



FPA NOW READY to analyze pesticides

by the FPA Board on June 30, 2015 had signified the official operationalization of the PASL.

"For the initial operation of PASL, LSD will now accept and analyse pesticide samples containing the following active ingredients (AI): butachlor, chlorothalonil, chlorpyrifos, cypermethrin, deltamethrin, imidacloprid and propanil," said Mr. Angelo Bugarin, Chemist IV of the LSD.

Nonetheless, clients can submit other pesticide AIs for method validation of new pesticide products.

Two methods – gas chromatography (GC) and high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) – will be performed in the PASL to analyse pesticides. The GC method, which costs PhP 3,360.00, will be utilized to analyse and validate butachlor, chlorothalonil, cypermethrin and propanil. Meanwhile, the HPLC method,

which costs PhP 3,130.00, will be utilized for chlorpyrifos, cypermethrin, deltamethrin and imidacloprid.

"Under normal operating conditions, laboratory test report can be released within seventeen (17) working days from the date when LSD receives the sample," said Mr. Bugarin.

The target consumers of the PASL, which is equipped with two gas chromatographs and two high performance liquid chromatographs, are handlers of pesticide products including marketers, researchers and farmers. As a result of limited manpower, the PASL is projected to lodge for analysis four AIs using HPLC method and eight AIs using GC method per week.

"Filipino farmers will be confident that the f/p products they are using have been validated by the FPA which assures that the products met the technical standards set by the government."

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THE Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) is now ready to accept and analyze pesticide samples due to the recent establishment and operationalization of the Pesticide Analytical Services Laboratory (PASL) Section of the FPA-Laboratory Services Division (LSD).

The approval and signing of the Board Resolution No. 6 "Approving the Proposed Implementing Guidelines on the Conduct of Various Physico-Chemical Analyses in the Pesticide Analytical Laboratory Services Section of the Laboratory Services Division"



The FPA Board convenes to discuss the operationalization of the PASL.

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[Also] stakeholders can enjoy the benefit of quality service with the availability of state-of-the-art laboratory equipment. In addition, ease of transaction and faster endorsement of pesticide sample for laboratory analysis is possible since the FPA-Pesticide Regulations Division (PRD) can directly forward the sample to LSD in the same day when the client submitted the sample [for product registration]," said Mr. Bugarin as he explained the benefits of the new PASL to its consumers.

Since March 2011, the Fertilizer Analytical Services Laboratory (FASL) Section has been accepting and analysing fertilizer macronutrients (e.g., Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Sulfur, etc.), micronutrients (e.g., Copper, Manganese, Iron, Zinc, Boron, etc.) and plant growth regulators (e.g., gibberellic acid, naphthalene acetic acid, indolebutyric acid, etc.).

A new schedule of laboratory fees and charges for additional services in the PASL and FASL will soon be released as a result of the approval of the Board Resolution No. 8 "Approving the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges for Additional Laboratory Services" last August 28, 2015.

"The new services include physico-chemical tests on various pesticide products (i.e., flash point, melting point/boiling point, bulk density and dithiocarbamate analysis) and microbial analysis for E. coli and Total Coliform," elucidated Mr. Bugarin. #
(With reports from Angelo Bugarin)



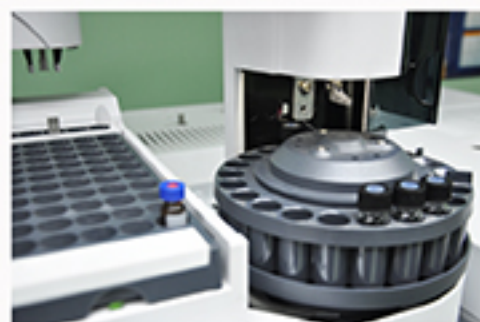
The PASL houses state-of-the-art laboratory equipment for efficient tests and analyses.



Angelo Bugarin
Chemist IV
FPA-LSD



Stakeholders can enjoy the benefit of quality service with the availability of state-of-the-art laboratory equipment



DOST celebrates 2015 NSTW; ONELAB PROJECT MOU SIGNED

NSTW 2015



MIND-blowing exhibits. Innovative technology displays. Interactive forums and activities. These and more are what the 2015 National Science and Technology Week (NSTW) was all about.

