he or she will not produce the 2,200...
5

6 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga'. What are the reasons that they cannot produce? 'Kasi
7 tinitignan ko 'yung ano eh' pinaparami natin to produce quality.....
8

9 **DR. PALABAY:** Yes, sir. There are four, like 'yung calamity...
10

11 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Given 'na 'yan. What other factors?
12

13 **DR. PALABAY:** Pole vaulting.
14

15 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pole vaulting?
16

17 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
18

19 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Certain buyers will add 50 centavos.
20

21 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** 'Kaya nga. That's the problem of contract growers 'di ba? Sila 'yung may
22 problema, hindi na natin problema 'yun.
23

24 **DIR. CASELA:** In a way to solve the problem also with NTA is an assurance for
25 farmers-cooperators to be able to pay the 60%.
26

27 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Can we identify 'kung saan binebenta?
28

29 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Mga middle man.
30

31 **DR. PALABAY:** Sa mga cowboys.
32

33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga', papautangin kita' dito ako, may ganun eh'. Pero ang
34 nahihirapan dun 'yung mga farmers, 'yun 'yung ano kasi sa akin. Ang
35 ano ko matulungan natin ang mga farmers to earn more so ano 'yung
36 mga programs na puwede nating pang-neutralize sa mga pagka-
37 problemahan nila.
38

39 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Para' hindi na sila utang sa mga ganun".
40

41 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Natural lang 'yun kasi 'yung nagpautang' may utang din, kasi. Sa 'kin,
42 para mawala ang mga problema ng mga farmers, ano 'yung mga
43 additional programs na gagawin natin, regarding dito'?
44

45 **DIR. PADAYAO:** To increase the loan.
46

47 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kasi we are adjusting because of COA and etc. 'pero 'yung mga farmers
48 may mapapala ba sila dito? 'Yun ang point ko lang, kasi siyempre
49 maghanap tayo ng paraan kung paano matulungan ang mga farmers to
50 encourage them to plant more and earn more, so with this, since we are
51 lowering the level of production nila' na natatakot kayo na makita ng
52 COA, so 'ano naman ang puwede nating gawin na programa para they
53 will increase production, 'yun 'yung pagka-intindi ko.
54

1 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir, maybe the possibility of increasing the level of subsidy from
2 40% to 50% so that the burden now of paying would be easier for the
3 farmers.
4

5 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** 'Yun 'yung isa sa pag-aralan natin. Pag-aralan muna natin 'yun,
6 increasing the subsidy. Additional, ano 'yan, kasi all of these sa
7 presenting ng budgeting dapat naka-ano to eh', na we discuss this na
8 para matulungan na natin talaga 'yung mga magsasaka, 'kasi like you
9 mentioned, you are asking for 250million for contract growing, but
10 'magkano lang binigay'.
11

12 **DIR. CASELA:** Only half of it.
13

14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pero, kung' marinig naman nila kung saan magagamit ito and how we
15 help the farmers, 'sa tingin ko baka magigising din naman sila'.
16

17 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Sir, siguro' 'yung isang intervention is to encourage the Local
18 Government to give production incentives 'kasi sila 'yung malaking.....
19

20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sa Ilocos maraming gumagawa niyan'. So, that's part of NTA Program
21 na' we have to campaign, magkano 'yung computation n'yo? Sa peso,
22 magkano ang return? How much they'll be getting? 500pesos?
23

24 **DR. PALABAY:** 600 plus.
25

26 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, 600 plus ilagay mo sa... ano'ng investment na piso ang puhunan ang
27 balik sa 'yo 500? 'Yun 'yung simple explanation eh', for 1 million, 500
28 million makukuha mo eh'. I think 'yun 'yung mga pag-aaralan natin
29 para siyempre we are thinking of developing the industry to benefit the
30 farmers to earn more and ang goal natin is to be able to export. Okay,
31 any comments from the zoom?
32

33 **ATTY. PARADO:** Mr. Chair, may we recognize the honorable Director Wilfredo C.
34 Martinez, sir.
35

36 **DIR. MARTINEZ:** Yes, good morning USEC and my fellow Directors and co-workers. We
37 have to aim for better products and increase more production. 'Yung
38 problema lang hindi ma-meet 'yung quota na 'yan, parang lumilihis
39 tayo sa problema eh' ini-improve natin ang quality ng tobacco
40 production 'yun ang aim natin' at 'yun talaga ang aim natin' so tutukan
41 natin para mapaganda 'yung produkto natin 'di ba? Hindi 'yung iikutan
42 natin 'yung problema. 'Yun lang 'yung nakikita ko. Kung sa akin 'yun
43 'yung suggestion ko. 'Yun lang. Thank you.
44

45 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Thank you, Director. Any discussion on the matter?
46

47 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Puwede rin bang magsalita? Ang isang problema na nakikita natin is
48 "*pole-vaulting*", kasi 'yung farmer may nagkautangan na iba, so ang
49 ginawa namin nag-request ako sa mga buying firms. Suwerte rin kasi
50 may buying firm kami sa San Juan, 'nagpo-provide po kami ng
51 *sustenance allowance* para hindi sila utang, deductible 'dun sa
52 pagbebentahan nila. Medyo na-control ng kaunti.
53

54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** That's for what company?
55 **MR. SARMIENTO:** TMI.
56

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** TMI. But can we do the same? Can we talk also with the... Ayaw nila?
2

3 **MR. SARMIENTO:** So, ang nagbibigay ng sustenance allowance nila ay TMI.
4

5 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Can we present this to others? We need to make a dialogue, 'kasi hindi
6 'yung hindi tayo umiikot 'dun dahil sa COA. Ganyan ang tinitignan natin,
7 first and foremost 'yung kapakanan ng magsasaka' kasi kung maayos
8 natin 'yung magsasaka', even 'yung industry mabubuhay 'yan.
9

10 **MR. SARMIENTO:** So, sir, dapat 'yung mga ibang buyers kasi mabawasan din 'yung
11 problema sa "pole-vaulting", and dapat may malakas na association ng
12 farmers para sila na ang mag-pupulis sa mga kapwa magsasaka.
13

14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, those are the things that... ilagay n'yo sa agenda 'yan, para 'yan
15 'yung mapag-usapan natin sa susunod.
16

17 **MR. SARMIENTO:** 'Yung sustenance allowance is nakaka-ano eh'... 'pag nag-violate sila
18 hindi na sila mabibigyan.
19

20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Mayor, since we have experience, can we ask also the LGUs to have that.
21 Tulungan tayo diyan.
22

23 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Hindi lang kasi ordinance ang kailangan, kung hindi kukunin nila 'yung
24 approval ng COA, 'kasi one time nag po-post kami ng ganitong scheme,
25 ang kaagad na sagot sa amin eh', LGU is not a lending institution. 'Yun
26 'yung kaagad na isinasagot sa amin.
27

28 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Eh' nagbibigay naman tayo ng livelihood sa kanila eh' parang balik na
29 lang nila ay produkto.
30

31 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Eh' baguhin natin ulit 'yung intervention with NTA.
32

33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga', we have to explore, eh' siyempre 'yan may mga suggestions
34 then we have to talk with the stakeholders, kung paano natin
35 tutulungan.
36

37 **DIR. CASELA:** Sir, if I may.....
38

39 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** 'Yun kasi 'yung sino-solve natin eh' at the expense of 'nagugulo 'yung
40 sistema natin. So, sa akin more on I'd like to solve the problem. Eto
41 'yung mga problema ng mga farmers regarding sa pole vaulting, 'yung
42 mga pinagkakautangan nila. Kung we can have funds to support, why
43 not.
44

45 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Sa experience natin', nako-collect naman natin.
46

47 **DIR. CASELA:** Sir, sa NTA naman eh' meron naman cash provision as sustenance, as
48 part of the cash portion of the TCGS Program.
49

50 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pero?
51

52 **DIR. CASELA:** Now, with respect to, well of course, we can talk with the private sector,
53 but I think with the LGUs, in terms of provision of cash, there is a
54 provision as stipulated in RA7171 and RA8240 that the LGUs cannot
55 provide cash from this fund to the farmers. That is the limiting factor
56 sir. But for NTA...

