

## **BAFPS conducts public consultation on Organic Agriculture act of 2010**

by Dr. Wilfredo Z. Coloma (PDO IV)



The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS) conducted a Luzon-wide public consultation on the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the recently signed Republic Act No. 10068, otherwise known as the "Organic Agriculture Act of 2010" last July 29, 2010 at the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) Convention Hall. Principally authored by then Congressman and presently DA Secretary Proceso J. Alcala, the act aims to promote and develop organic agriculture in the Philippines. The National Organic Agriculture Board

(NOAB) was created to implement the policies and programs provided in the said act.

Salient features of RA 10068 and the technical draft of the IRR was presented. Representatives from various government agencies, farmer organizations, academe and the private sector were invited to present their comments and suggestions on the IRR for the refinement of the draft.

Guest of Honor, DA Secretary and NOAB Chair Alcala gave a short message on the importance of organic farming. Usec. Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, from the Office of Special Concerns DA TWG Chair/ NOAB Alternate Chair gave the welcome remarks while Dir. Gilberto Layese, DA-BAFPS and TWG Vice Chair conducted the public consultation on some sections of the Act. NDA was represented by Dr. Wilfredo Z. Coloma (PDO IV) in the said event.