To showcase top-notch innovation technologies of the science and technology (S&T) sectors aligned with the ASEAN Economic Integration, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) held its 2015 NSTW themed "Philippines: A Science Nation Innovating for Global Competitiveness" on July 24-28, 2015 at the SMX Convention Center, Pasay City.

Spearheaded by the DOST-Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI), the week-long event highlighted the eight (8) S&T Based Outcomes geared towards further national development and global competitive gain. These include (1) agriculture, (2) enterprise development,

(3) industry competitiveness, (4) IT-business process management (IT-BPM), (5) e-Government, (6) quality healthcare, (7) education, and (8) disaster preparedness.

The grand exhibition, which was forecasted to attract 240,000 visitors, was teeming with avid representatives and groups from the DOST agencies and regional offices; other government agencies including the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA); academic institutions; private sectors; micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs); and most especially S&T inventors and innovators.

Representing the FPA were Executive Director Norlito R. Gicana together with Mr. Angelo S. Bugarin and Ms. Lourdes R. Conde of the FPA-Laboratory Services Division (LSD) and Ms. Leila Denisse E. Padilla of the FPA-Planning, Management and Information Division (PMID).

Launching of the 2015 NSTW

Officially welcoming all the honourable guests and participants of the 2015 NSTW was Dr. Rowena Cristina L. Guevara, DOST Undersecretary for S&T Services and Co-Chair of the 2015 NSTW Steering Committee. "The DOST is committed to partnering with its stakeholders in setting policies and generating solutions to condition our key

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FPA Executive Director Norlito Gicana (center) poses with Mr. Angelo Bugarin and Ms. Lourdes Conde of the FPA-LSD in front of the 2015 NSTW backdrop outside the SMX Convention Center.

sectors in responding to long-term impacts of both globalization and regionalization, in light of the emergence of an ASEAN integrated market on December 31, 2015...The challenge therefore lies upon us to take a more forward-looking, enterprising approach so that we can contribute in capturing new market opportunities beyond our shores," she said in her message.

DOST Secretary Mario G. Montejo officially opened the event with an informative speech saying, "As the steward of the nation S&T agenda, we are guided by the fundamental policy that it is us Filipinos who must chart our own course. We must develop our own capabilities and know-how, relentlessly pursuing technology self-reliance towards becoming a science nation innovating for global competitiveness. Since 2010, we have been strengthening and enhancing our science and technology ecosystem – an ecosystem that empowers our scientists and engineers to come up with innovative ideas to improve productivity, to enhance the delivery of government services and to address the most pressing concerns of Aling Maria and Mang Juan...Science should be put to work to save lives."

Media reps surround DILG Sec. Mar Roxas and DOST Sec. Mario Montejo after the opening program.



Invited as the event's esteemed guest and keynote speaker was Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Manuel "Mar" A. Roxas II. "No longer is DOST and its agenda of science and technology just for talking purposes or for compliance purposes. It is in fact in the very fabric of

decision-making for national development...The contribution of DOST is in the nature of actual, practical and actionable information that saves lives...DOST is central, DOST is fundamental, DOST is perhaps the most important Department and endeavour that our country and our people can undertake to secure our future," he said.

MOU Signing on OneLab Project

After the commencement program, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the DOST One Stop Laboratory for Global Competitiveness (OneLab) project was signed by nine (9) testing and calibration laboratory entities from the government, private sector and academe to address or eliminate the inconvenience of the customers shuttling from one testing laboratory to another to complete their testing requirements.



This collaboration was entered into by the: (1) DOST; (2) Department of Health (DOH) including the National Reference Laboratory for Environmental, Occupational Health, Toxicology and Micronutrient Assay (NRL-EOHTM) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); (3) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) including the Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) and the Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB); (4) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) including the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB); (5) Office of the Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization (OPAFSAM) including the FPA; (6) National

Institute of Health (NIH); (7) SGS Philippines, Inc.; (8) F.A.S.T Laboratories; and (9) Philippine Institute of Pure and Applied Chemistry (PIPAC).