1
2 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi naman sa ano', pero puwede naman sa economic enterprises ang
3 LGUs. Sa LGUs, may mga economic enterprises; they can do that.
4
5 **DIR. CASELA:** That is a direct giving of cash.
6 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi. Kaya nga pag-aralan 'nyo 'yung economic enterprise nila kung
7 paano ang LGUs. If you are talking about LGUs, 'kasi sa 7171 meron
8 naman silang livelihood. Ano'ng diperensiya sa binibigay ng DSWD na
9 cash assistance from the DA? Ano'ng diperensiya no'n, at maglagay na
10 tayo ng pondo dito ng NTA for tobacco farmers. Hindi lang sa farmers
11 kung hindi tobacco farmers, eh di nagdiretso din sa kanila.
12
13 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Another observation. 'Yung 1,800 na production. Napakababa naman
14 ata'. Ano ang rason ninyo para ma-meet 'nung farmer ang quota niya.
15 'Yun ang purpose.
16
17 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Para hindi ma-check ng COA.
18
19 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Para makakuha ulit po ng loan, to ensure na si farmer makakuha ulit ng
20 loan and subsidy. Bakit hindi natin pag-aralan na kung sakali, puwede
21 naman natin i-encourage 'yung magsasaka na asikasuhin 'yung
22 pagtatanim niya at pagpupunla. Pagkatapos, meron tawag nito, 'yung
23 incentive sana.
24
25 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sa akin mas okay ako diyan' kesa 'yung tayo mag-a-adjust para lang sa
26 COA.
27
28 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Para maganahan 'yung farmer.
29
30 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Can we have a TWG on that... a Technical Working Group to study on
31 this for its approval?
32
33 **DIR. CASELA:** In the past three years sir, with the Tobacco Contract Growing
34 Program, the private sector or buying firm provides additional
35 incentives in the form of, let's say, complying with the level of
36 production the quality and compliance as to the requirements of good
37 agricultural practices. Correspondingly, 'meron ibinibigay na incentive
38 and that can be worked out now with the private sector, sir.
39
40 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, let's study the matter kasi ayoko siya na makita na ano eh'
41 kasi inilalaban natin 'yung industry but now, parang bumababa ang
42 production. 'Yun 'yung nakikita ko dito. Dapat 'yung projection natin
43 kasi isinusulong natin eh'.
44
45 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Actually, your honor, 'tumataas naman talaga ang production;
46 gumagaling na din 'yung mga farmers.
47
48 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga. Sa akin, kung ibinababa mo naka-record na parang...So, my
49 suggestion, with the pleasure of the body is, can we study the matter.
50 Gawin muna natin 'yung assignments natin, like talking with the private
51 sector, with the LGUs, kung ano ang mga programs natin.
52
53 **DIR. CASELA:** There must be a significant implementation as to the level of
54 production. That's what I'm proposing.
55
56 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Discourage other buyers.

1
2 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** From the records, sila naman 'yung mga cowboy's traders, mga
3 middlemen. Konti na mga 'yun. Do we have a data?
4
5 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Sir DAOP?
6
7 **ATTY. PARADO:** With the permission of the Chairperson, may we call on Atty. Robbert A.
8 Ambros, the Manager of Regulation Department, to answer the query
9 from the honorable USEC. Atty. Bob, you are recognized sir...
10
11 **ATTY. AMBROS:** Good morning to all of us, especially to our honorable Undersecretary
12 Savellano, and assisted by our Administrator Belinda Sanchez, and of
13 course, I would like to recognize also the presence of our Deputy
14 Administrators, Dr. Palabay and Sir Benedict; and Mayor Ben. Good
15 morning.
16
17 Yes, with respect to the issue as to the recorded yield per hectare for
18 tobacco, sorry. Panyero, is that the issue right now?
19
20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** The number of ano lang'.
21
22 **ATTY. PARADO:** No sir. The query from the honorable USEC is as to the number of the
23 field representatives or middle men; the data, sir.
24
25 **ATTY. AMBROS:** May I just get the record, sir. Your honor, with respect to the number of
26 field canvassers which were issued licenses for the past five years, we
27 have a deduction from 2018 with a total of 225, to 2022 with a record
28 of 171, because this was primarily caused by the effect of strict
29 implementation of trading rules that only those authorized by the
30 buying stations can apply for the license as field canvassers, because
31 field canvassers without license are not allowed to operate.
32
33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pero dati, illegal mga 'yan pero we're giving them permits. Eh 'di
34 kasama na din natin sila, so with this program, eh 'di isama natin sa
35 program para it will benefit everyone. Kasi, you are recognizing them,
36 'mas madali nga eto kasi recognized na sila, mas madali na silang
37 kausapin kasi ang problema natin ay 'yung ano, you mentioned pole
38 vaulting. Sino ba gumagawa niyan, among themselves. Kaya pag-usapan
39 na lang natin lahat. Ang ina-ano ko lang kasi, kailangan nating ayusin
40 'yung programa na everybody's happy and the number one beneficiary
41 ay 'yung mga farmers natin.
42
43 **MR. SARMIENTO:** 'Yan po 'yung sinasabi namin sa mga farmers during the orientation,
44 kasi 'yung pole vaulting, kung hindi na kumuha, mostly nag-issue 'yung
45 mga cowboys ng COP. 'Yung mga records, kasi sa 1 million is 'yun na
46 lang 'yung pagbabasehan 'dun sa production. Eh 'yung hinahabol natin
47 is mas malaki ang production mas malaki din 'yung shares. So, kung
48 1,800 parang nawala kaagad 'yung iba.
49
50 **DIR. CASELA:** There is no total mediation as to the increase of yield, even if there is
51 this limit, because proper documentation would mean the acceptance
52 of tobacco from trading centers from the farmers; meaning to say, this
53 is a minimum requirement, but it does not mediate the probability of
54 documenting more tobacco. Mas marami nga sir eh'.
55

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pero dati? May na-mention kanina, may 2,500 pa. Pero, 1,800 na tayo.
2 Why not 'yung dati? 'Yung dating projection n'yo.
3

4 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Na-reduce lang ng 200 kilos.
5

6 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga. Bakit hindi 'yung dati pa rin, 'kasi ayoko na nakikita na nare-
7 reduce eh'. Yung sa 'kin, we go back to the original, then we solve the
8 problem. Kung ano 'yung mga kailangan. Para kasi sa 'kin, sa first
9 presentation, COA agad pinag-uusapan 'di ba?
10

11 **DIR. CASELA:** I do agree on that sir. Once you have mentioned about reduction, there
12 are negative mediations. But you are going to find out or coming up
13 with innovation or intervention wherein we could manifest an increase
14 of production at the same time increasing quality, because, you know,
15 the total increase would be, of course, translating to efficiency on
16 implementing the program and, of course, attaining the objectives.
17 So, it's a matter of coming up with interventions as you could. Well, we
18 will be following the status quo and come up with interventions to
19 show that there's an increase of production by way of coming up with
20 interventions like talking with the private sector in providing an
21 incentive, so on and so forth, together with the LGUs and, at the same
22 time, coming up with more stringent policies on trading rules to
23 regulate trading operations. So, that would be all. Thank you so much.
24

25 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kasi' with the resources of the LGUs, especially the tobacco producing
26 provinces, mga 100% tutulong diyan, lalo na sa increase of production.
27

28 **DIR. TRONGCO:** The more excise tax.
29

30 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga. So, Director are you amenable to the amendments?
31

32 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, this is just a result of a lengthy discussion yesterday, so it was the
33 decision of the Board to approve the requested volume of production.
34 But, by virtue of our discussion now of putting the level of production
35 on status quo and coming up with alternative causes of action, then I
36 move, therefore, for the approval of the amendments or the change of
37 decision, as to the Board's decision yesterday in the committee
38 meeting, that the level of production as stipulated earlier on the
39 Implementing Guidelines will be retained, with the permission for the
40 NTA to come up with program interventions on how we could manifest
41 the farmers' increase of production. Thank you, sir.
42

43 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, what is the pleasure of the body with all the amendments?
44

45 **DIR. CASELA:** In this regard, I move for the retention of the level of production as
46 stipulated in the Implementing Guidelines of the Tobacco Contract
47 Growing Project, with the condition that NTA will come up with
48 interventions as to further improve the yield level and increase quality
49 by way of interventions with the LGUs and private sector so that we can
50 sustain the livelihood of the tobacco farmers.
51

52 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, any motion?
53

54 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.
55

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Any further discussion? I hearing none, the same motion is hereby
2 **APPROVED.** Next agenda.
3

4 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 164, S. 2023**

5
6 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
7 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD DEFERS THE REQUEST FOR***
8 ***APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE***
9 ***IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES FOR THE INTEGRATED FARMING***
10 ***AND OTHER INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES PROJECT -***
11 ***TOBACCO CONTRACT GROWING SYSTEM (IFOIGAP-TCGS) CY***
12 ***2023-2024, PARTICULARLY ANNEX “C” THEREOF.***

13
14 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***

15
16 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17
18 For our next agenda, we have the request for the **“Approval of the**
19 **Proposal to Give Recognition and Incentives to Ms. Frances Anne**
20 **Balela Foronda, NTA Scholar from the Isabela State University,**
21 **Echague, Isabela, for Garnering the Second (2nd) Highest Place in**
22 **the September 2023 Licensure Examination for Certified Public**
23 **Accountants (CPA), with a rating of 90.50%.**

24
25 To report on the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, may
26 we recognize the honorable Director Danilo C. Trongco, Member of the
27 Committee on Nomination, Remuneration and Personnel
28 Administration.

29
30 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Honorable Chair, at sa ating lahat, isang magandang umaga at
31 mabiyayang araw. Ito po ‘yung Summary Report ng discussion and
32 recommendations, asking for the approval of the proposal to give
33 recognition and incentives to Ms. Frances Anne Balela Foronda, NTA
34 Scholar from the Isabela State University, Echague, Isabela, for
35 garnering the second (2nd) highest place in the September 2023
36 Licensure Examination for Certified Public Accountants (CPA), with a
37 rating of 90.50%.

