



Republic of the Philippines  
**REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE**  
**MIMAROPA REGION**



EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE (RNC) OF MIMAROPA ON 26 NOVEMBER 2015  
AT FERNANDO GENERICS HALL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REGIONAL OFFICE IV-A,  
QUIRINO MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER COMPOUND, PROJECT 4, QUEZON CITY

**RNC Resolution No. 2, Series 2015**

**REQUESTING PORT MANAGEMENT OFFICES IN MIMAROPA TO ISSUE A  
DIRECTIVE/ CIRCULAR REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BREASTFEEDING  
CORNER/ ROOM INSIDE PORT AREAS**

**WHEREAS**, based on the results of the 2013 National Nutrition Survey of the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST), MIMAROPA ranked first among the regions having the highest prevalence of underweight and wasting among children (0-10 years);

**WHEREAS**, based on the same survey, MIMAROPA ranked third among the regions having a very short duration of exclusive breastfeeding among infants and ranked ninth among the regions with high percentage of bottle-fed children (0-23 months);

**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 for Filipinos (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**, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10028 otherwise known as the Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009 which mandates all private and public institutions and establishments, medical and non-medical, to establish lactation facilities with appropriate equipment and facilities; 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; and RDC IV-B Resolution No. 2015 supporting the RNC Resolution No. 1 s. 2014 enjoining all regional line agencies, local government units, and other offices in the region to establish breastfeeding corner/ rooms in their offices and conduct a pro-breastfeeding campaign;

**WHEREAS**, the MIMAROPA Region being comprised of island provinces having sea/water travel as the major means of transportation;

**WHEREAS**, thousands of passengers, including lactating mothers, stay and pass by the ports waiting for their departures;



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**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved for the port management offices in MIMAROPA to support breastfeeding among commuting mothers by establishing breastfeeding corners/rooms in their port areas, primarily to allow mothers to express their breastmilk for giving to the infant upon reaching home, and likewise to allow mothers who stay at port areas to breastfeed their babies while waiting for their departure;

**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".

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to enjoin all port management offices in the region to issue a directive/ circular requiring the establishment a breastfeeding corner/ room inside port areas.

Unanimously approved, 26<sup>th</sup> day of November 2015.

Attested by:

**CARINA Z. SANTIAGO**  
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator  
National Nutrition Council and  
Secretariat, Regional Nutrition Committee

Approved:

  
**DR. EDUARDO C. JANAIRO**  
Regional Director  
Department of Health - MIMAROPA and Chair,  
Regional Nutrition Committee