REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
DANGEROUS DRUGS BOARD

BOARD REGULATION NO. 8
SERIES OF 2025

SUBJECT: INCLUSION OF ETHYL ESTER OF 3,4-MDP-2-P METHYL GLYCIDIC ACID "PMK ETHYL GLYCIDATE" AND ITS SIX ADDITIONAL ESTERS (PROPYL ESTER, ISOPROPYL ESTER, BUTYL ESTER, ISOBUTYL ESTER, SEC-BUTYL ESTER, TERT-BUTYL ESTER) IN THE LIST OF DANGEROUS DRUGS

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a party to the three (3) United Nations International Drug Control Conventions: the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the 1988 Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

WHEREAS, the Conventions aim to put in place mechanisms to address the problem of drug production, trafficking, and use of illicit substances;

WHEREAS, the Conventions provide that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs ("CND") shall have the power to change the scope of control of substances through amendment of the Schedules annexed to each Convention, and party-states shall take such measures to give effect and carry out the regulatory mechanisms provided for substances listed in the Schedules of the Conventions;

WHEREAS, the ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid [chemical name: Ethyl 3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-methyloxirane-2-carboxylate] is an immediate precursor of 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone (3,4-MDP-2-P), a substance listed in Table I of the 1988 Convention[1];

WHEREAS, the specified substance is illicitly utilized in the production of MDMA and related compounds, including their salts and optical isomers, all of which are classified under Schedule I of the 1971 Convention;

WHEREAS, similarly, the following six esters of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid (propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester) are immediate precursors of 3,4-MDP-2-P and pre-precursors of MDMA and related substances;

WHEREAS, incident involving manufacture and trafficking of ethyl ester have been known since 2021, with a major increase in frequency and amounts reported since the end of 2022;

[1] Notification from the President of INCB in Item 5(a): Changes in the Scope of Control of Substances, during the reconvened sixty-sixth session held on 7-8 December 2023, Vienna.

WHEREAS, the volume and extent of public health and social problems caused by the abuse of illicitly manufactured MDMA remain as issues that warrant international action;

WHEREAS, to address the matter, the International Narcotics Control Board recommends adding ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid and the other six esters (propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester) to Table I of the 1988 Convention. The International control of the seven substances will restrict their availability for illicit drug production, thereby reducing the unlawful manufacture of MDMA and its analogues derived from them;

WHEREAS, the ethyl ester and the other six esters (propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester) of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid have no known legitimate use except – in small amounts – for research, development and laboratory analytical purposes;

WHEREAS, there are no known industrial applications in which the esters are used as a starting material and there is no documented regular legitimate commerce and trade in them;

WHEREAS, scheduling of the ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid and the other six esters (propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester) under the 1988 Convention would have no adverse effects on the availability of the substances for relevant legitimate purposes;

WHEREAS, the inclusion of these substances in Table I will enable Governments to request pre-export notifications as a means of monitoring any trade in the substances;

WHEREAS, during the 67th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotics Drugs (UN-CND) held from 14 to 22 March 2024, it was agreed that ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid and the other six esters (propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester) be included in Table I of the 1988 Convention[2];

WHEREAS, Board Regulation No.1, Series of 2020, prescribed the immediate adoption of changes in the scope of control of substances pursuant to the three (3) United Nations International Drug Conventions and authorized the DDB Chairperson to issue a Regulation for such purpose, provided that the DDB Chairperson and/or the DDB Executive Director shall inform the Board of the issuance of such Regulation.

WHEREFORE, be it **RESOLVED,** as it is hereby **RESOLVED,** to adopt the action of the UN-CND placing **ethyl ester of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid** and the other six esters (**propyl ester, isopropyl ester, butyl ester, isobutyl ester, sec-butyl ester, tert-butyl ester**) in the list of dangerous drugs and all compounds, mixtures, and preparations containing these substances, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, be classified as dangerous drugs which shall be subjected to all regulatory and

[2] **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.** (2024). *Resolutions and decisions (2020–2029)*. United Nations. From https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Resolutions_Decisions/resolutions-and-decisions-2020-2029.html

control measures provided for in Republic Act No. 9165, as amended, and its implementing rules and regulations.

APPROVED and **ADOPTED** this 24 day of March in the year of Our Lord, 2025, in Quezon City.

Secretary OSCAR F. VALENZUELA
Chairperson

Attested by:

Undersecretary EARL P. SAAVEDRA, CESO I
Board Secretary / Executive Director