38
39 The proponent, Dir. Nestor C. Casela, representing the Academic
40 Community Sector, presented the agenda. He informed the Board that
41 one of NTA’s many scholars, namely: Ms. Frances Anne Balela Foronda,
42 an NTA Scholar of the NTA – Isabela Branch Office, and a graduate from
43 the Isabela State University, Echague, Isabela, topped and garnered the
44 second (2nd) highest place in the September 2023 Licensure
45 Examination for Certified Public Accountants (CPA), with a rating of
46 90.50%

47
48 He manifested that, as an exemplary example for present and future
49 NTA Scholars to emulate, and in recognition of the excellent
50 performance of Ms. Foronda in the CPA Board Exam, it is just right and
51 fitting that a recognition and incentive shall be bestowed upon her by
52 the agency.

53
54 Dir. Casela then requested the Board for the approval of the proposal to
55 give recognition and incentives to Ms. Frances Anne Balela Foronda, for
56 her accolades as topnotcher in the September 2023 Licensure

1 Examination for CPAs, thru the issuance of a Board Resolution. Finding
2 merit to the request, the Board then moved for the approval of the
3 agenda.
4

5 This subject matter having been thoroughly and exhaustively discussed
6 in the Committee Meeting proper, and, with a motion to approve, which
7 was duly seconded, and unless there is a need for further discussions...I
8 respectfully move for the approval of the agenda. Thank you!
9

10 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** There's a motion...

11
12 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.
13

14 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded. Is there an objection? Since there's none, the same motion
15 **APPROVED.** Next...
16

17 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 165, S. 2023**
18

19 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT
20 THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE PROPOSAL TO
21 GIVE RECOGNITION AND INCENTIVES TO MS. FRANCES ANNE
22 BALELA FORONDA, NTA SCHOLAR FROM THE ISABELA STATE
23 UNIVERSITY, ECHAGUE, ISABELA, FOR GARNERING THE SECOND
24 (2ND) HIGHEST PLACE IN THE SEPTEMBER 2023 LICENSURE
25 EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS (CPA),
26 WITH A RATING OF 90.50%.***

27
28 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
29

30 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31

32 So, for our next agenda, Agenda (I) is the request for the **"Approval of
33 the Issuance of a Referendum Resolution, Due to the Urgency of
34 Need, for the Award of Contract for the Project, "Supply & Delivery
35 of Fertilizer, CPAs and Suckercide Requirements for Use in
36 IFOIGAP-Tobacco (TCGS) 2023-2024 in Regions I, II, and CAR", in
37 Favor of Diamond Kim Enterprises, with the Single Calculated and
38 Responsive Bid (SCRB) in the Amount of PhP65,469,469.00".**
39

40 To report on the Summary of Discussion and Recommendations, may
41 we call back Director Nestor C. Casela, the Chairperson of the
42 Committee on Audit and Finance.
43

44 **DIR. CASELA:** Sir, the bottom-line purpose of coming up with the Referendum
45 Resolution is that tobacco season, especially in the initial operations on
46 planting, is now on-going and because of the compliance with the
47 production technology, we have to use fertilizers, meaning to say, when
48 the farmers plant already there should be that fertilizer; and, the POT,
49 as stipulated, provides that the planting season would start as early as
50 now sir. Meron ng nagtatanim sir eh'.
51

52 So, that was the intention of expediting 'sana 'yung requirement so that
53 it enables farmers to have this fertilizer to do the transplanting which is
54 in the process already. We have all these material inputs to be used so
55 that's the main purpose of this Referendum Resolution. Meaning to say,
56 just to expedite the acquisition of material inputs for this purpose, sir.

1 At the same time, if we are going to purchase now, we will be evading
2 the probability of increasing prices sir. As we go on the season,
3 tumataas po 'yung presyo ng farm inputs.
4
5 Actually, this was the opinion and decision on the request of sir Ben for
6 the farmers. But, the purpose of expediting this or coming up with this
7 Referendum Resolution is that the BAC imposed the ABC at 65million
8 plus but during the bidding 'mas mababa po 'yung winning bidder, so
9 we are able to save more than 3million on this.
10
11 Likewise, we advised our Branch Managers, and of course the DAOP,
12 that there should be recipients and drop-off points for these farm
13 inputs for the delivery, and that would be within 10-days starting
14 yesterday sir. So that we can cope up with the timely requirements for
15 our farmers.
16
17 So, based on urgency and necessity is the request for the Referendum
18 Resolution, sir. Thank you.
19
20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ano ba 'yung record nitong Diamond Kim Enterprise? Okay naman?
21 First time or...?
22
23 **DIR. CASELA:** I do not know. I think attorney, you are a member of the BAC.
24
25 **ATTY. PARADO:** Yes, sir. For this, may we request ma'am Zenaida T. Arrojo, the BAC
26 Chairperson, sir to enlighten us. Ma'am Zeny, if you are online ma'am,
27 kindly answer the query from the honorable USEC.
28
29 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kasi gusto kong malaman, kasi 'yung mga nagsu-supply sa rice noon,
30 'yung mga fertilizer 'sa DA meron 'yung mga ano. So, tignan natin 'yung
31 track record nila para hindi tayo mapahamak'. So, 'ano 'yung ide-
32 deliver, basal 'to? Ano'ng fertilizer?
33
34 **DIR. CASELA:** All requirements are in the bidding.....
35
36 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga. Can you explain 'yung fertilizer na ina-ano natin, 'para for
37 everyone.
38
39 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Sir DAOP.
40
41 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** While waiting for the report.
42
43 **DR. PALABAY:** The following fertilizers are all the components of the fertilizer
44 technology. Most of the orders are 'yung basal sir.
45
46 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Basal 'yun. 'Yung una. Next.
47
48 **DR. PALABAY:** Then, together with 0-0-50, 'yung potassium po sir. These are all basal.
49
50 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sabay 'yan? Sabay?
51
52 **DR. PALABAY:** 0-0-50 sir.
53
54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, sabay 'yan? Basal and potassium.
55
56 **DR. PALABAY:** Yes, sir.

1
2 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ang ina-ano ko lang is 'yung procedure natin. Di ba you mentioned
3 basal muna for the soil preparation.
4
5 **DIR. CASELA:** Uhm' Dr. Palabay, basal is 18-24, meaning to say, we are going to use
6 that while we do the planting, and 50% of the requirements of 0-0-50 is
7 added to the potassium sir. 50% of that one bag, but the requirement of
8 technology needs 8 bags; 18-24 for 1 bag of 0-0-50, and 2 bags of either
9 Sulfate or Urea, meaning to say, in terms of requirements nangunguna
10 'yung 18-24 and 0-0-50 as basal fertilizer.
11
12 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, how many kinds of fertilizer do you apply, 3?
13
14 **DIR. CASELA:** Or either 46-0-0.
15
16 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ano 'yun?
17
18 **DIR. CASELA:** Urea.
19
20 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Single element fertilizer.
21
22 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes, basal. Potassium, Sulfate and Urea.
23
24 **DIR. CASELA:** 18-24, 0-0-50, 21-0-0 and 46-0-0.
25
26 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ano 'yung pangalan ng 46-0-0?
27
28 **DIR. PADAYAO:** 'Yun 'yung Urea sir.
29
30 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Urea, okay. 'Yung Sulfate, 21-0-0, 'yung Potassium, anu 'yun 0-0-50?
31 Alam ba lahat natin 'yun?
32
33 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Parang limang klase sir.
34
35 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Do we use organic o hindi na? Hindi, nagtatanong lang ako kasi sinasabi
36 nila kasi na pag laging Urea sa tabako masisira 'yung lupa, magiging
37 acidic siya' sa rice. Gumagamit tayo ng Urea? Then, sa tobacco kung
38 possible ayaw sana sa Urea.
39
40 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Actually sir, if I may. Pag Virginia ang usapan hindi tayo gagamit ng
41 Urea. It's the 21-0-0 or the sulfate, but for flue-cured like Burley and
42 Native, once we are using Urea po, kasi mas tolerated.
43
44 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, sa Virginia tatlo na lang gamit natin without Urea.
45
46 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Sa ano sir, sa Virginia.
47
48 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sa Virginia tatlo lang. What I'm saying is sa Ilocos 'di ba may rice kami
49 gumagamit kami ng Urea, then siyempre 'yung soil niya meron epekto,
50 meron ba tayong pang-neutralize para mawala 'yung epekto niya and
51 sa quality kayo 'yung ano diyan eh'.
52
53 **DIR. CASELA:** Sir, because of the initiative and mandate of NTA to conduct research in
54 a way of helping the farmers in reducing the cost of production 'nag
55 conduct po ng research namin' kung ano'ng fertility level ng soil doon
56 sa tobacco producing areas, uh' to find out 'yung Ilocos Norte and Ilocos