Representing OPAFSAM Secretary Francis N. Pangilinan was Undersecretary for Legal Jazmin B. Banal and serving as one of the witnesses to the MOU signing was Director Gicana.

The DOST through its agencies the Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) and DOST-Regional Office NO. IX will manage the OneLab system, which uses an in-house developed Unified Laboratory Information Management System (ULIMS) for DOST Research and Development Institutes and Regional Laboratories that enables broader access to the testing services of all laboratories nationwide and timely and accurate test and calibration results to the

industries.

According to the MOU, the parties shall: (1) adopt the referral system of the OneLab project; (2) observe the conduct of tests, analyses and calibration according to standard methods and sustain/maintain accreditation by the PAB (Philippine Accreditation Bureau); (3) provide each other assistance, share expertise and knowledge and update regularly the services enrolled in the OneLab system; and (4) create a technical committee from among themselves to oversee the sustainability of the project, in which the committee will regularly meet to formulate and update guidelines on membership in the network of laboratories under the OneLab project. #

FPA ATTENDS Phil-Europe Free Trade Association Meeting

Words by Leonora C. Japon

Photos by Intellectual Property Office

ON September 11, 2015, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) participated in the inter-sessional meeting for Philippine-European Free Trade Association (PH-EFTA) via video-conference at Intellectual Property Office (IPO) Center in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

The meeting, which was chaired by Atty. Allan B. Gepty, OIC-Deputy Director of IPO, was composed of the (1) Philippine panel, including the IPO-EFTA Free Trade Agreement Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights (WGIP), Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) and the (2) EFTA panel, including Mr. Lucas Von Wattenwyl, Spokesperson, and Mr. Ogmundur Magusson, Secretariat, both from Geneva, Switzerland and Ms. Karine Lutnaes Aigner of the Norwegian Industrial Property Office in Norway.

Representing the FPA were Executive Director Norlito R. Gicana and Ms. Leonora C. Japon of the FPA-Planning, Management and Information Division (PMID).



FPA Executive Director Norlito Gicana (2nd from left) and Ms. Leonora Japon (leftmost) of the FPA-PMID are among the Philippine panel members during the meeting.

The agenda of the video-conference included issues and concerns of the 2nd roundtable talks on EFTA proposals and the Philippine counter-proposals such as the (a) Intellectual Property Chapter in the Main Agreement, (b) definition of intellectual property rights, (c) international conventions on copyright and related rights, (d) trademarks, (e) geographical indications, (f) indications of source and country names, (g) undisclosed information, (h) suspension of release and (i) plant variety protection.

Mr. Wattenwyl raised inquiries

relative to fertilizers and pesticides, among others, which were aptly responded by Director Gicana. The inquiries centered on agro-chemicals registration requirements, legal procedures and protocols adopted by the FPA, and undisclosed information policies on the protection of data or test data submitted by applicants as requirements for product registration.

The results of discussions during the meeting were utilized as discourse materials in the 3rd PH-EFTA roundtable talks held last September 22-25, 2015 in Panglao, Bohol. #





A Recollection: Mid-year Performance Assessment Review

July 20-23, 2015

FPA Building, BAI Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

Happy Sir NRG Birthday

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF
THE FPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 24, 2015

FPA Building, BAI Compound,
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City





In Focus: Performance Management Team (PMT)

The FPA Performance Management Team (PMT) is constituted to oversee the implementation of the Agency's Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS). The PMT has been conducting series of meetings since July.



The FPA-PMT is composed of the following members: Ms. Julieta B. S. Guntan, Administrative Officer V; Ms. Elizabeth T. Ramiro, FAD Chief; and Mr. Antonio G. Cruz, Supervising Agriculturist.



FPA-Reg 12 conducts 4-day clean-up drive in SOUTH COTABATO

Words and Photos by Alita C. Bornea

AS a technical regulatory agency, one of the functions of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) is to license handlers of agricultural inputs. Consequently, in order to get rid of unlicensed handlers, the FPA Regional Field Officers regularly conduct clean-up drives as one of the main field monitoring schemes being carried out with intensive effort.

