



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STANDARDS**  
Diliman, Quezon City

*“...ensure consumer safety and promote global competitiveness  
of Philippine agriculture and fishery products”*

# Philippine Regulation on Organic Input – *OBCA*

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During the **Stakeholders Forum on Pesticides and its Contribution to Food Security and Safety**  
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# Presentation Outline

1. Organic Agriculture in the Philippines
2. Regulation on Organic Bio-control Agents (OBCA)
3. Way Forward



# Organic Agriculture in the Philippines

- traces its roots in the early years of non-government organizations' advocacy for sustainable agriculture
- Philippine Government has enacted into law, Republic Act 10068 known as Organic Agriculture Act of 2010
- The signing of RA 10068 then gave birth to the **National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP)** of the Philippine's Department of Agriculture (DA)



# The Organic Agriculture Act of 2010

- This milestone legislation has been considered to be one of the priority programs of the government as a major strategy for addressing rural poverty through low-input sustainable agricultural techniques that improve land productivity and, at the same time, protect the environment
- Strengthened and empowered the **Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS)**; now the standard-setting and **regulatory agency** on organic agriculture

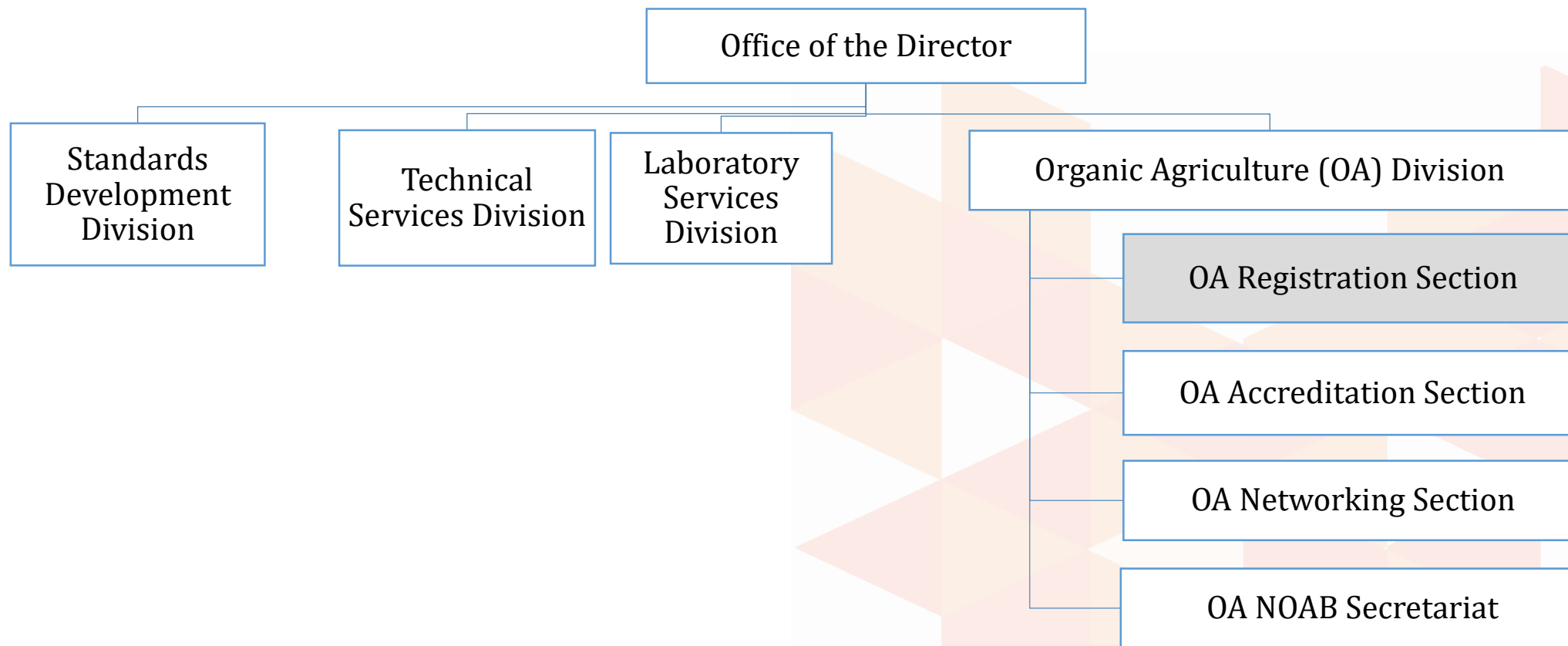


# The OA Act of 2010...

- National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB)
- Official Accreditation of Organic Certifying Bodies (OCB)
- **Registration of Organic Food & Organic Input Producers**
- Labeling of Organic Produce
- Retailing of Organic Produce