1 Sur, they can reduce the general fertilizer recommendations to 25%,
2 because of the level of fertility in those areas.
3
4 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sa Ilocos?
5
6 **DIR. CASELA:** Sa Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur sir. So, 25% is significant in a way of
7 helping the farmers to reduce the cost of production and likewise
8 because of the stringent requirement of our buyers, 'yung mga CPA
9 natin sa pesticide we have, so meaning to say, we come up with the
10 technology, a market-oriented technology, 'lahat po ng mga fertilizers,
11 CPAs and pesticide we have the protocol research that undertakes the
12 initial testing of the efficacy of all material inputs and we cannot
13 recommend any product for use of tobacco without passing the
14 protocol research.
15
16 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, like in Ilocos namo-monitor na lahat 'yung ano?
17
18 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
19
20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi, para kasi ang ina-ano ko pagpunta natin ng Mindanao alam na
21 natin.
22
23 **DIR. CASELA:** Sa Mindanao sir, 20 bags of different fertilizers.
24
25 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, at least alam na.
26
27 **ATTY. PARADO:** Mr. Chair, may we recognize Mrs. Arrojo, the Chairperson of the Bids
28 and Awards Committee.
29
30 **DIR. CASELA:** The honorable USEC was asking the track record of Diamond Kim
31 Enterprises.
32
33 **MRS. ARROJO:** Okay, good morning po sir and to the honorable Members of the Board
34 and Managers. Good morning po. Okay, based on the document
35 submitted sir, this Diamond Kim Enterprises is located in Pangasinan
36 and as per single largest completed contract submitted to us is, they
37 also delivered the same item fertilizers with the Municipality of
38 Bacnotan, La Union. Kasi na-designate lang po ako as BAC Chair for
39 this year. But, according to Atty. Ambros, the previous BAC Chairman,
40 naging supplier din po natin sila during the past years.
41
42 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** The same name or different name?
43
44 **MRS. ARROJO:** Diamond Kim din po.
45
46 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, the same.
47
48 **MRS. ARROJO:** Yes po.
49
50 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay.
51
52 **MRS. ARROJO:** 2010 yata.
53
54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, sa 'kin kasi ang direction namin ni Secretary regarding sa
55 fertilizer, 'kasi ayaw naman nating magka-record, so of course, we have
56 to get the history, 'kasi minsan nag-iiba 'di ba? Kaya para maganda, so

1 anyway, since 'yun lang ang question ko, I just would like to know the
2 history with NTA kung nakapag-deliver na sila in the history of the
3 NTA. Okay ba lahat?
4

5 **MRS. ARROJO:** Yes, po sir, 'kasi we accepted naman na 'yung standing nila is VS (very
6 satisfactory) naman po.
7

8 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay, unless you have other questions.
9

10 **DIR. PADAYAO:** No more sir.
11

12 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** No more, so 'yun...
13

14 **DIR. CASELA:** Madam, can we request you to commit the company as to the
15 compliance to the expected period of delivery with the concurrent
16 schedule.
17

18 **MRS. ARROJO:** Yes, po sir. Ang sabi, once they will be receiving the Notice to Proceed,
19 it is stated there na 90 days, 'nakipag-agree po sila', they have given 10
20 days na ma-deliver po lahat.
21

22 **DIR. CASELA:** Kasi' useless itong Referendum Resolution 'kung hindi sila makapag-
23 comply sa gusto nating timeline.
24

25 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, I'm asking them the history.
26

27 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
28

29 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Imported ba ito?
30

31 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Yung 10-18-24 sir, ang imported.
32

33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Imported amin daytoy?
34

35 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Diay 10-18-24 lang sir.
36

37 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Saan nila kinuha 'to? Kasi sila ba gumagawa or ano?
38

39 **DIR. CASELA:** Imported 'ata sir eh 'yung dalawa, 'yung 10-18-24.
40

41 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga', saan gawa? Kung imported.
42

43 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Belgium.
44

45 **DIR. CASELA:** This 10-18-24 is China, Belgium and Vietnam, but in terms of MPK
46 kilogram per hectare ang ginagawa po natin dito. Just to be sure na
47 modern component merong analysis. Dr. Palabay 'yung ginagawa sa
48 sample sa mga fertilizers...
49

50 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kasi mamayang hapon, I have a meeting with...sa Trade Mission ng
51 Vietnam, so i-bring out ko 'yung basal. Hindi ba puwedeng NTA diretso
52 na bibili sa kanila?
53

54 **DIR. CASELA:** Government to government.
55

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** You need to explore that 'kasi baka mas makamura na tayo eh, 'di ba. Sa
2 hapon, puwedeng ibigay n'yo 'yung projection ninyo sa 'kin. How much
3 do we... ilan 'yung nagagamit natin, 'yung basal, potassium.
4

5 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Nasa ano sir, may volume quantity.
6

7 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** This is for one year, lahat ito?
8

9 **DIR. PADAYAO:** 'Yung quantity.
10

11 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi. Ito ba 'yung order natin sa kanila? But for this whole year na?
12

13 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Yes, sir.
14

15 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, for whole year na. So, kanila for the whole year.
16

17 **DIR. CASELA:** Sa TCGS lang 'yan sir sa atin sa NTA; complying only with the budget of
18 150million, 'yun 'yung lumalaro sir.
19

20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Baka puwedeng ano eh... kasi they are about investing 'yung
21 cigarette...because what they are saying is maliit lang 'yung plantation
22 nila sa Vietnam kaya naghahanap sila ng mag-papatahim. Kaya i-
23 explore ko 'yun, mamaya 4:00 o'clock may meeting ako sa kanila, sa
24 Trade Mission nila. So, kaya nabanggit ko 'yung Vietnam kasi may
25 concern sila sa 'kin.
26

27 **DIR. CASELA:** 'Yun lang for NTA, but we can also request the private sector...
28

29 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes, puwedeng i-lead ng NTA eh'.
30

31 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Tapos 'yung LGUs sir.
32

33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes, ang importante mapababa natin 'yung cost of production eh,
34 malaking bagay 'yan.
35

36 **DIR. PADAYAO:** We can compute based on the area by categories, kung ano 'yung
37 expected consumption natin sa fertilizer.
38

39 **DIR. CASELA:** We have 40,000 farmers, with 27 total hectares.
40

41 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Pero i-categorize per tobacco types and sub-types.
42

43 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Sige, ayusin na lang naka-computer naman eh. I-print n'yo na lang. So,
44 let's go back to the agenda. Anyway, answered already, that this is a
45 good company and they are supplying to NTA. So, I'm okay with that
46 unless you have other questions.
47

48 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Meron din akong i-report sa inyo. Meron po akong sinusubaybayan na
49 kuwan, pagkatapos ng palay immediately tinatamnan na ng ano, 'yung
50 pinag-usapan at ito 'yung resulta (showing a picture from the cellular
51 phone), parang ganyan lang hindi na niya inaararo.
52

53 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Zero tillage.
54

55 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Oo, tapos ganyan na ngayon, then ganyan na 'yung sumunod; malalaki
56 na po tapos...

1
2 **DIR. CASELA:** Ano yan sir, corn?
3
4 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Oo, 'yung corn ino-obsorbahan ko po 5 years ng ginagawa 'yan, so
5 successful naman. Hindi ko lang ma-discuss noon directly kasi ang
6 project nila 'yung double early planting, tapos dalawang sunod na
7 tabako na. Kung minsan tag-ulan. Siyempre, hindi natin alam 'yung ano
8 kaya nasisira 'yung tobacco. Samantalang ito, successful naman.
9
10 **DIR. PADAYAO:** After rice 'yan, ano sir...
11
12 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Ang maalala ko lang kasi nito tungkol sa Urea, kasi hindi na siya
13 gagamit ng Urea kasi' meron pa siyang dadatnan sa lupa.
14
15 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Kasi' marami pang un-utilize fertilizer d'un sa lupa na ginamit ng corn.
16
17 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Hindi ko lang mai-suggest kay Rey noon kasi 'yung project naman nila
18 eh'...
19
20 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Tapos after that sir, magtanim ka ng tabako?
21
22 **MR. SARMIENTO:** After harvesting, tabako na. Hindi na niya inararo sir eh.
23
24 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Oo, pwede diyan 'yung silage, kasi 75 days lang ginagawa ulit tabako
25 after rice.
26
27 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Maganda rin 'yung silage corn sa Ilocos Norte.
28
29 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** 'Yun 'yung magiging kompetensiya sa corn natin, hindi na sila
30 magpapa-bunga, tanim na lang sila ng tanim kasi in 75 days meron ka
31 na, ibenta mo na. Kaya 'yun rin 'yung problema sa corn production
32 natin.
33
34 **DIR. PADAYAO:** 50% of the corn planters is in Piddig, kasi silage 'yung ano...
35
36 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Mas madali pa.
37
38 **DIR. CASELA:** Eh' parang 'yung lasona din...
39
40 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Oo, magiging ganyan 'yan.
41
42 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Kasi' mas malaki 'yung income mo, nandun na eh.
43
44 **MR. SARMIENTO:** Kini-kilo kasi.
45
46 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Marami eh kasi kini-kilo talaga 'yung pang silage.
47
48 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay.
49
50 **DIR. CASELA:** In consideration with the exhaustive discussion on the subject matter, I
51 move for the approval of the Request for Issuance of Referendum
52 Resolution pertaining to the requirements sir. Thank you.
53
54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, there's a motion...
55
56 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.