In the latest clean-up drive of the FPA-Regional Office 12 conducted particularly in South Cotabato, a total of 48 establishments were inspected. The said operation lasted for four days.

Products found to be expired, deformed, and unregistered were issued with "Stop Sale, Stop Use, Stop Move" (SUMS) Order. A total of 3,277 products with violations in assorted

sizes, which are distributed by 42 companies, were issued with SUMS Order. Of the total inventory, 173 bags of soil conditioner were considered unregistered.

Also during the conduct of the four-day clean-up drive, a significant number of products displayed in the shelves of inspected establishments were observed to be without manufacturing date, which is the basis of the products' shelf life. Moreover, a total of 12 unlicensed handlers were apprehended and were issued with notices of violation.

The FPA-Regional Office 12 does not only limit its activities to licensing and inspection of handlers. Included in its



responsibilities is to educate handlers, even farmers, on the proper use of agricultural inputs. Hence, series of trainings are being conducted in coordination with other stakeholders.

Also, emergency spills of pesticides in plantations are also handled by the regional office. Through regular spill drills conducted with concerned workers, accidental spills in public thoroughfares can be mitigated. #

196 L UNREGISTERED FERTILIZER PRODUCTS **CONFISCATED** IN CAGAYAN

Words and Photos by Arwin A. Cardenas

ONE hundred ninety six liters (196 L) of unregistered foliar fertilizer products with brand name "Green Bean All Purpose Foliar fertilizer" were confiscated on September 16, 2015 at Lallo, Cagayan by the FPA-Regional Office 2 headed by its Regional Officer, Mr. Henry M. Fronda.

The said product was found to be in possession of Mr. John Del Rosario, a small-time farm financier and businessman in Catayauan, Lallo, Cagayan. According to Mr. Del Rosario, the product was only delivered to him by a certain Mr. Willy Borromeo from Roxas, Isabela.

Prior to the said confiscation, the Regional Office was informed by a concerned citizen that there is a rampant selling of the said product in the northern part of Cagayan province. Consequently, Mr. Fronda had instructed Mr. Arwin A. Cardenas, Provincial Development Officer of Cagayan province, to conduct thorough monitoring and investigation to validate the said information.

On September 7, 2015, Mr. Cardenas in coordination with Mr. Ferdinand Bacig, Municipal Agriculturist of Gonzaga, conducted a massive inspection of the different dealers in the area. They found and confiscated 28 liters of Green Bean fertilizer from Bacig Farm Supply in Baua and Gonzaga Agrivet in Centro.

When the owners of these two stores were confronted, they promptly admitted that they were not aware of the status and condition of the said products. *"Iniinwan lang sa store namin ng mga technician nila tapos saka nalang namin babayaran*



kapag naitinda na namin (These [products] are being left by their technicians in our stores and we pay for the products after selling them)", said Mr. Elymar Bacig, owner of Bacig Farm Supply.

The said unregistered product is still under the custody of the FPA-Regional Office 2 while waiting for further instructions from the FPA

Central Office for proper and appropriate action.

Follow up investigations, monitoring activities and general inspections are still on-going to ensure that the said product is no longer peddled to end-users by other fertilizer dealers in the said province. #



Mr. Henry M. Fronda
Regional Development Officer



Mr. Ferdinand Bacig, Municipal Agriculturist of Gonzaga, and Mr. Arwin Cardenas, Provincial Development Officer

FPA-Reg 2 holds clean-up drive in CVR's two largest provinces

Words and Photos by
Arwin A. Cardenas



Mr. Henry M. Fronda
Regional Development Officer



Mr. Reynaldo A. Mozuela
Provincial Development Officer



Mr. Leonardo Bangad
Provincial Development Officer

ON August 4-7, 2015, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA)-Regional Office 2 had conducted clean-up drive operations in the two largest provinces of the Cagayan Valley Region (CVR) to determine if the fertilizers and agricultural handlers in the said areas are properly complying with the rules and regulations stipulated in the Presidential Decree (PD) 1144.

