[SRA SUGAR ORDER NO. 6, S. 2003-2004, February 24, 2004]

PROVIDING FOR "C" OR RESERVE SUGAR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Section 4 of SRA Sugar Order No. 1, series of 2003-2004, dated 28 August 2004 provides that the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) shall undertake periodic assessments of the 2003-2004 sugar production and, on the basis of such assessments, it shall adjust from time to time the percentage distribution of the different classes of sugar;

WHEREAS, the price "B" or Domestic sugar had dropped to an alarmingly low level that it seriously imperiled the economic viability of the sugar industry;

WHEREAS, Section 2 (B) of Executive Order No. 18 mandates the SRA to establish and maintain such balanced relation between production and requirement of sugar and such marketing conditions as will ensure stabilized prices at a level reasonably profitable to the producers and fair to consumers;

WHEREAS, after consultations with all sectors concerned, it has been agreed that the classification and allocation of sugar under Sugar Order No. 1, series of 2003-2004, need to be revised in order to address the aforesaid situation in accordance with the aforestated mandate of Executive Order No. 18;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the low farmgate prices of sugar which prevailed for quite a time, producers have been discouraged from harvesting a second (2nd) crop this CY 2003-2004, hence, there is a an expected drop in sugar production this crop year to 2,130,000 Metric Tons from the previous estimate of 2,230,000 Metric Tons;

WHEREAS, as a result of the aforesaid drop in production, there is a need to stop the allocation of "D" or World market sugar in CY 2003-2004 sugar production;

WHEREAS, the NFA Council in its 11 February 2004 meeting approved the proposal for the National Food Authority (NFA) to engage in the domestic trading of sugar specifically to purchase "C" or Reserve sugar up to a maximum volume of 70,000 MT produced during CY 2003-2004 for a period of four (4) weeks;

NOW, THEREFORE, under and by virtue of the authority vested in the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), it is hereby ordered that:

SECTION 1. Production of Classes of Sugar - (a) The classification and percentage allocations of sugar under SRA Sugar Order Nos. 1 and 1-A, series of 2003-2004, are hereby amended and revised in the manner as hereinafter provided.