# BAFS Structure





# Regulation on OBCA – *Registration*

- Section 16 of OA Act 2010: *“All organic food and **input establishments** must register with the director, BAFPS.”*
- Rule 16.3 of the IRR of OA Act 2010: *“The registration of **organic products and inputs** which are currently with the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) shall continue to be valid until the expiration of said license. Thereafter, registration of such products shall be done by BAFS.”*



# Registration of Organic Input Producers

- Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 2011 (*Guidelines on the Registration of Organic Food and Organic Input Producers*)
- Memorandum Order No. 35, Series of 2012 (*Transitory Registration Procedure for Organic Inputs and Input Establishments*) – joint registration between FPA and BAFS





# Registration...

- Discontinuance of the Processing of Registration and License for Organic-Based Inputs by FPA (FPA Letter dated July 1, 2014)

*“Pursuant to Executive Order No. 165, which placed FPA under the Office of the President and due to limited manpower, FPA expressed that they cannot continue the processing of organic based inputs for registration and the issuance of corresponding licenses.”*



# Registration...

BAFS follows the **general procedure** (and requirements) of FPA except for the following:

- a. Accepts application ***only when there is an organic claim as indicated in the label***
- b. Conducts a ***validation process*** to ensure compliance to the Philippine National Standards (PNS)
- c. Requires ***organic certification*** from the officially accredited 3<sup>rd</sup> party organic certifying bodies



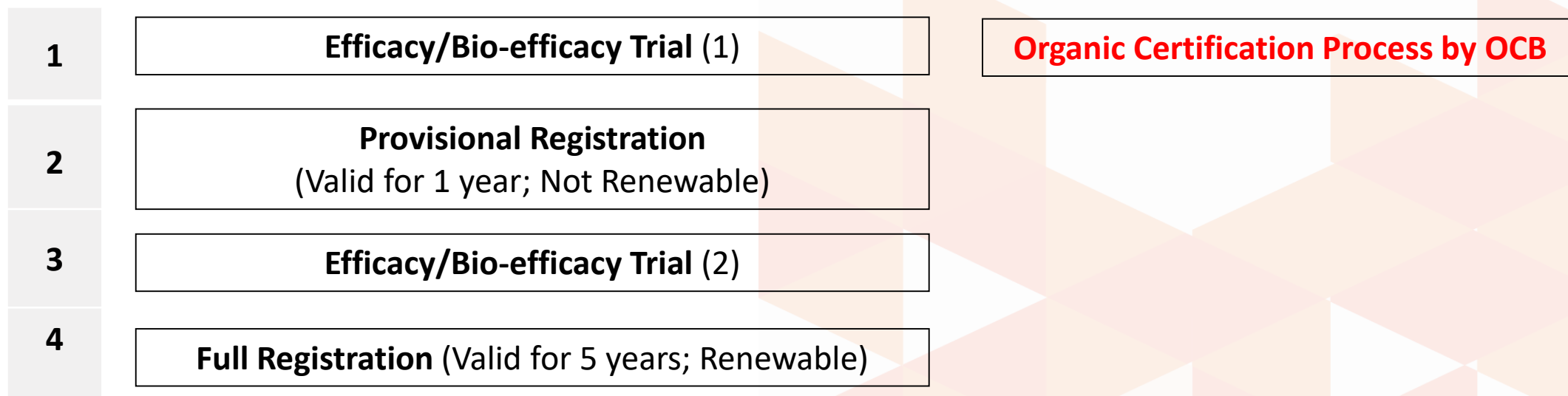
# Registration...