The said activity was spearheaded by Mr. Henry M. Fronda, Regional Officer of the FPA-Regional Office 2

together with the following provincial development officers from their designated areas: Mr. Leonardo Bangad from Isabela Province; Mr. Reynaldo A. Mozuela from Nueva Vizcaya; and Mr. Arwin A. Cardenas from Cagayan Province.

The four-day clean-up drive was conducted in the provinces of Cagayan and Isabela.

Based on the result of the said activity, there are establishments that were found to commit minor violations, such as 1) lack of pallets for fertilizers, 2) inadequate

sanitation, 3) fertilizer bags for retailing that were left open and/or exposed and 4) improper and/or not displaying of the FPA license.

Based on the observed violations, the owners of these establishments were properly notified and were given recommendations on the proper ways of handling fertilizers and agricultural pesticides as well as good housekeeping.

The FPA-Regional Office 2 team is eyeing another schedule of clean-up drive in the other provinces of Cagayan Valley, which is targeted to be conducted on the last quarter of the year. #

Be a News Contributor!

- WHO:** All FPA staff in the Central and Regional Offices are welcome to write.
- WHAT:** You can contribute news article/s (with photos) about relevant and newsworthy FPA-related activity/ies in your region/division.
- WHEN:** Your contributions can be published every quarter.
- HOW:** Send us your contribution/s anytime through e-mail at fpacentral77@gmail.com and you will be informed if your contribution/s is/are selected to be published in the quarterly newsletter. **Thank you!**

COA fuels FPA's capacity on **CASH COLLECTIONS**

"FUND is a sum of money or other resources set aside for the purpose of carrying out specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions or limitations and constitutes an independent fiscal and accounting entity (Sec. 3 (1), PD 1445; Sec. 2 (1) Title I (B), Book V, Administrative Code of 1987; Sec. 306 (h), RA 7160)."

This was emphasized during the two-pronged seminar on cash collections held by Ms. Norma E. Aquino, Supervising Auditor V of the Commission on Audit (COA) on July 23, 2015 (Thursday) at the Training Room, 4th Floor, FPA Building, BAI Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

As one of the activities held during the Mid-year Performance Assessment Review of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) on the fourth week of July 2015, the seminar was attended by FPA officials and staff from the Central and Regional Offices, particularly those who handle and manage cash collections.

Accountability, responsibility and liability

The first part of the seminar was

all about "Accountability, Responsibility and Liability for Government Funds".

Since government funds include public moneys of every sort and other resources pertaining to any agency of the government (Sec. 3 (2), PD 1445; Sec. 2 (2) Title I (B), Book V, Administrative Code of 1987), it should be well accounted for, especially by the so-called key players of government funds.

In every government agency, the key players of funds are the head of the agency and the accountable officers. While the head of the agency is automatically the highest ranking official in the organizational structure (e.g., executive director, director, administrator, secretary, etc.), the accountable officers are officers whose duties permit or require the possession or custody of government funds or property and who shall be accountable thereof and for the safekeeping thereof in conformity with the law (Sec. 101 (1), PD 1445).

The key players of funds are endowed with the accountability, responsibility and liability in the utilization of funds. According to Ms. Aquino's presentation,



Ms. Norma E. Aquino
Supervising Auditor V
Commission on Audit

accountability refers to the "answerability of every public officer, whose duties permit or requires the possession or custody of government funds or property, to be accountable therefore and for the safekeeping thereof in conformity with law". Meanwhile, responsibility refers to the "state of being answerable for the discharge of a duty" and finally, liability is "comprehensive and embraces all obligations which a person is bound to discharge or meet either in law or in equity".

