

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION VII

**RNC Resolution No. 021-03 (s. 2021)**

Excerpts from the Minutes of the Regional Nutrition Committee Meeting held on 23 July 2021 via zoom video conference

**“STRENGTHENING THE LGU NUTRITION PROGRAM THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NUTRITION OFFICE AT THE PROVINCIAL, CITY AND MUNICIPAL LEVELS AND HIRING OF LGU FULLTIME PERSONNEL FOR NUTRITION AND INCLUSION OF THE SAME IN LGUS’ DEVOLUTION TRANSITION PLAN”**

**WHEREAS**, PD 491 otherwise known as the “Nutrition Act of the Philippines” states that nutrition is a “vital and integral part” of social and economic development;

**WHEREAS**, The Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition (RPAN), the region’s blueprint for nutrition program implementation, specifies the need for a variety of nutrition and nutrition-sensitive services to address nutrition-related issues in Central Visayas;

**WHEREAS**, despite decrease in prevalence rates, the malnutrition rate of children below five years of age remains high in magnitude, particularly; 60,819 (10.1%) are chronically malnourished or stunted, 24,869 (4.2%) are underweight, 16,211 (2.7%) are overweight/obese and 14,382 (2.4%) are acutely malnourished wasted (OPT Plus, 2020). Above results indicates regional issues in lifestyle, food security, health and nutrition education and service delivery;

**WHEREAS**, DILG Memorandum Circular 2018-42 cites guidelines on the roles and responsibilities of LGUs in the implementation of the PPAN 2017-2022 AND RPAN 2019-2022;

**WHEREAS**, Local Nutrition Committees (LNC), composed of key local government personnel and community partners, are central entities that ensure the continued implementation of quality nutrition programs, projects and activities;

**WHEREAS**, in terms of Local Nutrition Committee functionality as of June 2021, only 25.7% are fully functional, 35.3% are substantially functional, 22.8% are partially functional and 7.4% are non-functional;

**WHEREAS**, nutrition coordination and services are largely dependent on designated staff who have primary roles and functions of their own. In Central Visayas, only 7 out

of 136 LGUs have full-time Nutrition Action Officers and only 49 out of these LGUs have dedicated staff to oversee and manage the LGU nutrition programs, this has largely affected the Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) Pro scores which focus on the critical dimensions of nutrition program management;

**WHEREAS**, EO No. 138 entitled “Full Devolution of Certain Functions of the Executive Branch to Local Governments, Creation of a Committee on Devolution, and for Other Purposes” call for the devolution of functions, services and facilities from the National Government to the Local Government Units to assume devolved functions based on RA No. 7160 and other relevant laws. The same policy calls for the preparation of devolution transition plans to prepare government offices;

**WHEREAS**, as agreed on during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sem Regional Nutrition Committee Meeting, the NNC 7 shall prepare guidelines for nutrition priority programs, projects and activities for inclusion in LGU devolution transition plans including the creation of nutrition offices and staff complement to prevent further deterioration of the community’s nutrition status;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Regional Nutrition Committee requests the Social Development Committee to endorse the strengthening the LGU nutrition program through the establishment of nutrition office at the provincial, city and municipal levels and hiring of LGU fulltime personnel for nutrition and inclusion of the same in LGUs’ Devolution Transition Plan;

**RESOLVE FURTHER**, to request Local Government Units to include in their respective devolution transition plan a minimum local nutrition service package which is proposed to include the following components


- a. Integration of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programs, projects and activities in the LGUs Comprehensive Development Plan, Executive Legislative Agenda and Annual Investment Program and institutionalization of nutrition concerns in local development processes;
- b. Implementation of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programs, projects and activities based on the needs and resources available in the locality;
- c. Creation of nutrition offices with adequate personnel support to ensure the delivery of nutrition programs;

**RESOLVE FURTHER**, for the National Nutrition Council Region VII as secretariat to prepare recommendations for priority nutrition activities and nutrition office staffing pattern for LGUs perusal within 30 days of approval of this resolution and provide technical support to LGUs when needed;

**RESOLVE FINALLY**, for the Regional Nutrition Committee through the Sub-Committee on Local Nutrition Committee Functionality to advocate for and monitor LGUs for adoption of these recommendations;


Approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2021 in Cebu City.

Certified Correct:



**Parolita A. Mission**, DPA, RN  
RNC 7 Secretary

Attested by:



**Jaime S. Bernadas**, MD, MGM, CESO III  
Chairperson, RNC