

Republic of the Philippines Department of Agriculture Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICE-MIMAROPA Le Grace Building, Brgy. Guinobatan, Calapan City

Oriental Mindoro 5200 Telefax No.:(043) 288-0635

July 26, 2021

**Ms. ANGELIQUE M. SONGCO** Protected Area Superintendent Tubbataha Reefs National Park Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

Dear Ms. Songco:

Greetings!

We are pleased to inform you that the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) is intensifying its effort in the management and conservation of the country's fishery resources, with the end view of sustaining food fish sufficiency.

In relation to this, the BFAR MIMAROPA, as the lead region of the Fisheries Management Area (FMA) 5, is organizing its Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) as per FAO 263 series of 2019, "Establishment of Fisheries Management Areas for the Conservation and Management of Fisheries in the Philippines Waters", which will be tasked to provide scientific advice to the Management Board of the FMA, including vetting the preliminary Reference Points recommended by the NFRDI/NSAP Teams and the corresponding Harvest Control Rules and Measures for key species in the FMA. To carry out this initiative, a wider participation and representation of the concerned parties are necessary in order to craft responsive, viable and appropriate policies and management options, hence the SAG will be composed of scientists/researchers/technical representatives from the academe, local government unit, commercial fishing sector, municipal fishing sector, aquaculture sector, other government agencies and the non-government organizations.

It is in this premise that we are soliciting for your institution's participation. We humbly request for a permanent representative of your institution for the consistency in the sequence of information and interpretations in all SAG activities.

For queries or additional information please coordinate to Ms. Myrna B. Candelario, BFAR MIMAROPA NSAP Project Leader at Telefax No. (048) 433-0852/ Cellphone Nos. 0917-1035-871/0918-9387-989 or Email at nsapmimaropa@gmail.com.

Your utmost support is requested as we join hands in pursuing this noble undertaking of ensuring fisheries sufficiency in the country. Thank you very much and more power.

Very truly yours,

EL SALILIG, MF Reg l Director/ FMA 5- Chairperson

Masaganang ANI Mataas na KITA

with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk

A food-secure Philippines