The accountability, responsibility and liability of the key players are as follows (based on the presentation):

	Agency Head	Accountable Officers
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For financial and other resources For compliance with laws and regulations For efficient and economical operation For program results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every officer of any government agency whose duties permit or require the possession or custody of gov't funds or property shall be accountable therefor and for safekeeping thereof in conformity with law
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily responsible for all government funds and property pertaining to the agency Shall exercise the diligence of a good father of a family in supervising accountable officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall submit within five (5) days after the end of each month reports of collections and/or disbursement and other required reports to the Chief Accountant for recording in the books of accounts
Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is a clear show of bad faith, malice or gross negligence Neglects to perform a duty within a period fixed by law, shall be liable for damage to the private party concerned without prejudice to such another liability as may be prescribed by law Is not liable for the wrongful acts, unless he has actually authored by written order the specific act or misconduct complained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For money value in case of improper or unauthorized use of misapplication thereof For all losses attributable to negligence in the utilization thereof

All about cash management

The second part of the seminar was about "Cash Management and Control System: Receipts and Collections".

"Receipts are all cash inflow whether actual or constructive regardless of source of purpose and whether pertaining to the agency or not [and are] income[s] realized from operations and activities of the local government in the exercise of its corporate functions," expounded Ms. Aquino.

Collections and revenues differ as the former refer to all fees, charges, assessments and revenues collected by government agencies in the exercise of their mandates while the latter refer to income derived from the consistent scheme of taxation enforced under the authority of law or ordinance, which accumulates more or less annually.

There are two sources of collections and receipts: national and local taxes. National taxes include taxes on business; capital gains; documentary stamp; donors; estate; excise; income; import duties; immigration; professional; travel; and fines and penalties, among others. Meanwhile, local taxes refer to taxes on amusement; business; real property; special education; community; capital gains; sand, gravel and other quarry



The FPA staff from the Central and Regional Offices posed with Ms. Norma Aquino, COA Supervising Auditor V and resource speaker, at the end of the seminar.

products; and delivery vans and trucks.

General income accounts take the form of (1) permits and licenses, (2) service income, (3) business income, (4) subsidy income, and (5) other general income.

"Accountable forms [are] serially pre-numbered forms and/or forms with fixed amount or official documents for which the custodian thereof shall be accountable...[These are] held in trust by the collecting officer/treasurer/property officer or other person duly authorized to possess or have custody thereof," said Ms. Aquino during her presentation.

There are two kinds of accountable forms: those that have no money value (i.e., official receipts, checks, marriage licenses, driver's licenses, motor vehicle registration receipts, other specifically designed forms) and those that possess money value (i.e., postage stamps, cash tickets, documentary stamps, money orders, import entry document). In the final part of Ms. Aquino's seminar, she discussed the systematic procedures of (a) collections and deposits and (b) handling dishonoured checks.

The 10 procedures of collections and deposits include (1) receiving of cash/check from payor/creditor/taxpayer, (2) issuance of official receipt, (3) recording of collections in cash receipts record/cashbook, (4) preparation of deposit slip, (5) depositing of collections, (6) recording of deposits in cash receipts records (CRR)/cashbook, (7) preparation of report of

collections and deposits (RCD), (8) forwarding or RCD to Accounting Unit with copies of ORs and validated deposit slips, (9) review of submitted RCDs and supporting documents by the Accounting Unit, and (10) preparation of journal entry voucher (JEV) and records in the cash receipts journal (CRJ)/cash journal (CJ) by the Accounting Unit.

In cases of encountering dishonoured checks, Ms. Aquino elucidated on the eight procedures of handling such checks. These include (1) receiving of debit memo and dishonoured check from Authorized Government Depository Bank (AGDB), (2) verification of the dishonoured check from RCDs on file, (3) preparation of Notice of Dishonour, (4) delivery of the Notice personally or through registered mail to the drawer/payor/indorser, (5) retrieval of the file copy of OR covering dishonoured check and indication in the ORD "Cancelled per Bank Debit Memo No. ____ dated ____", (6) preparation of list of dishonoured checks and forwarding the list with the dishonoured checks to the Accounting Unit, (7) preparation of JEV and records in the journal by the Accounting Unit, and (8) recording of JEV for cancelled collection in the cashbook-cash in bank by the Accounting Unit.

Several group exercises were done in between subject matters and Ms. Aquino commended all the participants as they accomplished all the tasks and group works successfully. #

FPA Newswatch Production

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