REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE
Quezon City

Sec. 41, NIRC
BIR Ruling No. 49-2016
CT- 076 - 2021
MAR 1 6 2021

TAGUM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.
Purok 18 A.O. Floirendo, Panabo City
Davao del Norte Philippines 8105

Attention: **Mr. Alfred E. Samson**
Chief Financial Officer

Gentlemen:

This refers to your letter dated October 4, 2019 requesting for ruling or approval to change its accounting method on inventory costing from First-In-First-Out (FIFO) to Moving Average Method for materials and supplies inventory starting January 1, 2019.

As represented, **Tagum Agricultural Development Company, Inc.,** with Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) , is a corporation duly organized and existing *under and by virtue of Philippine laws with office address at Purok 18, Brgy. A.O. Floirendo,* Panabo City, Davao del Norte.

It is engaged in the business of establishing agricultural settlements, acquiring, leasing, buying, developing, exploiting and occupying agricultural lands of the public domain or private persons and entities; promoting and encouraging scientific methodical farming and cooperative marketing of farm products and for such alied purposes; establishing factory or factories or processing plant or plants for the manufacture of allied products for agricultural purposes such as plastic bags, hope, twines, cartons, boxes, tin cans or containers or any kind of containers for processing, for local use and for export; engaging in the processing of agricultural products such as fruits, poultry, livestock and other similar products to be sold for local consumption and for export; acquiring such necessary machinery, equipment, tools and the like for local consumption and for export, acquiring such necessary machinery, equipment, tools and like for manufacturing or processing of agricultural products into finished products.

Since its incorporation, the Company has consistently adopted the FIFO method in costing its materials and supplies. In order to facilitate its cost accounting and optimize the use of its computerized system, the Company will install computerized cost accounting system. The Computerized accounting system to be adopted is Systems Applications and Products (SAP) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software which recognizes the Moving Average method for materials and supplies. Correspondingly, the Moving Average Method will be a more effective costing method for the valuation of inventories and will best conform to the Company's accounting practice as said valuation will clearly reflect its income.

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The Large Taxpayers Service of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) issued a Permit to Use (PTU) Computerized Accounting System. Consequently, per Corporate Secretary's Certificate, the Board of Directors approved and authorized the Company to change its inventory costing method for its materials and supplies from their respective previous costing methods under Microsoft GP ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) Software to their new costing methods under SAP (Systems Applications and Products) ERP Software. Hence, the request for a ruling providing for the approval to change accounting method on inventory costing, *viz*:

Inventory	From	To
Materials	FIFO	Moving Average
Supplies	FIFO	Moving Average

In reply, please be informed that Section 41 of the National Internal Revenue Code (Tax Code) of 1997, as amended, provides:

> *"Section 41. Inventories. — Whenever in the judgment of the Commissioner, the use of inventories is necessary in order to determine clearly the income of any taxpayer, inventories shall be taken by such taxpayer upon such basis as the Secretary of Finance, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner, may, by rules and regulations, prescribe as conforming as nearly as may be to the best accounting practice in the trade or business and as most clearly reflecting the income.*
>
> *If a taxpayer, after having complied with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Commissioner, uses a particular method of valuing its inventory for any taxable year, then such method shall be used in all subsequent taxable years unless:*
>
> *(i)* ***with the approval of the Commissioner, a change to a different method is authorized****; or*
>
> *(ii) the Commissioner finds that the nature of the stock on hand (e.g., its scarcity, liquidity, marketability and price movements) is such that inventory gains should be considered realized for tax purposes and, therefore, it is necessary to modify the valuation method for purposes of ascertaining the income, profits, or loss in a more realistic manner: Provided, however, That the Commissioner shall not exercise its authority to require a change in inventory method more often than once every three (3) years: Provided, further, That any change in an inventory valuation method must be subject to approval by the Secretary of Finance."* (Emphasis provided.)

In relation, to the above section of the Tax Code of 1997, as amended, Section 145 of Revenue Regulations No. 2 states:

> *"Section 145. Valuation of Inventories. — The law provides two tests to which each inventory must conform. — (1) it must conform as nearly as possible to the best accounting practice in the trade or business, and (2) it must clearly reflect the income. It follows, therefore, that inventory rules can not be uniform but must give effect to trade customs which come within the scope of*

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the best accounting practice in the particular trade or business. In order to clearly reflect income, the inventory practice of a taxpayer should be consistent from year to year, and greater weight is to be given to consistency than to any particular method of inventory or basis of valuation, as long as the method of basis used is substantially in accord with these regulations, an inventory that can be used under the best accounting practice in a balance sheet showing the financial position of the taxpayer is, as a general rule, regarded as clearly reflecting his income."

Since the change in **Tagum Agricultural Development Company, Inc.'s** accounting method is in order to clearly reflect the income of the said corporation in line with its adoption of the Systems Applications and Products (SAP) Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software which uses the moving average method rather than the FIFO method of inventory costing, **Tagum Agricultural Development Company, Inc.** is hereby granted permission to change its accounting method from FIFO to Moving Average method starting January 1, 2019 pursuant to the provision of Section 41 of the Tax Code of 1997, as amended, provided that such method conforms to the best accounting practice in its trade or business and will clearly reflect the income of said corporation.

This ruling is being issued on the basis of the foregoing facts as represented. However, if upon investigation, it will be ascertained that the facts are different, then this ruling shall be considered null and void.

Very truly yours,

CAESAR R. DULAY
Commissioner of Internal Revenue

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