

**[ MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 38, August 13, 2019 ]**

**REACTIVATING AND RECONSTITUTING THE EL NINO TASK FORCE CREATED PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 16 (S. 2001), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order (EO) No. 16 created a Presidential Task Force to enhance agency coordination in the formulation and implementation of measures that will mitigate the effects of the El Niño and La Niña phenomena;

**WHEREAS**, EO No. 16 also ordered the formulation and regular monitoring of the implementation of a Comprehensive Disaster Preparedness and Rehabilitation Plan for the El Niño phenomenon to help the public cope therewith and minimize its disastrous effects;

**WHEREAS**, the El Niño Task Force reconvened in 2015, and crafted the Roadmap for Addressing the Impacts of El Niño (RAIN) to mitigate the effects of the El Niño phenomenon on four areas: (a) food security; (b) energy security; (c) health, and (d) safety;

**WHEREAS**, recent monitoring and analyses of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) — Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) indicate that the warm sea surface temperature which started in November of last year in the Central and Eastern Equatorial Pacific has fully developed into the El Niño phenomenon;

**WHEREAS**, current climate models of the DOST-PAGASA suggest that there is a seventy-five per cent (75%) probability that the El Niño phenomenon will persist from June until August 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the recurrence of the El Niño phenomenon calls for the implementation of both short and long-term solutions to ensure food, water and energy security, safeguard livelihoods, and improve the country's disaster and climate resilience;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the following are hereby ordered:

**Section 1. Reactivation and Reconstitution of the El Niño Task Force.** The Presidential Task Force (Task Force) to mitigate the effects of the El Niño phenomenon created pursuant to EO No. 16 is hereby reactivated and its membership reconstituted as follows:

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| <b>Over-all</b> | Director-General and Socioeconomic Planning            |
| <b>Head :</b>   | Secretary, National Economic and Development Authority |
| <b>Head for</b> | Secretary, Department of Agriculture                   |
| <b>Food</b>     |  |