1
2 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Seconded. So, since there is no objection, the motion is **APPROVED**.
3 Next item.
4

5 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 166, S. 2023**
6

7 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
8 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE ISSUANCE OF A***
9 ***REFERENDUM RESOLUTION, DUE TO URGENCY OF NEED, FOR***
10 ***THE AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, “SUPPLY &***
11 ***DELIVERY OF FERTILIZER, CPAs AND SUCKERCIDE***
12 ***REQUIREMENTS FOR USE IN IFOIGAP-TOBACCO (TCGS) 2023-***
13 ***2024 IN REGIONS I, II AND CAR”, IN FAVOR OF DIAMOND KIM***
14 ***ENTERPRISES, WITH THE SINGLE CALCULATED AND***
15 ***RESPONSIVE BID (SCRB) IN THE AMOUNT OF***
16 ***PhP65,469,469.00”.***
17

18 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
19

20 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21

22 For our next agenda, we have **On Previous Matters:** We have the
23 **“Status Report Update on the Proposed Conduct of a Tobacco**
24 **Agricultural Summit in Mindanao”.**
25

26 To report on this matter, may we recognize Director Nestor C. Casela, to
27 be joined by our OIC-DAOP, Dr. Palabay. Sir...
28

29 **DIR. CASELA:** Thank you, Mr. Secretary, your honor. With the indulgence of Dr.
30 Palabay, may we request an initial report on this as background prior
31 to our participation in Mindanao. Thank you.
32

33 **DR. PALABAY:** Thank you sir. As an initial report on the invitation of the Local
34 Government Unit of the municipalities in Misamis Oriental, particularly
35 the municipalities of Gitagum, Laguindingan and El Salvador City, this is
36 the top producer of native-batek tobacco in Misamis Oriental. We
37 visited there, actually together with Mayor Ben, Director Nestor Casela
38 and Director Martinez. We went there to observe actually po ‘yung
39 periodic type of marketing, wherein the marketing strategy dun kasi po
40 sir is more on auction bidding wherein maaga pa lang nandun na po
41 ‘yung mga sellers, mga farmers at tsaka mga “viajeros” na bibili po’
42 from the provinces of the whole of Mindanao, and also from as far as
43 Visayas, particularly Negros, Leyte, Samar and Cebu. Kasi doon po
44 nanggagaling ang mga buyers.
45

46 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, saan sila? Leyte, Samar.
47

48 **DR. PALABAY:** Leyte, Samar, Cebu and Negros Oriental sir. Doon po nanggagaling sa
49 Iloilo.
50

51 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ang naririnig ko sa kanila Bohol eh’.
52

53 **DR. PALABAY:** ‘Yun nga sir, we are still validating po ‘yung sa Bohol, kasi in previous
54 years medyo konti lang ‘yung nagtatanim doon.
55

1 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi, ang sinasabi ay Bohol na ang bumibili sa kanila.
2
3 **DR. PALABAY:** They are from Bohol, 'kaya alam namin na ang dami-daming pila doon
4 na pumunta doon sa Laguindingan and Gitagum just for the sake of...
5 doon po kasi sila kumukuha ng mga products nila. Wholesale din sa
6 kanila.
7
8 Along with this sir, tinignan po namin 'yung method of marketing nila,
9 "TABO" System. Idi-discuss din in detail po ni Dir. Casela, but as far as
10 'yung Mindanao Summit is concerned sir, is initially coordinated with
11 the Local Government Unit of Misamis Oriental, particularly po 'dun sa
12 proposed venue natin, 'dun sa El Salvador City. The mayor, honorable
13 Mayor Lignes, offered 'yung conference area nila, 'yung malaking
14 parang theater with aircon, may live band pa with more than 250
15 capacity sir.
16
17 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Live band?
18
19 **DR. PALABAY:** Yes, sir. Kasi ipinagmamayabang niya na kung dito n'yo i-conduct 'yung
20 Summit we can provide you with a live band, sabi ni Mayor sir, kaya
21 'dun po 'yung prospect venue natin. They offered the venue for free and
22 we will do the invitation sir, and as far as the participants...
23
24 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** What date? May na-ano na kayo na date? So, I can....
25
26 **DR. PALABAY:** Sa January 25 po 'yung date natin.
27
28 **DIR. CASELA:** January 25.
29
30 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Para i-ano ko 'to kay Secretary, baka o para makapunta din siya'.
31
32 **DR. PALABAY:** Yes, sir. Kaya ang initial participants natin po sir, we will be inviting the
33 LGUs, Governors, Mayors, together with the DA Agency, of course, the
34 farmer leaders, NTA officials and other stakeholders, sir. 'Yung mga
35 "viajeros" and other stakeholders involved in the tobacco buying,
36 selling, and of course, the tobacco industry in Mindanao sir.
37
38 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay, very good, let's do it.
39
40 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir, may I. For a short presentation for what we have observed. In
41 all honesty sir, it was crude. I was really overwhelmed with the parties
42 involved in marketing, manifesting their cooperation and unity.
43 Although the marketing system there is unlike our marketing system
44 here, it serves the purpose because there are proper documentations.
45 At the same time, if there is proper documentation, correspondingly,
46 revenue is properly collected.
47
48 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, meron na sila noon?
49
50 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
51
52 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay.
53
54 **DIR. CASELA:** Ganito po 'yun "TABO" system. "TABO" system 'yung bagsakan sir.
55
56 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay.

1

2 **DIR. CASELA:** A day or once a week ‘pumupunta ‘yung farmers with some middle men
3 to the “bagsakan” where they place their tobacco, and I would describe
4 the tobacco as it’s not entirely what we are producing as Batek, but
5 what is really amazing at this point in time was the price, because for a
6 kilo for a hundred leaves of tobacco with a length of 2 feet with a good
7 texture, it costs about 25 to 30 pesos per leaf and 1 string of tobacco
8 leaves which consists of 100. So, ‘yung isang tali sir, it cost 2,500 or
9 3,000 at this point according to a middle man that we have to talked to.
10 There is a big demand and this is the evidence that there are so many
11 middlemen coming from the different provinces as mentioned by Dr.
12 Palabay going to Gitagum. For this purpose, now, there are four
13 prominent municipalities in Misamis planting this tobacco namely:
14 Gitagum, Alubijid, Laguindingan, and El Salvador City.
15

16 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ano ‘yung isa?

17

18 **DIR. CASELA:** El Salvador.

19

20 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi, Gitagum....

21

22 **DIR. CASELA:** ‘Yun ‘yung pito.

23

24 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Yes.

25

26 **DIR. CASELA:** Gitagum, Laguindingan.

27

28 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ano pa ‘yung isa?

29

30 **DIR. CASELA:** Alubijid. ‘Yung pinuntahan namin sir is Gitagum. We were there at
31 exactly 6:00 in the morning.
32

33 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** ‘Yan ‘yung auction nila?

34

35 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir sinabi ko ‘yung “crude” as it serves the purpose kasi ang
36 procedure ‘yung bibili ‘dun sa tabako ng farmer o middle man pupunta
37 sa office ng NTA kukuha ng Certificate of Inspection.
38

39 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** What you are reporting now, can you do that in writing also?

40

41 **DIR. CASELA:** Dr. Palabay?

42

43 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** I-ano natin para nado-document na natin para mapag-aralan natin.

44

45 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.

46

47 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Continue.

48

49 **DIR. CASELA:** Kaya sinabi kong “crude” as it serves the purpose kasi nakokolekta at
50 nabibili at a good price, and at the same time proper documentation is
51 being made, and that is the aspiration of the NTA for proper
52 documentation of their tobacco produce.
53

54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Director sabi mo 2,500 ‘yung presyo pero ano per tali?

55

56 **DIR. CASELA:** Per 100 leaves.

1
2 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga, ano'ng tawag 'dun tali?
3
4 **DR. PALABAY:** Per mano.
5
6 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, mano. So, per hectare magkano 'yung production nila? Ilan 'yung
7 mapro-produce nila in 1 hectare?
8
9 **DR. PALABAY:** Mostly sir 2,000 kilos per hectare.
10
11 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Eh 'di gawa na kayo ng computation para isama sa Report para makita
12 natin lahat.
13
14 **DIR. CASELA:** 2,000 divided by 2.5.
15
16 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ilan lalabas per hectare?
17
18 **DIR. MARTINEZ:** 1 million.
19
20 **DIR. CASELA:** Haan met ah'.
21
22 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Anyway, sa report n'yo, isama n'yo na. Pagsamahin n'yo na.
23
24 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
25
26 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** From your experience then, 'yung ano natin para mas marami,
27 magandang kita marami tayong ma-enganyo. So, do the computation
28 also.
29
30 **DIR. CASELA:** 'Yung sistema po 'dun, pagpunta 'dun sa bagsakan, there is only one
31 entrance and only one exit when the business man or middle man
32 would bring out his purchased tobacco he has to pass through that
33 monitoring point or checkpoint to provide a receipt of the inspection of
34 the... ano'ng tawag 'dun Doc.
35
36 **DR. PALABAY:** Certificate of Inspection.
37
38 **DIR. CASELA:** Without that Certificate of Inspection, 'hindi papalabasin sir. 'Kaya
39 "crude", pero it serves the purpose nakaka-kolekta, nakaka-record pa.
40 But, my apprehension on this instance is that since there is a big
41 demand of that kind of tobacco right now just like we experienced
42 before the big demand in Virginia 'nasa bubong pa sir nandun na 'yung
43 mga middle man binibili na' yung tobacco. Just like what we
44 experienced also before 'kaya the limiting factor here is that we cannot
45 be sure of efficiency of this kind of transaction. They will definitely
46 bring out their produce to other provinces and will not be permitted to
47 that particular municipality where that tobacco originated. 'Yun ang
48 request ng LGU, the proper documentation, and aside from that it was
49 openly said through the years parang nakaligtaan na sila kasi walang
50 intervention through the years ng NTA. That's why we have a meeting
51 with the LGUs in Gitagum and one thing I have told them is I'm really
52 appreciative of this initiative and that cooperation being showed, with
53 everyone involved in marketing, that is the Tobacco Farmers'
54 Association Cooperative, the NTA and the LGUs. 'Yung mga LGUs sir
55 'dun sa Bagsakan parang 'yung sa atin sa tindahan na merong entrada

