



Republic of the Philippines
**REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION-
SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
CALABARZON**



EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION (RSCN) –
SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT HELD ON
8 OCTOBER 2012 AT THE FERNANDINA 88 SUITES HOTEL, QUEZON CITY
RSCN-SCSD Resolution No. 3, Series 2012

**A RESOLUTION ENJOINING ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT
INSTRUMENTALITIES IN CALABARZON REGION
TO ESTABLISH BREASTFEEDING CORNERS/ROOMS IN THEIR OFFICES
AND CONDUCT A PRO-BREASTFEEDING CAMPAIGN**

WHEREAS, based on the results of the 2011 National Nutrition Survey of the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST), Calabarzon ranked third lowest region with a very low prevalence of infants initiated to breastfeeding within one hour of delivery at 38.2% compared to the national prevalence of 51.9%; and only 33.1% of infants (0-5 months) in the region were exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of life, lower than the national prevalence of 48.9%;

WHEREAS, based on the same survey, one of the reasons cited for stopping breastfeeding was having to work outside home by mothers;

WHEREAS, there is a need for government to create an enabling environment to support breastfeeding mothers and help them maintain breastfeeding as their feeding practice and support pregnant women to have an informed decision on what feeding practice they will choose for their infants;

WHEREAS, a review of global experiences as published in the Lancet Series on Child and Maternal Undernutrition included breastfeeding promotion as one of the interventions for which enough evidence is available for implementation in all countries to address child undernutrition;

WHEREAS, both the Department of Health National Policy on Infant and Young Child feeding and the Nutritional Guidelines of the Philippines (NGF) recommend the following infant and young child feeding practices:

- Breastfeeding initiated within one (1) hour after birth
- Exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life
- Continue breastfeeding up to two years and beyond with the introduction of safe, affordable and appropriate complementary food

WHEREAS, the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN), 2011-2016 calls for increased focus of nutrition interventions on infants 0-23 months old, which, among others includes breastfeeding promotion to bring back the culture of breastfeeding in the country;

WHEREAS, there are enough laws passed to support breastfeeding among others, namely: RA 10028 otherwise known as the Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009 which mandates that all private and public establishments should establish lactation rooms; and Executive Order No. 51 known as the Milk Code of the Philippines provides that breastfeeding should be advocated to both the public and the private sectors;



WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 273, "Approving and Adopting the Philippine Plan for Gender-Responsive Development, 1995-2025", agencies are mandated to institutionalize Gender and Development (GAD) in government by incorporating GAD concerns in their planning, programming and budgeting processes;

WHEREAS, since breastfeeding is a gender-related concern, government instrumentalities should incorporate in their GAD Plan the establishment of a breastfeeding corner/room and provide corresponding funds using their GAD budget, which is five percent (5%) or more of their total agency appropriations, and or funds from other possible sources.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved for government to lead by example support to breastfeeding among mothers in its work force by establishing breastfeeding corners/rooms in their offices, primarily to allow mothers to express their breastmilk for giving to the infant upon reaching the home, and likewise to allow mother clients/customers who visit an office for any official business/purpose to breastfeed their babies while waiting to be served upon;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, for such breastfeeding corners/rooms to provide for privacy and comfort, if possible appropriate breastmilk storage and handwashing facilities based on the minimum requirements provided for in the attached flyer on "Setting Up a Mother and Baby Friendly Workplace".

BE IT FURTHER MORE RESOLVED, for government agencies and local government units to exert influence to private establishments operating or signifying to operate in their area of jurisdiction to carry out the abovementioned initiatives by incorporating it in their licensing procedure and/or regulatory/monitoring functions.


RESOLVED FINALLY, to enjoin all national government agencies, local government units and other government instrumentalities in the region to establish breastfeeding corners/rooms in their offices, provide lactation breaks for their lactating female employees, and conduct a pro-breastfeeding campaign among their employees, clients and the private sector.

Unanimously approved, 8th day of October 2012.

Attested by:


CARINA Z. SANTIAGO
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
National Nutrition Council IV-A and
Secretary, RSCN-SCSD

Approved:


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Regional Director
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