



Republika ng Pilipinas  
KAGAWARAN NG KALUSUGAN  
PAMBANSANG SANGGUNIAN SA NUTRISYON  
(NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL)  
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION



Excerpts from the Minutes of the Regional Nutrition Committee Meeting  
held on November 9, 2021 via Zoom

**RNC-NCR RESOLUTION NO. 04**  
**Series of 2021**

**ENJOINING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE  
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TO STRENGTHEN THEIR NUTRITION PROGRAM  
IN THE LIGHT OF THE MANDANAS-GARCIA RULING IMPLEMENTATION**

**WHEREAS**, before the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly one in three Filipino children under five years old was stunted or too short for their age (DOST-FNRI, 2019) and despite the significant steps being made to address the malnutrition problem, the progress has been rather slow and sporadic. And now, the unprecedented global, social, and economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic is undermining nutrition across the world including the Philippines and is threatening to undo decades-worth of efforts;

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Updating Survey on the Nutritional Status of Filipinos showed that in the National Capital Region, the prevalence of stunting (24.9%) among 0-59 months old was high while the prevalence of wasting and overweight at 6.4% and 6.0% were considered to be of medium public health significance;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2022 aims to reduce stunting and wasting among children under-5 years old, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity;

**WHEREAS**, to achieve these nutritional outcomes, the local government units (LGUs) as the key implementers of the PPAN need to make Nutrition a priority program;

**WHEREAS**, all city and municipal mayors, and barangay chairpersons need to pursue their context-specific responses to their prevailing nutrition problems along the identified PPAN 2017-2022 programs and guided by the different laws and guidelines;

**WHEREAS**, the Republic Act (RA) 11148 “Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act” or the “First 1000 Days Law”, RA 11210 “Expanded Maternity Leave Law”, RA 11037 “Masustansyang Pagkain Para sa Batang Pilipino Act”, RA 10410 “Early Years Act”, and RA 10028 “Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act” are some of the laws and issuances that provide guidance to LGUs in the implementation of nutrition programs;

**WHEREAS**, based on the World Bank Study entitled “Undernutrition in the Philippines: Scale, Scope, and Opportunities for Nutrition Policy and Programming”, it is important to increase the budget allocation and provide a separate budget for nutrition to address the challenge of reducing childhood stunting and other forms of malnutrition;



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**WHEREAS**, continued investment in nutrition-specific interventions and delivery strategies to reach poor segments of the population at greatest risk, together with scaled-up implementation of evidence-based, high-impact nutrition interventions, especially during the critical 1,000-day window of opportunity from conception to two years of age, would make a substantial difference and pay lifelong dividends through a healthier society and a more robust economy;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order (EO) No. 138 dated June 2, 2021: “Full Devolution of the Certain Functions of the Executive Committee Branch to Local Government Units, Creation of a Committee on Devolution and for Other Purposes,” states that the substantial increase in the shares of the LGUs from the national taxes will empower LGUs in providing basic services to their constituents and aid them in the effective discharge of their devolved duties and functions;

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of the Supreme Court Ruling on the Mandanas-Garcia case will bring opportunities for the LGUs to strengthen the nutrition program and other priority programs, which could not be implemented because of the lack of funds and personal services (PS) cap limitations;

**WHEREAS**, the DBM Local Budget Memorandum (LBM) No. 82 s.2021 states that LGUs are enjoined to align their programs, projects and activities with the priorities of the National Government, specifically those embodied under the updated Philippine Development Plan (PDP) for 2017-2022—one of which is the PPAN 2017-2022, the country’s framework of actions for nutrition improvement.

**WHEREAS**, National Nutrition Council (NNC) issued a Memorandum requesting all Provincial Governors, City and Municipal Mayors, and Barangay Chairpersons to include the recommended nutrition programs, projects and activities in their devolution transition plans;

**WHEREAS**, the NNC document entitled ‘Strengthening of the LGU Nutrition Program: Creation of LGU Nutrition Offices’ indicates the proposal for the establishment of nutrition offices in provinces, cities and municipalities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Regional Nutrition Committee of the National Capital Region in a meeting duly assembled, to enjoin all local government units in Metro Manila through their local nutrition committees (LNCs) to strengthen nutrition program in the light of the Mandanas-Garcia Ruling implementation by:

1. Allocating increased budget for the implementation of the PPAN-based nutrition-specific and sensitive programs with strategic focus on the First 1000 Days Program;
2. Creating plantilla position for Nutrition Action Officer and hiring Nutritionist-Dietitians;
3. Hiring and deploying at least one (1) Barangay Nutrition Scholar in every barangay;
4. Creating Nutrition Offices or strengthening of existing Nutrition Offices to ensure that there are dedicated nutrition action officers with adequate staff support who can focus on the management of LGU nutrition programs and improve nutritional status especially of high-risk groups



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**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to request the DILG-NCR to issue a memorandum disseminating this resolution to all local chief executives in the region, requesting their compliance and help monitor its implementation;

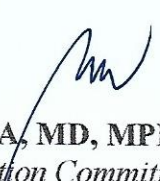
**RESOLVED FURTHER**, for the NNC-NCR Regional Office being the RNC Secretariat to:

1. continue to provide technical assistance to LGUs regarding PPAN and nutrition devolution
2. coordinate and monitor LGUs' compliance to this resolution
3. report the status of implementation to the RNC
4. review the effectiveness of implementation of this resolution after three (3) years of its implementation


**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the NNC-NCR Regional Office being the Secretariat of the RNC to furnish the NNC Central Office, all regional members of the RNC and all local government units in the region a copy of this resolution.

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AND ADOPTED**, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021 during the meeting of the Regional Nutrition Committee held via Zoom.

*Approved by:*

  
**GLORIA J. BALBOA, MD, MPH, MHA, CEO VI, CESO III**  
*Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee*  
*Director IV, Metro Manila Center for Health Development*

*Attested by:*

  
**MS. MILAGROS ELISA V. FEDERIZO, RND, MPH**  
*Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator, NNC-NCR and*  
*Secretary, Regional Nutrition Committee*