



## JOINT DICT-DOST-DTI ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 001-2020

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 11337, otherwise known as the "Innovative Start-up Act", was approved on April 26, 2019;

**WHEREAS**, Section 4 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11337 provides that the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall be the lead agencies that shall assess, monitor, develop and expand the Philippine Startup Development Program ("Program");

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 19 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11337 the DTI, DOST, and DICT promulgated the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11337 (hereinafter "IRR"); and

**WHEREAS**, the IRR provides that the DTI, DOST, and DICT shall constitute a Steering Committee ("SC") for the implementation of RA 11337 and the IRR, and management of the Program.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in consideration of the foregoing premises, the following guidelines on the creation of the SC is hereby promulgated and adopted for the compliance, information, and guidance of all concerned:

**Section 1. Creation.** There is hereby created a SC that will, pursuant to the objectives of RA 11337, provide strategic guidance and oversight in the formulation, implementation, and development of the Program.

**Section 2. Composition.** The SC will be composed of a total of nine (9) representatives from DTI, DOST, and DICT, as designated by their respective Secretaries.

A. *Membership.* The SC will have three (3) permanent members. The DTI, DOST, and DICT shall each designate an Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary as permanent member. The Undersecretaries and/or Assistant Secretaries may designate their alternate, who should be at least Director-level, to act on their behalf as permanent member.

In addition, two (2) regular members from each agency shall be designated by each permanent member. The regular members must be at least Division Chief-level.


   
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B. *Chair and Secretariat.* The SC shall be chaired in rotation by the permanent members. The Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary from DTI shall first sit as Chair, followed by the Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary from DOST, and then by the Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary from DICT (and so on). The Chairs shall serve a term of two (2) years each.

Subject to the pertinent government laws, rules, and regulations, the Chair may constitute a Secretariat from its Department to assist in the work for the SC.

**Section 3. Responsibilities.** The SC shall have the following functions:

- a. Develop, implement, and update the Philippine Startup Development Program (the "Program");
- b. Promulgate the appropriate policies, rules, and guidelines for the coordinated implementation of the Program, and as provided by RA 11337 and its IRR;
- c. Ensure that startup programs, benefits, and incentives of host agencies are harmonized and properly aligned;
- d. Assess the impact and applicability of the benefits and incentives that compose the Program;
- e. Promote access to the benefits, incentives, and opportunities for startups and startup enablers under the Program;
- f. Facilitate the immediate and efficient provision of the benefits and incentives provided under RA 11337 and its IRR;
- g. Coordinate with other host agencies, as defined under RA 11337 and its IRR, in implementing RA 11337;
- h. Monitor, develop and expand the Program, its benefits, and incentives consistent with the objectives of RA 11337;
- i. Issue the requirements, process, and granting of applications for benefits, incentives, and subsidies under the Program; and
- j. Ensure that their respective responsibilities under RA 11337 and its IRR are duly complied with.

**Section 4. Meetings.** The SC shall conduct regular and special meetings to ensure and keep track of the fulfillment of its responsibilities in implementing the Program. 

- a. **Regular Meetings.** SC meetings shall be held regularly every quarter, or at any other frequency as may be determined by the SC.
- b. **Special Meetings.** A Committee member may call for a special meeting to discuss special or urgent matters. This is to ensure that issues in the implementation of the Program and other related concerns are quickly addressed.

The SC meetings may be conducted face-to-face or via videoconference, webcast or similar technology.

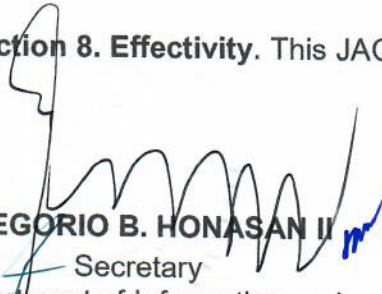



**Section 5. Review.** The Secretaries of the DTI, DOST, and DICT shall have the authority to review the effectiveness of the SC and make any needed changes to its composition and functions as they may see fit.

**Section 6. Amendment.** The Secretaries of the DTI, DOST, and DICT may initiate any amendment to this JAO, which shall become valid and binding upon their consensus. Such amendment shall be made in writing and signed by the said Secretaries.

**Section 7. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this JAO is determined by a competent court to be invalid, in conflict with, or unenforceable under any law, rule, or regulation of the government or any subdivision thereof, such term or condition shall be deemed stricken from this JAO. Such invalidity or unenforceability shall not invalidate or render unenforceable the remainder of this JAO.

**Section 8. Effectivity.** This JAO shall take effect immediately.

  
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