BAFS has sought the following **experts** to provide scientific advice in the registration process

- ***Technical Working Group*** – for standards/PNS
- ***Pool of Evaluators*** – for the evaluation of efficacy test protocols & terminal reports
- ***Pool of Researchers*** (certified by BAFS but paid by the applicant)  
– for the conduct of efficacy tests/trials



# Registration Process Overview





# Registration Process Overview

1

**Efficacy/Bio-efficacy Trial (1 and 2)/ 2 sites**

**Organic Certification Process by OCB**

2

**Full Registration (Valid for 5 years; Renewable)**



# Requirements for Efficacy Trials

- BAFS approved Experimental Use Permit (EUP)

## For Annual Crops:

- As Insecticide/Fungicide/Rodenticide: 2 Locations; 1 cropping Season; and conducted in season of prevalence
- As Herbicide: 2 cropping seasons; 2 locations; and acceptance criteria: level of control based on recommended dose

## For Perennial Crops/Plantation Crops:

- As Insecticide/Fungicide/Rodenticide: 1 Location; 1 crop cycle (protocol-based); and conducted in cropping season of prevalence/ incidence



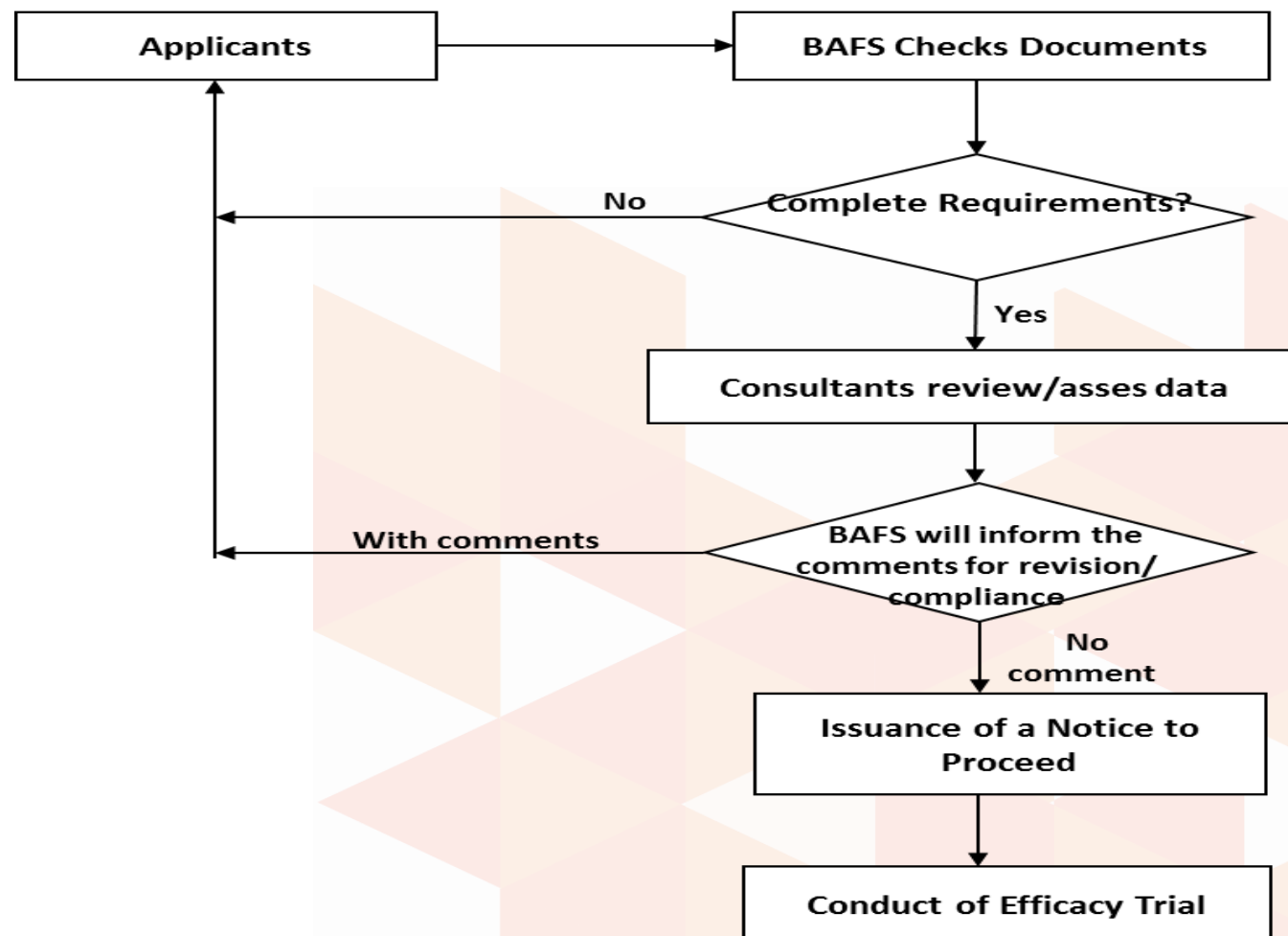
# EUP Requirements

- Letter of Intent addressed to BAFS Director;
- Duly accomplished and notarized application form, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Bio-efficacy trial protocol prepared and signed by a BAFS certified researcher for OBCA, original copy and electronic (PDF format) copy;
- Product profile, including the list of raw materials used and the production process, certified true copy with authorized name and signature; and
- Material and Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), certified true copy with authorized name and signature.