1 ganun. So, 'dun sa proper documentation, hindi makalabas 'yung
2 tobacco kung walang Certificate of Inspection.
3
4 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya lahat ng 'yan ilagay sa Report, at least para mapag-aralan natin.
5
6 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
7
8 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Pero wag tayo gagawa ng mga regulation na magpapahirap sa kanila.
9
10 **DIR. CASELA:** Ganito sir. We observed that aspiration and desire of the LGUs in
11 proper documentation. They produce and what can NTA do as an
12 intervention to help them is to go to them, and the proposed Tobacco
13 Contract Growing Project is something we can initially implement.
14 During the meeting with LGUs, there was approved already a pilot
15 implementation of TCGS but the limiting factor here is we have to
16 comply with the provisions of the Implementing Guidelines. There is no
17 tobacco trader there, only "viajeros" and middle men.
18 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga 'yan 'yung nakasanayan nila. Baka pagpasok natin, 'yun 'yung
19 mga pag-aralan natin.
20
21 **DIR. CASELA:** Kaya nga' sir. Ang sinabi ko, baka naman 'yung intervention it will
22 disturb their system.
23
24 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Kaya nga.
25
26 **DIR. CASELA:** Imbes na mapaganda, baka ikakasira pa.
27
28 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Correct.
29
30 **DIR. CASELA:** We will be analyzing.
31
32 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ito parang special project for them.
33
34 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir.
35
36 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Wag muna natin isama 'yung mga regulation na ginagawa natin, 'di ba.
37
38 **DIR. CASELA:** Yes, sir, pero kung sa NTA 'yung documentation, magbabayad sila ng
39 R&R, which is 60 centavos per kilo kaya.
40
41 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Saan napupunta 'yung 60 cents?
42
43 **DIR. CASELA:** Sa NTA revenue.
44
45 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Research and Regulation fee 'yun sir.
46
47 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Ah' okay. Okay.
48
49 **DIR. CASELA:** Apat lang 'yung empleyado natin covering the area, dalawang regular.
50 They were able to collect revenue of this R&R of 2.6 billion, which is
51 adequate to finance the administrative operations of NTA as compared
52 to the branch offices.
53
54 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay, maganda 'yung napuntahan ninyo. Make the whole report.
55

1 **DIR. CASELA:** Pero sir, ganito ang iniisip ko dito sa conduct ng Tobacco Summit. Well,
2 it is good to them planting tobacco to know that they will receive some
3 from RA8240, and that's the main factor why they are so motivated to
4 plant tobacco. But, at this point in time, walang established market 'dun
5 sir, walang trader, walang wholesale tobacco trader. Ang apprehension
6 ko dito, tama 'yun kasi ang mahal eh' pero tinanong ko kung sino
7 gumagamit 'yung mga nabibiling tabako, good for chewing and 'yung
8 "dubla-dubla", majority mga elders. Iniisip ko, in the future, they might
9 be a potential problem to the market later on because with the
10 propaganda on anti-smoking, walang younger generation na gagamit
11 noon eh.
12

13 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Okay, very good, encouraging. Let's do it.
14

15 **DIR. PADAYAO:** 'Yung Palawan and Bohol.
16

17 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** Hindi, i-ano natin sa mga stakeholders or big companies kung ano
18 makikita rin nila dito 'di ba 'yung rule, we have the regulation. Baka
19 papasok sila na iba 'yung gagawin.
20

21 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, next item. With the Report, congratulations. We go to the next one.
22
23

24 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, Mr. Chair.
25

26 So, our next agenda, on Other Matters, we have here the proposed
27 schedule for the **123rd Special Meeting** of the NTA Governing Board
28 will be on **29 November 2023, Wednesday, at 9:00 AM** (tentative) to
29 be held at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon
30 Ave., Quezon City.
31

32 The **Committee Meeting** will be on **28 November 2023, Tuesday, at**
33 **9:00 AM.**
34

35 Before we adjourn the meeting, may we request our Acting Chairman-
36 Designate and NTA Oversight Official, USEC. "DV" Savellano, for his final
37 instructions. Sir...
38

39 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** So, for the final instruction, I just would like to request that all
40 assignments we have to submit as soon as possible so we can talk with
41 the DBM and other stakeholders and 'yung mga iba pa natin sa
42 fisheries, 'yung tobacco dust natin, 'yung mga products natin, ASAP
43 'sana before the end of the year para matapos natin, para next year mas
44 maganda 'yung galaw natin. Thank you.
45

46 **ATTY. PARADO:** Next item is Adjournment, Mr. Chair.
47

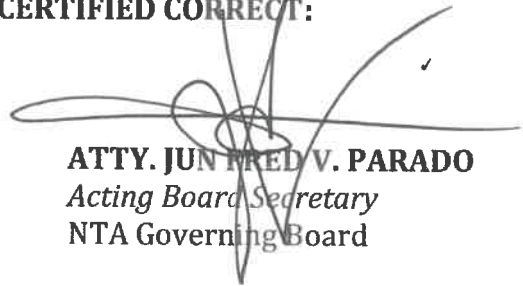
48 **DIR. CASELA:** I move for the adjournment (of the meeting).
49

50 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.
51

52 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** The Board Meeting is hereby **ADJOURNED.**
53
54 **SO, ORDERED.**
55
56 Thank you

Note: **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT EXACTLY 1:00 PM.**

PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:



ATTY. JUN FRED V. PARADO
Acting Board Secretary
NTA Governing Board

ATTESTED:

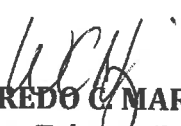
Hon. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO
Undersecretary, Department of Agriculture
Alternate Representative of the DA Senior Undersecretary
to the NTA Governing Board



Hon. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ, CPA
Administrator/CEO and Vice-Chairman,
NTA Governing Board



Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA
Appointive Director, Academic Community Sector




Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

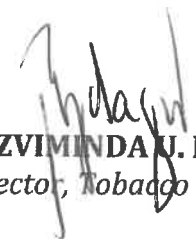


Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

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Hon. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA
Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector



Hon. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TOBACCO ADMINISTRATION



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OFFICE OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND (122ND) SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, HELD AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM,
11TH FLOOR, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
27 OCTOBER 2023 (9:00 AM)**

PRESENT:

Hon. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR B. SAVELLANO	-	Undersecretary/ Department of Agriculture & Alternate Chairman- Designate- Presiding Officer
Adm. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ	-	Vice-Chair of the Board and Administrator & CEO
Dir. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA	-	Member, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector
Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA	-	Member, Academic Community Sector
Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Dir. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. BENEDICTO M. SAVELLANO	-	Deputy Administrator for Support Services
Atty. JUN FRED V. PARADO	-	Attorney V, Office of the Administrator
Mr. LEXTER C. CABANTING	-	Acting Board Secretary V Administrative Assistant I (JO)

THRU VIRTUAL PLATFORM/ONLINE:

Dr. GIOVANNI B. PALABAY	-	OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations
Mrs. DINAH E. PICHAY	-	Manager, Internal Audit Department
Mrs. FORTUNA C. BENOSA	-	Manager, Corporate Planning Department
Atty. ROHBERT A. AMBROS	-	Manager, Regulation Department
Mrs. MYRNA O. LOZANO	-	Manager, Industrial Research Department
Mrs. ZENAIDA T. ARROJO	-	Manager, Administrative Department
Mr. REYNALDO R. AQUINO	-	OIC - Finance Department
Mrs. EVANGELINE C. CABIGAN	-	OIC - Farm Technology & Services Department
Department Managers / OICs	-	NTA Branch Offices

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable DA Undersecretary Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM, and thereafter delegated/ turned-over to Administrator and CEO Belinda S. Sanchez the authority to preside over the meeting due to poor and unstable connectivity.

1
2 **ATTY. PARADO:** Good afternoon to each and every one. We are about to start with our
3 122nd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board. We would like to
4 acknowledge the presence of our Undersecretary of the Department of
5 Agriculture, the honorable USEC. "DV" Savellano.

6
7 Sir, with your permission, we are ready.

8
9 **USEC. SAVELLANO:** I now call the meeting to order. May I request the Administrator to
10 please preside over the session, while I am looking for a good signal.

11
12 Thank you very much.

13
14 **ATTY. PARADO:** Okay. Thank you very much for your instruction, sir.

15
16 So, next agenda is for the determination of quorum. Madam Chair...

17
18 **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

19
20 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** May I now call on the Acting Board Secretary to determine the quorum.

21
22 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

23
24 So, for the 122nd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, we have
25 the honorable Deogracias Victor B. Savellano, DA Undersecretary and
26 NTA Oversight Official, presiding and joining us through the virtual
27 platform. We have here at the NTA Board Room the honorable Belinda
28 S. Sanchez, Administrator and CEO; Dir. Wilfredo C. Martinez,
29 representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector; and Dir. Luzviminda U.
30 Padayao, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector.

