



15 February 2021

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FOR : **WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D**  
Secretary

FROM : **OFFICE OF THE OIC - DIRECTOR**

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD (PNS) FOR CACAO MASS (PHILIPPINE TABLEA)**

This has reference to the revision of the PNS Cacao mass (*Philippine Tablea*). A copy of the final draft PNS is herewith attached, for your perusal.

At the request of the Cebu Cacao Industry Development Council, the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) initially reviewed the PNS for Philippine Tablea (PNS/BAFPS 111:2012) in 2020 to assess the relevance of the standard in the light of the existing regulatory and market requirements. A Technical Working Group (TWG), created through Special Order No. 442, series of 2020 (Creation of TWGs for the Development of PNS for Agriculture and Fishery Products, Machinery and Equipment), and Special Order No. 81, series of 2021 (Creation of TWGs for the Development of PNS for Agriculture and Fishery Products, Machinery and Equipment), composed of members from the public and private sectors, further reviewed and subsequently revised the standard. The revised draft standard provides the specifications of cacao mass (*Philippine Tablea*) intended for direct human consumption or as an ingredient in the manufacture of chocolate and other chocolate related products. The said standard was reviewed through a series of meetings and presented to a series of stakeholders consultations conducted via online platform.

As a concluding step for the revision of the PNS Cacao mass (*Philippine Tablea*), we are submitting the revised final draft standard for your approval and subsequent endorsement to the Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) for appropriate numbering and inclusion in the PNS repository.

For your approval and signature, Sir.

**MYER G. MULA, Ph.D**

**APPROVED/DISAPPROVED:**

**WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D**  
Secretary