## Process Flow For Experimental Use Permit (EUP)

20 working days (WD)  
*(15 WD for evaluation)*







# Certificate of Registration (COR) Requirements

- Letter of Intent addressed to BAFS Director;
- Duly accomplished and notarized application form, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Business Name Registration Certificate (certified true copy);
- Business/Mayor’s Permit (certified true copy);
- Organic Certificate issued by BAFS Officially Accredited OCB (certified true copy);
- Data requirements for safety assessment as specified in *PNS/BAFS 182*, certified true copy with authorized name and signature;



# COR Requirements...

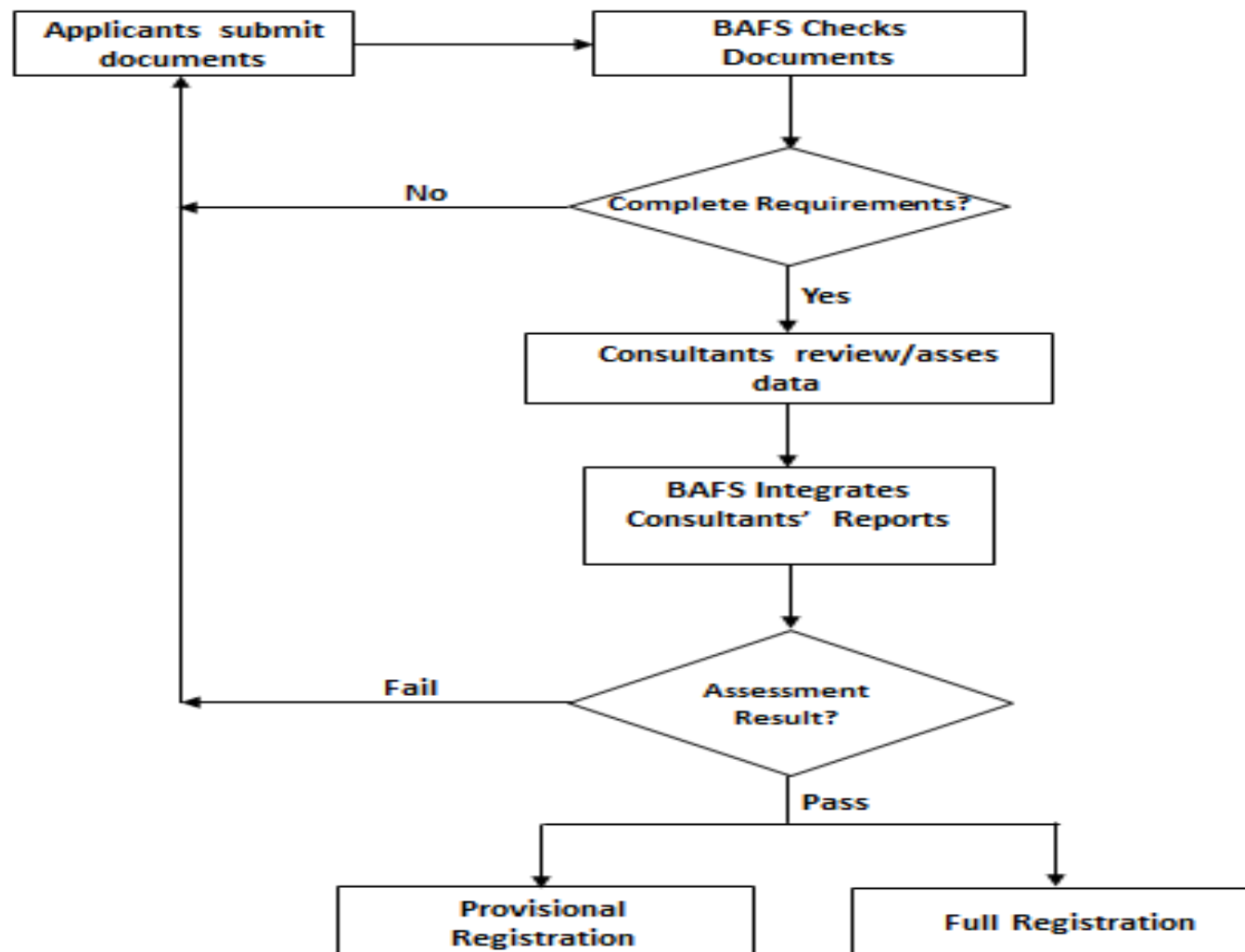
- Bio-efficacy data prepared and signed by a BAFS certified researcher for OBCA, original copy and electronic (PDF format) copy;
- Product brochure/pamphlet, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Proposed packaging and labeling, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Company Profile, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Distributorship Agreement/Third Party Authorization, original copy (*when applicable*); and
- Mining Permit/Environmental Compliance Certificate from DENR, certified true copy (*when applicable*)



