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SUBJECT	FOREWORD		

The highly competitive business environment demands the adoption of Quality Management System which mandates a strategic decision of any organization to promote the confidence of its business partners and the public. In view of this, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) approved the implementation of "Project 3: Establishment and Implementation of Quality Management System in Accordance with ISO 9001" under the DOST-GIA program "Establishment Implementation and Maintenance of Management Systems in all DOST RDIs and Regional Offices":

The project is also in consonance with Executive Order No. 605, "Institutionalizing the Structure, Mechanisms and Standards to Implement the Government Quality Management Program, Amending for the Purpose of Administrative Order No. 161, S. 2006 which was issued by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on 23 February 2007, directing all government agencies to adopt the ISO 9001:2000 Quality Management System as part of a government-wide quality management program.



However, in November 2008, a new version of ISO 9001 was introduced re-emphasizing the measurable quality objectives and measurement of QMS effectiveness among others.

Aligned with the government's initiative and the ISO transition from 2000 to 2008 version, the DOST III has undertaken actions that help secure and strengthen its position as a service provider. The DOST III was given functions and responsibilities to support local scientific and technological initiatives, develop local capability to achieve technological self-reliance, and promote public and private sector partnership to take productive role in research and development (R&D) activities.

Thus, to further ensure the continuous delivery of efficient and effective service in the region, DOST III opted to establish, implement and maintain a quality management system in conformance with ISO 9001:2008 for the implementation of its technical operations.

The quality management system has played a major role, for almost a decade now, in DOST III's realization of its mandate. Implementation, documentation, and monitoring of the programs and projects can be done with ease due to the existence of documented procedures as required by the standards.

It is for this reason that DOST III resolved to restructure, implement, and further progress its quality management system to conform to the requirements of the new standard – the ISO 9001:2015 version for the implementation of its technical operations.

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