31
32 We likewise have the honorable Dir. Nestor C. Casela, representing the
33 Academic Community Sector, through the virtual platform; Dir. Danilo
34 C. Trongco, representing the Tobacco Farmers Sector; and Dir. Jessie
35 Pat M. Serna, representing the Tobacco Exporters/Traders Sector. Also,
36 we have the honorable Benjamin V. Sarmiento, our Executive Assistant
37 IV, and our OIC-Deputy Administrator for Operations, Dr. Giovanni B.
38 Palabay, through the virtual platform.

39
40 We are joined by our Deputy Administrator for Support Services, Mr.
41 Benedicto M. Savellano at the NTA Board Room. Also, we would like to
42 acknowledge the presence of our Department Managers, thru the
43 virtual platform: Mrs. Dinah E. Pichay; Atty. Rohbert A. Ambros; Mrs.
44 Fortuna C. Benosa; Mrs. Myrna O. Lozano; Mrs. Zenaida T. Arrojo; and
45 Mr. Reynaldo R. Aquino, from the Central Office. From the Branch
46 Offices, we have Mr. Roger T. Madriaga; Engr. Noralyn I. Idica; Mr.
47 Joefrey T. Bautista; Mr. Gilbert A. Taguiam; Mr. Adonis T. Lazo; Engr.
48 Randy I. Abella; Mr. Romeo Y. Paculdo; and Mrs. Evangelinge C. Cabigan.
49 Finally, we acknowledge our Resource Speakers.

50
51 As such, Madam Chair, we have a Quorum.

52
53 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Since there's a Quorum, may I call the Acting Board Secretary for the
54 reading of the agenda.

55
56 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

1
2 So, for our 122nd Special Meeting of the Board, we have the request for
3 the **“Approval of the Agenda of the 122nd Special Meeting of the**
4 **NTA Governing Board, held on 27 October 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the**
5 **NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave.,**
6 **Quezon City”**. Madam Chair...

7
8 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Can we have a motion?
9

10 **DIR. PADAYAO:** Good afternoon. I respectfully move for the approval of the “Agenda of
11 the 122nd Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 27
12 October 2023 at 9:00 AM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper
13 Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City”.

14
15 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** So, there’s a motion.
16

17 **DIR. MARTINEZ:** I second the motion.
18

19 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of today’s agenda having been duly seconded,
20 the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next agenda...
21

22 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 150, S. 2023**
23

24 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
25 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AGENDA OF THE***
26 ***122ND SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD,***
27 ***HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2023, AT 9:00 AM, AT THE NTA BOARD***
28 ***ROOM, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.***
29

30 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
31

32 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
33

34 For our next agenda, we have Agenda (A). This is the **“Request for**
35 **Approval of the Minutes of the 167th Regular Board Meeting of the**
36 **NTA Governing Board, held on 10 October 2023, at 1:30 PM, at the**
37 **NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave.,**
38 **Quezon City.”** Madam Chair...
39

40 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** As our practice, can anyone move for the wholesale approval of the
41 minutes of the previous meeting, subject to submission of amendments,
42 if any, within five (5) days from today.
43

44 **DIR. SERNA:** Madam Chair. I move for the approval of the “Minutes of the 167th
45 Regular Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, held on 10
46 October 2023, at 1:30 PM, at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper
47 Class Bldg., Quezon Ave., Quezon City”, with corrections and
48 amendments within five days from today.
49

50 **DIR. TRONGCO:** Respectfully seconded.
51

52 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for approval of agenda (a) on the minutes of the previous
53 meeting, having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**,
54 subject to submission of amendments, if any, within five (5) days from
55 today. Next item...
56

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 151, S. 2023

“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE 167th REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD, HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2023, AT 1:30 PM, AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM, UPPER CLASS BLDG., QUEZON AVE., QUEZON CITY.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you, madam Chair.

So, for our next agenda, we have agenda (B), which is the **“Request for the Ratification of the Memoranda of Agreement signed During the 2023 Tripartite Tobacco Consultative Conference held on 03 & 04 October 2023 for the New Tobacco Floor Prices of Virginia, Burley and Native Tobacco Types Effective for Trading Years 2024 and 2025”**, and for agenda (C), we have the **“Request for the Grant of Authority for the Vice-Chairman / Administrator & CEO to Issue Memorandum Circular No. 002, Series of 2023, Adopting the New Tobacco Floor Prices of Virginia, Burley and Native Tobacco Types Effective for Trading Years 2024 and 2025”**.

Madam Chair, may I have some manifestations. During the Joint Board Committee Meeting of the NTA Governing Board, there were motions for the deferment of these two (2) agenda, which were duly seconded. So, with the approved motions for deferment Madam Chair, it is to be understood that these subject matters of the agenda will be discussed during the next Joint Board Committee Meeting, and Board Meeting of the NTA Governing Board. As such, Madam Chair, and with the permission of the honorable Chairperson, we now proceed to the next agenda.

So, for our next agenda Madam Chair, we have agenda (D), the **“Request for the Approval of the Award of Contract for the Project, “Supply, Delivery, Installation, and Commissioning of One (1) Set of Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer at the NTA-IRD Batac City, Ilocos Norte”, (PB 2023-01), with an Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of PhP1,900,000.00”**.

To report the Summary of Discussions, may we call on the Chairman of the Committee on Audit and Finance, Dir. Nestor C. Casela. Please proceed sir.

DIR. CASELA: Madam Chair, on the situation that we had already an exhaustive discussion on the said agenda, I move for the approval of the **“Award of Contract for the Project, “Supply, Delivery, Installation, and Commissioning of One (1) Set of Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer at the NTA-IRD Batac City, Ilocos Norte”, (PB 2023-01), with an Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of PhP1,900,000.00”**.

DIR. SERNA: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of agenda (D) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item...

1
2 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 152, S. 2023**
3

4 *"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT*
5 *THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AWARD OF*
6 *CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, "SUPPLY, DELIVERY,*
7 *INSTALLATION, AND COMMISSIONING OF ONE (1) SET OF*
8 *ATOMIC ABSORTION SPECTROPHOTOMETER AT THE NTA-IRD,*
9 *BATAAC CITY, ILOCOS NORTE", (PB 2023-01), WITH AN*
10 *APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC) OF*
11 *PhP1,900,000.00.*

12
13 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
14

15 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you madam Chair.

16
17 For our next agenda, agenda (E), we have the "Request for the
18 Approval of the Award of Contract for the Project, "Civil Works and
19 Electrical Works for the Energization of the Quality Assurance and
20 Laboratory Building at the National Tobacco Administration
21 (NTA) Central Office", (PB 2023-03), with an Approved Budget for
22 the Contract (ABC) of PhP1,005,979.98".
23

24 Again, to report the Summary of Discussions, may we call the Chairman
25 of the Committee on Finance and Audit, Dir. Nestor C. Casela, for his
26 Summary Report. Please proceed sir.
27

28 **DIR. CASELA:** Madam Chair, I move for the approval of the "Award of Contract for the
29 Project, "Civil Works and Electrical Works for the Energization of the
30 Quality Assurance and Laboratory Building at the National Tobacco
31 Administration (NTA) Central Office", (PB 2023-03), with an Approved
32 Budget for the Contract (ABC) of PhP1,005,979.98".
33

34 **DIR. PADAYAO:** I second the motion.

35
36 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (E) having been duly seconded,
37 the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next agenda...
38

39 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 153, S. 2023**
40

41 *"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT*
42 *THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AWARD OF*
43 *CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, "CIVIL WORKS AND ELECTRICAL*
44 *WORKS FOR THE ENERGIZATION OF THE QUALITY ASSURANCE*
45 *AND LABORATORY BUILDING AT THE NATIONAL TOBACCO*
46 *ADMINISTRATION (NTA) CENTRAL OFFICE", (PB 2023-03),*
47 *WITH AN APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC) OF*
48 *PhP1,005,979.98.*

49
50 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
51

52 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

53
54 For our next agenda, we have, agenda (F) the "Request for the
55 Approval of the Award Contract for the Project, "Supply and

1 **Delivery of Eight (8) Drones for Mapping and Surveying for the**
2 **Documentation of Tobacco Growing Areas for the NTA Branch**
3 **Offices”, (PB 2023-04), with an Approved Budget for the Contract**
4 **(ABC) of PhP2,480,000.00”.**

5
6 Once again, to report the Summary of Discussions, may we call on the
7 Chairman of the Committee on Audit and Finance, Dir. Nestor C. Casela.
8 Sir, please proceed.
9

10 **DIR. CASELA:** Madam Chair, as comprehensively discussed yesterday on the agenda, I
11 move for the approval of the “Award of Contract for the Project, “Supply
12 and Delivery of Eight (8) Drones for Mapping and Surveying for the
13 Documentation of Tobacco Growing Areas for the NTA Branch Offices”,
14 (PB 2023-04), with an Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of
15 PhP2,480,000.00”.

16
17 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.

