### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Department of Health NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL

### REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE REGION 02

Resolution No. 01, Series of 2016

# "A RESOLUTION TO ENSURE THE PROMOTION OF GOOD NUTRITION IN THE FIRST 1000 DAYS IN A CHILD'S LIFE"

WHEREAS, poor nutrition is part of an inter-generational cycle of poverty, poor growth and unrealized potential. The economic cost of malnutrition is enormous. Countries can lose between two to three percent of their potential Gross Domestic Product (GDP) each year due to malnutrition. In the Philippines, one-third of children under five years suffer from stunting or chronic malnutrition, a condition associated with fewer years of completed schooling, higher risk of illness, and up to 50 percent less income when their children grow into adults (UNICEF);

WHEREAS, the First 1000 days from the time of conception up to the child's first two years of life, is considered a unique "window of opportunity" which is a critical period for growth and development. Poor nutrition within this period is the primary cause of stunting, increase twofold between birth and 24 months of life and thereafter it stagnates, a permanent and irreversible form of malnutrition that currently affects 3.6 Million children under 5 years old in the country;

WHEREAS, studies show that children who were not able to achieve optimum growth within the first 1000 days from conception are at higher risk of impaired cognitive development which have adverse effects on their schooling performance and labor force participation and productivity in later life:.

WHEREAS, not meeting the required nutrition in the first 1000 days of a child's life may increase the chance of a lower IQ, weakened immune systems, and greater risk of serious diseases. As a result the child's school performance and productivity may greatly decline;

WHEREAS, maternal nutrition is essential for the health of the mother and the survival and development of her child. It is noted that improper and inadequate nutrition in the first 1000 days of a child's life and in the maternal health of a mother may result to malnutrition and diet-related non communicable diseases;

WHEREAS, according to FNRI 8<sup>th</sup> National Nutrition Survey, 2 out of 10 or 19.9% children among 0-5 years old were underweight while 3 out of 10 or 30.3% children among 0-5 years old were stunted and 1 out of 10 or 7.9% children among 0-5 years old were wasted;

WHEREAS, the study estimates that 800,000 neonatal deaths are caused by fetal growth restriction. Maternal and childhood nutrition finds that over 3 million children die every year of malnutritie malnutrition accounting for nearly half of all child deaths under 5;

WHEREAS, over a quarter of all babies born in low- and middle-income countries are small for gestational age—putting them at a significantly increased risk of dying. And more than one guarter of the south in the womb due to maternal under quarter of all newborn deaths are attributed to restricted growth in the womb due to maternal under nutrition;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines, more than 10 mothers die every day leaving more than 30 children motherless;

WHEREAS, about 1 in 4 pregnant mothers or 24.8% are nutritionally at risk, with the youngest mothers (age <20 years old) at highest risk (37.2%);

WHEREAS, these abovementioned effects are always irreversible but it can be prevented by improving nutrition for women and children in the first 1,000 days;

WHEREAS, studies show that ensuring optimal nutrition in the in the first 1000 days from a mother's Pregnancy up to child's Second Year of Life is the response;

WHEREAS, high Impact, cost-effective and evidence-based Health and Nutrition Programs should be observed in the First 1000 days interventions and children who escape stunting are 33% more likely to escape poverty as adult;

WHEREAS, the National Nutrition Council recognizes the importance of first 1000 days of a child's life and campaign about the sustainable methods and ways towards this concept;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, in consideration of the above premises, we, the Regional Nutrition Committee hereby adopts the "First 1000 days of a child's Life";

### **RESOLVED FURTHER,**

1. For National Nutrition Council Region 02 to spearhead the formulation of Nutrition Sensitive Interventions and communication and promotion plan to ensure the widest dissemination and use of the "First 1000 days of a child's life" and ensure participation of non-government organizations, capacitate nutrition and health officers and staff, workers, volunteers and implementers;

2. For the Philippine Information Agency Region 02 and the National Nutrition Council Region 02, Balay Ni IFAN Media Core Group to spearhead the dissemination of the "First 1000 days of a child's life" in all media outfits;

3. For the Department of Agriculture Region 02 to promote programs that boost agricultural duction . Production, keep prices low, and increased incomes are critical but they can still leave children vulnerable to the life-long effects of poor nutrition;

4. For the Department of Health Region 02 to formulate new, and enhance existing policies, and develop guidelines on the use and promotion of "First 1000 days of a child's life" within the health sector and other related stakeholders;

5. For the Department of Education Region 02 to integrate the "First 1000 days of a child's life" in the school curricula for elementary and secondary education;

6. For the Department of Interior and Local Government Region 02 to issue a Memorandum Circular to Local Government Units to integrate the "First 1000 days of a child's life" in the Provincial/City/Municipality/Barangays Action Plans and Investment Plans;

7. For the Department of Labor and Employment Region 02 to disseminate the "First 1000 days of a child's life" in the labor sector to promote health and nutrition among workers and employers;

8. For Commission on Population Region 02 to monitor the growth and development of the six (6) symbolic 100Mth Pinoy Babies in Region 02 who were born on 27 July 2014 which marked the birth of the 100 Millionth Pinoy as registered by the Philippine Statistics Authority; promote the information on the "First 1000 Days of a Child's Life" through the issuance of the PopBits to the Provincial/City Population Officers; and to include in the Pre-Marriage Counselling Sessions and Family Development Sessions (FDS) Sub-Module 2.2;

9. For the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources Region 02 to intensify the implementation of biodiversity conservation and reforestation programs to Local Government Units and other stakeholders to ensure food security;

10. For the National Economic and Development Authority Region 02 to ensure inclusion of the strategies on nutrition to the Social Development Chapter of the Regional Development Plan or its Results Matrix, such as the "First 1000 days of a Child's Life" and "10 Kumainments", among other nutritional programs;

11. For the Department of Science & Technology Region 02 to sustain the Production of Complementary Food Products through the Food Innovation Center and Complementary Food Production Production Center to be used in Feeding Programs aimed malnutrition alleviation; and

12. For the other members of the Regional Nutrition Committee Region 02 to invest in the promotion of the "First 1000 days of a child's life" within their network.

# AND RESOLVED FURTHER,

1. For the different relevant agencies to include budget in their annual appropriations to support the promotion of the "First 1000 days of a child's life"; and

2. For the NNC R-02 to monitor and ensure the implementation of this RNC Resolution.

# APPROVED this 23rd day of August, 2016

I HEREBY CERTIFY the correctness of the forgoing resolution.

# CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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RHODORA G. MAESTRE, RND, MCN Nutrition Program Coordinator- NNC Region 02 & Secretary- Regional Nutrition Committee

## ATTESTED:

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# REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE Region 02

# RESOLUTION NO. 1, S. 2014

# CREATION OF THE REGIONAL UTRITION CLUSTER IN EMERGENCIES REGION 02

WHEREAS, the Phillippines is recognized as one of the world's most disaster prone countries as identified by the Center of Research and Epidemiology of Disaster in Brussels, Belgium;

WHEREAS, reports in 2009 showed that the Philippines, aside from China and the United States, was most often hit by natural disasters because of its geographical location making it affected by an average of 21 typhoons annually;

WHEREAS, the typhoons not only bring about destructive winds but also trigger landslides, mudslides and massive floods;

WHEREAS, the Philippines also suffers from earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and human induced emergencies;

WHEREAS, Region 02 is not spared from these emergencies and disasters;

WHEREAS, these situations cause death, loss of livelihood and damages to properties;

WHEREAS, these situations may also disrupt the lives of population affected, putting them at risks of developing various undesirable health and related conditions, including those that threaten the nutritional status of individuals especially the most vulnerable groups: infants, children, pregnant and lactating women, older persons;

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WHEREAS, all these pose a threat in the likelihood of achieving nutrition related targets of Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals;

WHEREAS; these threats could be addressed through the delivery of various nutrition interventions that are implemented through organized group that will allow maximum V participation of all stakeholders involved;

WHEREAS, on 10 May 2007, the National Disaster Coordinating Council issued Circular No. 5 or the "Institutionalization of the Cluster Approach in the Philippine Disaster Management System Designation of Cluster Leads and their Terms of Reference at the National, Regional and Provincial Level" to strengthen predictability, response capacity, coordination and accountability by strengthening partnership in key sectors of humanitarian response;

