

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL
Region V

REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE
Resolution No. 3, Series 2020

RESOLUTION ENJOINING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THE BICOL REGION TO PRIORITIZE AREAS WITH HIGH PREVALENCE OF STUNTING, WASTING, OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Philippines is committed to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) No. 1, End poverty in all its forms everywhere, and SDG No. 2, End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, by 2030;

WHEREAS, a panel of global experts convened by the World Health Organization, has proven that malnourished children, particularly those with severe acute malnutrition, have a higher risk of death from common childhood illness such as diarrhea, pneumonia, and malaria which are nutrition-related factors contributing to about 45 percent of deaths in children under-5 years of age;

WHEREAS, malnutrition is identified through stunting or low height-for-age, wasting or low weight-for-height and overweight and/or obese or excessive weight-for-height;

WHEREAS, based on Food and Nutrition Research Institute's (FNRI) Expanded National Nutrition Survey Results for 2019 in the Philippines, according to WHO standards, stunting remains at medium to high public health significance, wasting at acceptable to poor public health significance while overweight and obesity showed slow improvement with slight decrease in prevalence;

WHEREAS, based on 2020 Operation Timbang Plus Results among 0-59 months old children, prevalence of stunting, wasting, overweight and obesity in the Bicol region are reported at 15.7 percent, 3.8 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively; that these are high in the provinces of Camarines Sur, Catanduanes and Masbate;

WHEREAS, the World Health Assembly, which includes the Philippines, has adopted the Global Action Plan on child wasting: a framework for action to accelerate progress in preventing and managing child wasting and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

WHEREAS, in the same Assembly, the Philippines has adopted the Global Action Plan on reducing stunting, wasting, overweight and obesity among children 0-59 months of age to achieve the global targets in 2025;

WHEREAS, the following are actions recommended to achieve the global targets in 2025,

- (a) Obtaining of weight and height measurements by primary healthcare facilities;
- (b) Greatly acting to address wasting as 7.3% (50 million) of children under 5 is estimated wasted as presented in the joint statement by the Principles of FAO, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and UN OCHA;
- (c) Achieving on-the-ground results that require a strong and sustained commitment from many people and organizations;
- (d) Translating to deeper and operational commitments in achieving action on the ground to create impact;
- (e) Strengthening commitment on policies for improved nutrition on a long-term basis;

- (f) Pursuing a comprehensive policy on the First 1000 days program; and
- (g) Promoting exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life—and continued breastfeeding through community support groups and peer counsellors, lactation station in workplaces and mother-baby friendly facilities;

WHEREAS, there is a need for all Local Government Units and National Government Agencies to create aggressive ordinances, resolutions and executive orders addressing malnutrition;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act 11148 or the act of scaling-up national and local health and nutrition programs through strengthened integrated strategy for maternal, neonatal, child health and nutrition in the First 1000 Days of life, appropriating funds therefor and for other purposes;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2017-2022 calls for increased focus of nutrition-specific programs on infants 0-23 months old, which, among others includes breastfeeding promotion to bring back the culture of this feeding practice in the country;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 51 known as the Milk Code of 1986 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations recognize the need to ensure adequate nutrition for infants and protect and promote exclusive breastfeeding;

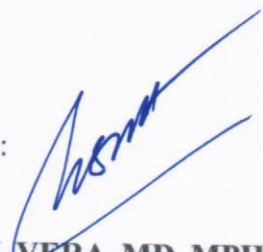
WHEREAS, the National Nutrition Council had conducted a package of trainings to address malnutrition which includes Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) since 2007 onwards, Early Childhood Care and Development for the First 1000 Days Program in selected areas and other related trainings, on nutrition specific and sensitive programs;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved, to enjoin National Government Agencies and Local Government Units to prioritize nutrition programs in areas with highest prevalence of stunting, wasting, overweight and obesity; that this Resolution be forwarded to Social Development Committee for endorsement to the Regional Development Committee, for support;

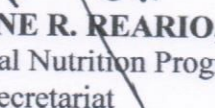
RESOLVED FURTHER, that the National Nutrition Council RO V as the Secretariat of the Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) furnish the NNC Central Office, all members of the RNC, and all Local Government Units in Region V a copy of this resolution through DILG Regional Office V, Legazpi City.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, this 26th day of August, Two Thousand and Twenty in Legazpi City, Philippines.

Approved:


ERNIE V. VERA, MD, MPH, CHA, CESO III
Regional Director, DOH-CHD Bicol and
Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee

Attested:


ARLENE R. REARIO, RND, MPS, MNSA
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
RNC Secretariat