18
19 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (F) having been duly seconded,
20 the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item...
21

22 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 154, S. 2023**

23
24 ***“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
25 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE AWARD OF***
26 ***CONTRACT FOR THE PROJECT, “SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF***
27 ***EIGHT (8) DRONES FOR MAPPING AND SURVEYING FOR THE***
28 ***DOCUMENTATION OF TOBACCO GROWING AREAS FOR THE NTA***
29 ***BRANCH OFFICES”, (PB 2023-04), WITH AN APPROVED BUDGET***
30 ***FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC) OF PhP2,480,000.00.***
31

32 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....”***
33

34 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

35
36 So, for our next Agenda, we have agenda (G), the “**Request for the**
37 **Approval of the Creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) to**
38 **Review the Selection and Hiring of Job Orders (JOs), Preparation of**
39 **the Agency’s Succession Plan, and Other Related Personnel Issues**
40 **and Concerns”.**

41
42 Again, to report the Summary of the Discussion, may we call on the
43 Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Nomination, Remuneration and
44 Personnel Administration, Dir. Nestor C. Casela. You may proceed sir.
45

46 **DIR. CASELA:** I respectfully move for the approval of the “Request for the Creation of
47 a Technical Working Group (TWG) to Review the Selection and Hiring
48 of Job Orders (JOs), Preparation of the Agency’s Succession Plan, and
49 Other Related Personnel Issues and Concerns”. Thank you, madam
50 Chair.
51

52 **DIR. SERNA:** I second the motion.

53
54 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (G) having been duly seconded,
55 the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item...
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BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 155, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) TO REVIEW THE SELECTION AND HIRING OF JOB ORDERS (JOs), PREPARATION OF THE AGENCY'S SUCCESSION PLAN, AND OTHER RELATED PERSONNEL ISSUES AND CONCERNS.

10 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.

11
12 For our next agenda, agenda (H), we have the "Request for the
13 Approval of the One-Time Grant of Rice Assistance to All NTA
14 Employees and Workers for Fiscal Year 2022, in Pursuance of
15 Administrative Order No. 02, dated December 16, 2022".

16
17 To report on the Summary of Discussions, again, we have Dir. Nestor C.
18 Casela, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Nomination,
19 Remuneration and Personnel Administration. Sir...

20
21 **DIR. CASELA:** Madam Chair, in consideration of the suggestions and
22 recommendations made during the presentation of this agenda, I move
23 for the approval of the "One-Time Grant of Rice Assistance to All NTA
24 Employees and Workers for Fiscal Year 2022, in Pursuance of
25 Administrative Order No. 02, dated December 16, 2022."

26
27 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of agenda (H) having been duly seconded,
28 the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next agenda...

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BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 156, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE ONE-TIME GRANT OF RICE ASSISTANCE TO ALL NTA EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022, IN PURSUANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 02, DTD. DECEMBER 16, 2022.

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43

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

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ATTY. PARADO: Thank you, madam Chair.

So, for our next agenda, we have agenda (I), which is the "Request for the Approval of the Amendment to the Php150-Million Approved Budget for the Integrated Farming and Other Income Generating Activities-Tobacco Contract Growing System (IFOIGAP-TCGS), Calendar Year (CY) 2023-2024, for the Material and Cash Inputs Components, as follows: Php68,561,020.00 (Material Input) and Php76,917,892.50 (Cash Input), for a Total of Php145,478,892.50, with the Remaining Amount of Php4,521,107.50 Earmarked for Mindanao Development Projects.

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To report on the Summary of Discussions, may we call on the Chairman of the Committee on Trading Operations and Regulation, Dir. Jessie Pat M. Serna. Please proceed sir.

DIR. SERNA: Madam Chair, for the information of everybody, we already approved the material inputs in the amount of Php68,561,020.00, but there's a motion to defer the cash inputs. But this is already approved, madam Chair. I, therefore, move for the approval of the agenda.

DIR. TRONGCO: I second the motion.

ADMIN. SANCHEZ: The motion for the approval of agenda (I) having been duly seconded, the same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item...

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 157, S. 2023

"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE REQUEST FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE Php150-MILLION APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE INTEGRATED FARMING AND OTHER INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES-TOBACCO CONTRACT GROWING SYSTEM (IFOIGAP-TCGS), CALENDAR YEAR (CY) 2023-2024, FOR THE MATERIAL AND CASH INPUTS COMPONENTS, AS FOLLOWS: Php68,561,020.00 (MATERIAL INPUT) AND Php76,917,872.50 (CASH INPUT), FOR A TOTAL OF Php145,478,892.50, WITH THE REMAINING AMOUNT OF Php4,521,107.50 EARMARKED FOR MINDANAO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."

ATTY. PARADO: Thank you, madam Chair.

For our next agenda, we have the **"Request for the Approval of the Establishment of a Demonstration Farm for Burley Tobacco Production in the Province of Tarlac, with a Proposed Budget of Php682, 104.00 as NTA Counterpart"**.

To report on the Summary of Discussions, may we call on the Chairperson of the Committee on Research and Extension, Dir. Luzviminda U. Padayao. Go ahead ma'am.

DIR. PADAYAO: Thank you sir.

To the honorable Chair, madam Sanchez, I would like to give a summary on the conduct of implementation of Techno Demo Farm in Tarlac. This will be implemented in four (4) towns of Tarlac, namely: the municipalities of San Clemente, Ramos, Anao, and Mayantoc, with two (2) hectares each town and the total amount involved is Php2,284,668.00.

However, the material inputs amounting to Php920,160.00 will be shouldered as grant by the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Tarlac. On the other hand, the amount of Php1,364,208.00 will be shared by NTA and Trans Manila, Inc., in the total amount of Php682,104.00 each.

1 I, therefore, respectfully move for the approval of the establishment of
2 a demonstration farm for Burley Tobacco Production in the Province of
3 Tarlac.
4
5 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.
6
7 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** The motion for the approval of the agenda on the establishment of a
8 tobacco techno demo farm in Tarlac having been duly seconded, the
9 same is hereby **APPROVED**. Next item...
10

11 **BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 158, S. 2023**

12
13 ***"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT***
14 ***THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD APPROVES THE ESTABLISHMENT***
15 ***OF A DEMONSTRATION FARM FOR BURLEY TOBACCO***
16 ***PRODUCTION IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC, WITH A***
17 ***PROPOSED BUDGET OF Php682,104.00 AS NTA COUNTERPART.***
18

19 ***UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED...."***
20

21 **ATTY. PARADO:** Thank you, madam Chair.
22
23 For our next agenda, on Other Matters, we have the proposed Schedule
24 for the **168th Regular Meeting** of the NTA Governing Board, which will
25 be on **15 November 2023, Wednesday, at 9:00 AM** (tentative) to be
26 held at the NTA Board Room, 11th Floor, Upper Class Bldg., Quezon Ave.,
27 Quezon City.
28

29 The **Committee Meeting** will be on **14 November 2023, Tuesday, at**
30 **9:00 AM**.
31

32 Before we go to the next agenda, and that is Adjournment madam
33 Chair, may we request our Acting Chairman-designate and NTA
34 Oversight Official, USEC. "DV" Savellano, for his Final Instructions. Sir...
35

36 (pause)
37

38 Madam Chair, since we cannot contact our honorable USEC., we are
39 now ready for the Final Agenda, which is Adjournment...
40

41 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** There being no other matters to tackle/discuss, we are now ready to
42 adjourn. Can we have a motion?
43

44 **DIR. SERNA:** Madam Chair, I move for the adjournment of this 122nd Special Meeting
45 of the Board.
46

47 **DIR. CASELA:** I second the motion.
48

49 **ADMIN. SANCHEZ:** Acting upon the motion for adjournment, today's meeting is hereby
50 **ADJOURNED**.
51

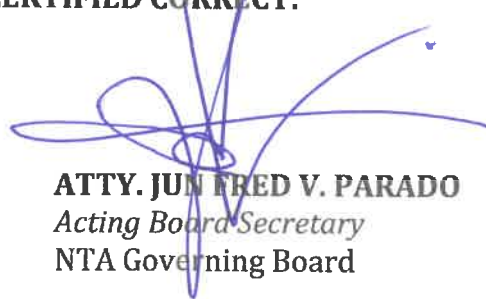
52 **SO, ORDERED.**
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54 Thank you.
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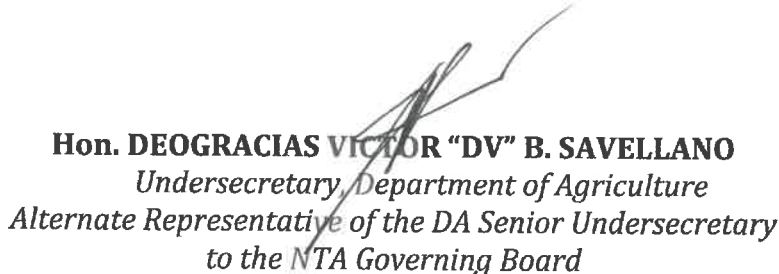
Note: **THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT EXACTLY 10:15 AM.**

PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:



ATTY. JUN FRED V. PARADO
Acting Board Secretary
NTA Governing Board

ATTESTED:



Hon. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO
Undersecretary, Department of Agriculture
Alternate Representative of the DA Senior Undersecretary
to the NTA Governing Board



Hon. BELINDA S. SANCHEZ, CPA
Administrator/CEO and Vice-Chairman,
NTA Governing Board



Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA
Appointive Director, Academic Community Sector



Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector

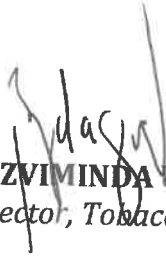
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Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector



Hon. JESSIE PAT M. SERNA
Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector



Hon. LUZVIMINDA U. PADAYAO
Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector