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0020-LTR-180-674	
0AD20-LTR-AS-31	
Reference Numbers	

22 December 2020

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE OF  
NEGROS ISLAND CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC. (NICERT)**

In line with the results of the surveillance audit of the BAFS to Negros Island Certification Services, Inc. (NICERT) last 9, 11, and 14 December 2020, NICERT has failed to fulfill the requirements for continued compliance to official accreditation.

The National Committee for Official Accreditation of Organic Certifying Bodies (NCOA-OCB), through its Resolution No. 03, Series of 2020, resolved to suspend NICERT for all its scopes for up to 6 months, subject to the implementation of the following actions:

1. Close all 2019 and 2020 assessment findings;
2. Resolve all complaints towards NICERT; and
3. Demonstrate effective implementation of NICERT's quality manual and standard operating procedures (will be verified through follow-up office and witness audits);

The suspension shall be effective starting **22 December 2020**. During the suspension period, NICERT **can**:

1. Extend certification validity of the existing clients with valid certification due to COVID-19 pandemic; and
2. Process applications received prior to the effectivity of the suspension, however, the issuance of certification decision is also suspended until the lifting of such suspension, except those that are subject of received complaints prior to the effectivity of the suspension.

On the other hand, while suspended, NICERT **cannot** provide the following services:

1. Accept and process new applications for certification for all approved scopes; and
2. Process applications for renewal of certification for all approved scopes.

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The Bureau shall regularly monitor the compliance and implementation of action plan of NICERT. Failure to undertake the prescribed actions and appropriate corrective actions within the suspension period shall result in the revocation of the official accreditation of NICERT.

  
**MYER G. MULA, Ph.D.**  
OIC-Director  
**RVC**  
1/24/2022

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