

Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE**  
Caraga Region

**RNC Resolution No. 02**  
Series of 2021

**ENJOINING THE REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES, LGUs, BUSINESS SECTOR, CIVIC SOCIETY, PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE ACADEME TO STRENGTHEN NUTRITION COLLABORATION FOR INTEGRATED NUTRITION RELATED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN SCALING UP NUTRITION IN CARAGA REGION TO ADDRESS THE CURRENT NUTRITIONAL PROBLEMS AND THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF COVID 19 PANDEMIC IN TE HEALTH AND NUTRITION SITUATION**

**WHEREAS**, the nutrition profile of Caraga Region indicated by the survey conducted by the DOST-Food and Nutrition Research Institute based on 8th National Nutrition Survey in 2015 remained high and alarming in the region. The region's prevalence rate of stunting among children 0-5 years old is 36.4 percent, higher than the national prevalence rate of 33.4 percent;

**WHEREAS**, the global studies show that children with severe nutritional deprivation in the early years have 40% less brain mass than well-nourished children. These affected children have poorly developed temporal lobe which is critical to memory, perception, comprehension, and language, negatively affecting the development and learning potentials of children in later years;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 922 on "Declaring a State Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines" due to COVID-19 pandemic may cause worsening or deterioration in the nutritional status of the population especially among young children, pregnant women and lactating women, elderlies and persons with disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic experienced by the country has further emphasized the need of the people to achieve good nutrition for optimum health, well-being, and immunity against non-communicable and infectious diseases and thereby compelling the local government to take proactive measures, both in normal and emergency situations, to secure food, optimum health-service delivery, and nutrition especially among women and children within the critical period of the first 1000 days of life;

**WHEREAS**, the immune system increases the risk for complications in people with Covid 19 particularly among malnourished individuals and person with co-morbidities;

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and to instill health consciousness among them; and Article XV, Section 3 mandates the state to defend the right of children to assistance including proper care and nutrition;

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of the Philippine, further mandates local government units to exercise their powers and discharge their functions as necessary and appropriate for the effective provision of basic services including child welfare and nutrition services;

**WHEREAS**, the country has committed to pursue the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the goal on ending hunger, achieving food security, and improving nutrition, and the Global Targets 2025 for Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition;

**WHEREAS**, Caraga region recognizes that all nutrition interventions shall be anchored to the Philippine Government's commitment to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs),

the AmBisyon Natin 2040, the Philippine Development Plan (PDP), and the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN);

**WHEREAS**, RA 11148 – Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act (First 1000 Days Act) emphasizes the need to institutionalize and scale up nutrition in the first 1000 days of life in the plans of the national level down to the local government units' investment plans to ensure the health and nutrition of children, especially those aged zero to two years and of the pregnant and lactating women;

**WHEREAS**, RA 11223 – Universal Healthcare Law emphasized the integrated and comprehensive approach to ensure that all Filipinos are health literate, provided with healthy living conditions, protected from hazards, guaranteed equitable access to quality and affordable health care goods and services, and protected against financial risk through a framework that fosters a whole-of-system-government-society approach;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2022, an integral part of the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 consist of programs and projects serving as framework for actions that would be undertaken at all levels to address the nutritional problems which caused deprivation of Filipinos of their rights to food and good nutrition;

**WHEREAS**, the DILG MC. 2018-42 on the Adoption and Implementation of the PPAN 2017-2022 states the roles and responsibilities of LGUs in ensuring the integration of the nutrition programs, projects, and activities in the Comprehensive Development Plan and in the annual budget/appropriations of the city/municipality and in all its barangays;

**WHEREAS**, The joint DILG-DOH-NNC Memorandum Circular No. 1 s2019 provided guidelines on the integration of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive PPAs of PPAN to the local development and investment plan in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health policies, programs, and plans;

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) Caraga shall pursue the operationalization of the nutrition programs and projects specified in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017 to 2022 and continue to identify new ones in the course of the plan's implementation;

**WHEREAS**, the issuance of respective policies and the current nutrition situation in the context of Covid 19 pandemic gives the Regional Nutrition Committee of Caraga more compelling reasons in pursuing efforts in scaling up nutrition actions during the remaining years of PPAN implementation;

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the recommendations from the Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in 2008, one of the strategic thrusts of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2020 is to focus on the First 1000 days of life;

**WHEREAS**, the first 1000 Days Program is a comprehensive package of nutrition specific, sensitive, and enabling interventions to achieve significant changes in key nutrition indicators and achieve complete child development outcome;

**WHEREAS**, integrated program for maternal and child health nutrition aims to ensure the nutritional stability of the new born child through provision of prenatal and post-natal maternity care services to pregnant women. The program shall include awareness of the significance of good maternal nutrition and proper infant and young child feeding practices, particularly, exclusive breastfeeding, timely, safe and appropriate and high-quality complementary food, and appropriate micronutrient interventions;

**WHEREAS**, proper nutrition in the first 1000 days of a child's life produces positive impact growth and development, improve attendance and school performance, increase productivity later in adult life.

**WHEREAS**, the harmonization of nutrition efforts in the First 1000 days through strengthened and integrated programs on maternal and child health nutrition at the regional and local level through collaboration and coordination among the nutrition key stakeholders will promote efficiency, effectiveness and accountability in nutrition program implementation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Regional Nutrition Committee to Scale Up Nutrition in the Region through mobilization of the regional line agencies, Local Government Units, Business Sector, Private Sector, Non-Government Organizations, Academe and Civic Organization to harmonize efforts in strengthening the implementation of nutrition programs in line with implementation of PPAN 2017-2022 prioritizing nutrition in the First 1000 days through nutrition investment and support;


**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to enjoin the Local Government Units to invest for nutrition through formulation of the Local Nutrition Action Plan in accordance with PPAN 2017-2022 Integrated in the Annual Investment Program and Local Development Plan;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**; the Regional Nutrition Committee to continuously provide technical assistance, nutrition advocacy and monitoring for effective and efficient implementation of Nutrition Specific and Nutrition Sensitive programs in PPAN 2017-2020;


**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to strengthen the coordination and monitoring mechanism among the members of the Regional/Provincial/City/Municipal Nutrition Committee for the effective and efficient implementation and operationalization of PPAN 2017-2022 in the region.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021 in Butuan City.

Certified true and correct:

  
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Approved:

  
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