Republic of the Philippines Department of Health NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL

National Nutrition Council Governing Board Resolution No. 3, Series 2018

APPROVING THE GUIDELINES ON THE SELECTION OF NON-WOOD HEIGHT AND LENGTH MEASURING TOOL

WHEREAS, the Philippines adopted the WHO Child Growth Standards (WHO-CGS) for determining the nutritional status of Filipino children under five years old;

WHEREAS, the WHO-CGS includes measurement of length and height of children to more accurately allow comprehensive child growth assessment;

WHEREAS, the NNC adopted the use of wooden height board in the country based on the recommendations of the World Health Organization where the first prototype of the wooden height board's specifications had been drawn and adapted;

WHEREAS, the NNC Governing Board on motion of the Department of Agriculture as Vice-Chair, instructed the Secretariat to explore other materials apart from wood for the fabrication of height board in view of the country's policy on total log ban;

WHEREAS, there is a need to field test height boards fabricated by various interest groups using other materials such as aluminum, acrylic, and plastics, a Field Trial of Alternative Height Measuring Equipment: Allenstick, Aluminum-Acrylic Height Board, Stadiometer vis-à-vis Wooden Height Board was conducted to provide evidence on accuracy, reliability, and ease of use of the other height board models; possibly replacing the wooden height board in the long-term in consideration of its weight and harm to the environment;

WHEREAS, the results of the field trial attested to the feasibility and practicability of the three (3) height boards tested made from other materials, i.e. aluminum-acrylic height board, fiberglass, and plastic, as acceptable measuring equipment for length/height of children in addition to the wooden height board with improvements as indicated in the study;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, in consideration of the above premises, the National Nutrition Council Governing Board hereby approves the Guidelines on the Selection of Acceptable Non-Wood Height and Length Measuring Tool and use of height boards made of aluminum-acrylic, fiberglass, and plastic as acceptable measuring equipment in addition to the recommended wooden height board for assessing growth of children in the Philippines.

Guidelines on the Selection of Acceptable Non-Wood Height and Length Measuring Tool

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the National Nutrition Council Secretariat shall ensure the dissemination of this Resolution and shall provide guidance to local government units and other agencies and organizations producing height boards, conducting length/height assessment of children and purchasing length/height measuring equipment.

APPROVED this 24th day of April Two Thousand and Eighteen.

FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc

FRANCISCO T. PUQUE III, MD, MSc Secretary of Health and Chairperson National Nutrition Council Governing Board

Attested by:

Assistant Secretary of Health Maria-Bernardita T. Flores, CESO II Council Secretary and Executive Director IV National Nutrition Council NNC Governing Board Resolution No. 3 Guidelines on the Selection of Acceptable Non-Wood Height and Length Measuring Tool

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