WHEREAS, on 23 March 2013, Department Personnel Order No. 2007-2942-A of the Department of Health was issued designated the Executive Director of the National Nutrition Council as the Chairperson on Nutrition Cluster of the Health Emergency Management Clusters of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council;

WHEREAS, Nutrition Cluster under the Health Emergency Management Clusters aims to ensure that the nutritional status of affected population especially the most vulnerable groups: infants, children, pregnant women and breastfeeding women, older persons, people with disabilities and people leaving in debilitating conditions will not worsen or deteriorate due to the impact of

emergency and disaster through linking with other cluster/sector groups and establishing capacities at all levels:

WHEREAS, National Nutrition Council Governing Board Resolution No. 1 series of 2009, adopting the National Policy on Nutrition Management in Emergencies and Disasters, provides that the nutrition committee of each Local Government Unit shall function as the local nutrition cluster and in the context of emergency management shall be considered a sub-structure of the local disaster coordinating council;

NOW THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, in consideration of the threats ( of emergencies and disasters to the vulnerable groups and the benefits of the Cluster Approach in disaster risk reduction and management, to establish the Regional Nutrition Cluster in Region 02 to include the following agencies and sectors:

- 1. Department of Health Center for Health Development
- 2. Department of Social Welfare and Development
- 3. Department of Agriculture
- 4. Department of Interior and Local Government
- 5. Department of Trade and Industry
- 6. Department of Education
- 7. Department of Science and Technology
- 8. Philippine Information Agency
- 9. Bureau of Fishery and Aquatic Resources
- 10. Commission on Higher Education
- 11. Academe

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12. Non-Government Organizations

# **RESOLVED FURTHER,**

- 1. The Regional Nutrition Cluster, Region 02 aims for the following:
  - A. Conduct rapid nutrition assessment in the affected areas;
  - B. Ensure the timely and appropriate delivery of quality package of nutrition interventions to affected population particularly on the promotion and protection of infant and young child feeding, micro nutrient supplementation, supplementary feeding, integrated management of acute malnutrition and others;
  - C. Ensure that the food provided and distributed are nutritionally adequate especially for the vulnerable groups;
  - D. Conduct trainings and other capacity building and other related to nutrition;
  - E. Provide nutrition counselling to affected populations;
  - F. Establish and promote coordination, networking, planning, social mobilization, advocacy, surveillance, monitoring, evaluation and good reporting mechanism



within the nutrition cluster.

2. The Cluster Member Agency's Representatives shall assume the following duties/responsibilities:

A. Supports in fulfilling the cluster's mission, namely to:

Participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities

- Maintain coordination and partnership to prevent and reduce morbidity and mortality;
- Implement standard or evidence-based interventions;
- Develop and adopt gap-filling and need-prioritization strategies; and
- Perform with accountability predictable, timely and effective emerger response activities.
- B. Assists in building capacities among inter and intra-cluster members, to:
- Participate in the establishment and maintenance of appropriate coordination mechanisms;
- Establish an effective information management system;
- Support convergence of enhancing competencies; and
- Set arrangement for resource mapping, sharing and mobilization.
- C. Identifies and promotes core advocacy concerns namely to:
- Advocate cluster's preparedness, response and recovery activities donors and Stakeholders;
- Generate support in promoting transfer of skills to local cluster member-
- Promote strict adherence to cluster priorities, guidelines and standards;
- Facilitate the application of the technical standards collectively agree within the cluster; and
- Uphold flexibility in the delivery of cluster's service packages.
- 3. That the Nutrition Program Coordinator of the National Nutrition Council, Region 02 shall be the Regional Nutrition Cluster Coordinator.

# AND RESOLVED FURTHER,

- 1. For the National Nutrition Council, Region 02 to facilitate the creation of the Nutrition Cluster at the Local Government Unit level;
- 2. Orient/train the Local Nutrition Committees on Nutrition in Emergencies Nutrition Cluster Coordination

Approved this 26th day of February 2014.

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RHODORA G. MAESTRE, RND, MCN Nutrition Program Coordinator, NNC Region 02 Secretary, Regional Nutrition Committee

Attested by:

JOVITA P. AYSON, DrFT, CESO II Regional Director, BFAR, Region 02 Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee



CONCURRED:

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