## Republic of the Philippines REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE CARAGA REGION

## **Resolution No. 05, Series of 2021**

## REORGANIZATION AND MOBILIZATION OF NUTRITION ADVOCATES AND MEDIA GROUP THROUGH 'CARAGA MOVERS' (Multi-Sectoral Organization Envisioning an Empowered And Resourceful Society through Nutrition) IN CARAGA REGION

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that, "the State shall protect and promote the rights to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

**WHEREAS,** Presidential Decree 491, otherwise known as the Nutrition Act of the Philippines, provides that, "The Government of the Philippines hereby declare that nutrition is now a priority of the government to be implemented by all branches of the government in an integrated fashion" to address issues on malnutrition;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization define malnutrition as the deficiencies, excesses, or imbalances in a person's intake of energy and/or nutrients and covers two broad groups, one is 'undernutrition'—which includes stunting (low height for age), wasting (low weight for height), underweight (low weight for age) and micronutrient deficiencies or insufficiencies (a lack of important vitamins and minerals) and the other is overweight, obesity and diet-related noncommunicable diseases (such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer);

**WHEREAS,** in the 2019 Expanded National Nutrition Survey of the DOST-FNRI, the stunting rate of Filipinos was at 28.8% for children 0-59 months, 25.2% for school-age children ages 5-10 years old, and 26.8% for adolescents ages 10-19 years old; wasting at 5.8% in children 0-59 months, 8.0% in school-age children 5-10 years old, and 11.7% in adolescents 10-19 years old; obesity at 2.9% for children 0-59 months, 8.0% of school-age children, 9.8% of adolescents, 35.2% of non-pregnant/non-lactating women of reproductive age (15-49 years old), and 31.1% of lactating women;

**WHEREAS,** in the 2021 Operation Timbang Plus, for children aged 0-59 months, the Caraga regional prevalence of stunting is at 6.38% or a total of 16, 331 children; wasting at 2.5% or a total of 6, 392 children; underweight at 4.23% or a total of 10, 836 children; and overweight/obesity at 3.23% or a total of 8, 262 children;

WHEREAS, according to the published study of the US National Library of Medicine – National Center for Biotechnology Information on the impact of nutrition on COVID-19 susceptibility and long-term consequences, the pandemic has caused serious effects to the general well-being of individuals, most especially the most vulnerable groups such as the malnourished children, pregnant women, and the elderly, and may aggravate the prevalence of malnutrition;

**WHEREAS,** with the Philippines suffering from the triple burden of malnutrition (undernutrition [including stunting and wasting], micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity), the Department of Health (DOH), National Nutrition Council (NNC), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization, (WHO), and United Nations Children's Fund

(UNICEF) issued a joint statement in March 2021 to call on the firm and continuous enforcement of the existing legislations on nutrition and call on the public to become advocates for change for healthy food environments and take action to prevent and manage malnutrition;

WHEREAS, the nutrition information, education, and dissemination of good nutrition among the population target groups are considered essential for change in behavior leading to good nutrition practices including advice on consumption of foods for which there are public health concerns, and the organization of the media groups and nutrition advocates are cost-effective strategies to disseminate information on good nutrition at various level;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** that the mobilization of nutrition stakeholders and media partners as nutrition advocates in the region shall strengthen the promotion of good nutrition to increase public awareness and facilitate change of behavior of the population group towards good nutrition and healthy lifestyle to prevent the onset and worsening of malnutrition problem both under and over nutrition and lifestyle diet related diseases.

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** that the mobilization of nutrition stakeholders and media group shall be known as Caraga MOVERS (Multi-Sectoral Organization Envisioning an Empowered and Resourceful Society through Nutrition).

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** that the members of Caraga MOVERS shall be the personnel and staff of Caraga Nutriskwela Community Radio Network, provincial/city information officers, select publications from the academe (public/private), media group representative (TV, radio, print, and v/bloggers), the Department of Health Caraga – Health Education and Promotion Unit, the Philippine Information Agency Caraga and from the private sector/NGOs (e.g., Breastfeeding Nanays sa Caraga).

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** that Caraga MOVERS shall elect its officers among its members – the President, the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, and shall elect five members of the Board of Directors from each of the provinces in the region and may create other positions with defined functions as deemed necessary, with a term of one year, and shall assume office upon election and taking the oath of office; elected officers can be reelected.

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** that NNC Caraga Regional Office shall facilitate the quarterly meeting/forum/conferences of Caraga MOVERS as the Secretariat and to provide regular nutrition updates and reference materials for information dissemination and to involve Caraga MOVERS in various nutrition/media campaign activities.

**RESOLVED FURTHER,** that members shall formulate Caraga MOVERS vision, mission, and objective setting, annual work plan, broadcast plan and publication plan known as the Regional Media Plan for Nutrition integrating campaign on good nutrition using various mediums or platforms.

**FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the collaboration with multi-stakeholders through Caraga MOVERS shall promote strengthening of information dissemination campaign on good nutrition in the region through resource sharing and mobilization, expanded nutrition network and monitoring for efficient management.

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**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, Two Thousand and Twenty-One, during the Second Regional Nutrition Committee meeting in Butuan City.

Certified true and correct:

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Approved by:

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