



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STANDARDS**  
"...ensuring consumer safety and promoting global competitiveness  
of Philippine agriculture and fishery products..."

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January 17, 2018

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**SUBJECT: EXPIRATION OF OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION OF NEGROS ISLAND CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC. (NICERT) AND ORGANIC CERTIFICATION CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC. (OCCP)**

The official accreditation of the Negros Island Certification Services, Inc. (NICERT) and the Organic Certification Center of the Philippines, Inc. (OCCP) has expired last 31 December 2017. Thereafter, all rights and privileges given to them as officially accredited organic certifying bodies are withdrawn. Moreover, they are no longer allowed to use and disseminate the official organic mark, and any certification issuances released starting January 01, 2018 will be deemed as non-accredited certification. Use of the term 'organic' or its equivalent term shall not be allowed to be used for non-accredited certified products for domestic sale and consumption.

As to date, the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), as the competent authority over organic certifying bodies, has not received any application for official accreditation from the aforementioned certifying bodies.

  
**VIVENCIO R. MAMARIL, PhD**  
Director IV

