



Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**  
Region 1  
c/o **NEDA** Regional Office No. 1  
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**RDC ExCom Resolution No. 56, s. 2011**

**ENJOINING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND CONCERNED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION – CHILD GROWTH STANDARD (WHO-CGS) IN DETERMINING THE NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF PRESCHOOLERS AND SCHOOLCHILDREN**

**WHEREAS**, growth monitoring is a strategy in promoting health and quality of life through measurement and assessment of physical growth and development of individuals and groups in a community or population;

**WHEREAS**, the reference growth standards are values for weight and height at different ages used as reference point for the assessment of the nutritional status of individuals;

**WHEREAS**, in CY 2003, the Philippines adopted the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) International Reference Standards (IRS) for assessing the nutritional status of Filipino children;

**WHEREAS**, the NCHS-IRS was found out that it does not adequately respond to early childhood growth at individual or population level assessment;

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization-Multicentre Growth Reference Study (WHO-MGRS) described how children should grow by including certain recommended behaviors like breastfeeding and providing pediatric care;

**WHEREAS**, in response to the above findings , the WHO-CGS was recommended to:

1. give deeper meaning to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), specifically the target on the prevalence reduction of underweight among 0-5 years old since the growth of Filipino children will be benchmarked on the best possibility for their growth.
2. allow comparison of the growth of Filipino children against single international standard that represents the best description of physiological growth for all children from birth to five years of age as opposed to describing growth against a reference.
3. show that even a child in any part of the world regardless of ethnicity has the potential to grow and develop as long as the child's basic needs are met.
4. establish the breastfed infant as the normative model for growth and development, consistent with the national and international guidelines that recognize breastfeeding as the best source of nutrition for infants.
5. detect malnutrition long before signs and symptoms of it become apparent and therefore, allow focus on preventive and promotive interventions rather than rehabilitative/ curative measures and reaching more at-risk children.
6. include core development milestones that healthy children are expected to achieve during specified age ranges.

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of the WHO-CGS is supportive of the Millennium Development Goal 1, target 2, indicator 4 on responding to the issue on the prevalence of underweight children under five years of age;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health issued Administrative Order No. 0015, s. 2010 regarding the Revised Policy on Child Growth Standard for implementation, adopting the WHO-CGS.

**NOW THEREFORE**, for and in consideration of the above premises, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved to enjoin the Local Government Units and concerned agencies to support the implementation of the World Health Organization- Child Growth Standards in determining the nutritional status of preschoolers and schoolchildren;

**RESOLVED FURTHER** , to request the following GOs, LGUs and other partners to implement the following activities to support the adoption of the WHO-CGS:

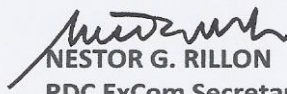
1. The National Nutrition Council and the Department of Health to conduct orientation/trainings for all local government units and concerned agencies, public and private schools and other organizations on the use of WHO-CGS and fabricate height boards for field users using locally generated funds;
2. The Department of Education to provide necessary logistics to all public schools in the adoption of the WHO-CGS for preschoolers and schoolchildren;
3. The NNC, DepEd, DSWD and DOH as well as NGOs to integrate CGS concepts, tools and guidelines in their teaching materials and training courses;
4. The DSWD and Local Government Units to provide support in the purchase of the WHO-CGS logistics for Day Care Centers;
5. The DILG to encourage LGUs and barangays to consider the WHO-CGS in the assessment of the nutritional status of children and to allocate funds needed for its adoption;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to request the Regional Nutrition Council thru the NNC to oversee the adoption of the WHO-CGS, monitor its implementation in the region and provide feedback to the RDC;

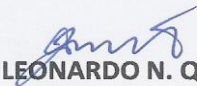
**RESOLVED FINALLY**, to distribute copies of this resolution to all concerned for their information and appropriate action.

**APPROVED**, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 2011 at the NEDA-I Conference Room, San Fernando City, La Union.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
NESTOR G. RILLON  
RDC ExCom Secretary *ns*

**APPROVED:**

  
LEONARDO N. QUITOS, Jr.  
RDC ExCom Vice Chairman and  
Presiding Officer