## Process Flow for the Application of Certificate of Registration (COR)

Provisional: 23 WD  
*(20 WD for evaluation and  
pre-reg validation)*

Full: 18 WD  
*(15 WD for evaluation)*





# Decision-making & Granting of COR

- Absence of a deviance or misrepresentation of material facts on the part of producer/operator vis-à-vis the requirements submitted;
- Compliance with the recent version of applicable Philippine National Standards (PNS) relevant to organic agriculture; and
- Proven effectiveness of the product.



# Third Party Authorization (TPA)

The BAFS shall recognize the existence of a TPA and its terms and conditions between the registered producer/operator and party recipient of the TPA, subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations. The minimum terms and conditions in the execution of a TPA are as follows:

- Specific period of validity;
- In case of rebranding, the party recipient of the TPA must secure an organic certificate for the new brand;
- Automatic forfeiture/cancellation/termination in case of non-adherence to existing rules and regulations on registration;
- Non-disclosure clause;
- Non-transferability clause of TPA to another party; and
- Limitation of transfer up to three (3) parties only.



# Transfer of Registration

- The registered producer/operator may transfer the registration to a third party, subject to the applicable requirements and procedure
- Applicants with product registration with the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) may transfer their registration with BAFS. In addition to FPA issued Certificate of Product Registration (certified true copy) and FPA approved efficacy data for the product, the applicable requirements shall be submitted to BAFS



# Importation/Exportation Requirements

- Only registered producers/operators can import or export OBCA products and importation/exportation permit shall be applied with BAFS.
- For bio-efficacy trial purposes, only those applicants with approved Experimental Use Permit (EUP) can import. The volume of product to be imported for use in bio-efficacy trial shall be computed based on the approved bio-efficacy trial protocol with contingency allowance of 100 % of the volume of product actually needed



# Importation/Exportation Requirements...

- Letter of Intent addressed to BAFS Director;
- Duly accomplished application form, original copy with authorized name and signature;
- Bill of Lading, certified true copy with authorized name and signature;
- Invoice, certified true copy with authorized name and signature;
- Packing List, certified true copy with authorized name and signature;
- Certificate of Origin, certified true copy with authorized name and signature; and
- Quarantine Certificate from the country of origin, certified true copy with authorized name and signature.





# Labeling of Registered OBCA Products

- in addition to the labeling requirements of the recent version of applicable PNS relevant to organic agriculture, the following information shall appear on the label of registered OBCA products:
  - Name, logo or seal of the officially accredited organic certifying body (OCB);
  - OCB’s accreditation number given by BAFS;
  - “Organic” mark provided by the officially accredited OCB; and
  - Registration number and validity period provided by BAFS.

## Use of ‘ORGANIC’ Mark



## Official “Organic” Mark

Issued by BAFS to OCB.

Issued by OCB to certified operators.

Should always accompany the logo of the OCB together with its Official Accreditation Number.

May appear only on the:

- Organic Certificate Issuances
- Packaging and Labeling of Certified Organic Products
- Certified Product Documentation (*e.g. Technical Specifications & Catalogues pages*)



# Way Forward

- Streamlining of requirements and procedures
- Electronic EUP application and processing
- Electronic COR application and processing
- Electronic Permit importation/exportation application and processing (through TradeNet.gov.ph)



**Thank you for  
listening!**

Department of Agriculture

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