



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL
Region VIII



Regional Nutrition Committee VIII

RNC VIII Resolution No. 6, Series of 2020

**A RESOLUTION ENJOINING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN EASTERN VISAYAS
TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL DIETARY
SUPPLEMENTATION PROGRAM FOR NUTRITIONALLY-
AT-RISK (NAR) PREGNANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN
FROM 6 TO 23 MONTHS OLD**

WHEREAS, since the community quarantine was imposed due to COVID-19, the Feeding Programs were temporarily stopped and aside from the disruption of such services, household income is also affected, limiting the capacity of parents and caregivers to provide for their children's nutritional needs,

WHEREAS, Dietary Supplementation Program (DSP) is one of the nutrition specific interventions identified under the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) 2017-2022 to produce nutritional outcomes to achieve the goal of reducing maternal and child mortality with an outcome targets of reduction of child stunting and wasting, and micronutrient deficiency and no increase in child overweight and obesity, likewise reduction in the proportion of nutritionally-at-risk pregnant women as sub-outcome target;

WHEREAS, according to the 2018 Fill the Nutrition Gap Philippines Report, there are four million children below 5 years old in the Philippines who are malnourished; unlikely to reach their full mental and physical potential, and with the threat of COVID-19, the number could possibly increase;

WHEREAS, prior to COVID-19 pandemic, child malnutrition in the Philippines is one of the highest in the world with one in three children below five years old is stunted based on the 2018 Expanded National Nutrition Survey;

WHEREAS, Eastern Visayas in the 2015 National Nutrition Survey, exhibited 41.7 percent stunting, higher than the national prevalence of 33.4 percent and a prevalence of nutritionally-at-risk pregnant women of 23.1 percent which is close to the national prevalence of 24.8 percent and is the 10th highest among the regions in the country;

WHEREAS, President Duterte signed Executive Order No. 101 creating the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger which is Chaired by the Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexie B. Nograles in order to carefully coordinate, rationalize, monitor and assess the efforts of concerned government agencies and instrumentalities to ensure a whole-of-government approach to eradicating hunger and achieving food security;

WHEREAS, NNC Nutrition Cluster Advisory 2 dated 28 April 2020 recommends to all local government units and their partners to healthy and nutritious food packs and sustainable food sources – Message Number 4 advised LGUs to consider some recipients of the family food packs to families with young children, pregnant and lactating mothers while Message Number 7 also advised LGUs to include complementary foods approved by the Food and Drug Administration for children 6-23 months;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) in its 2 October 2020 meeting supported and endorsed the dietary supplementation program for nutritionally-at-risk (NAR) pregnant women and children from six to 23 months old, who will receive cash or food packs as part of the dietary supplementation program;

WHEREAS, the resolution was approved to help the vulnerable beneficiaries cope with nutritional challenges as the country continues to suffer from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, Executive Summary of the Lancet Maternal and Child Nutrition Series (2013), mentioned that one of the ten nutrition-specific interventions evident to be effective in addressing undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in women of reproductive age (WRA), pregnant women, neonates, infants, and children, when implemented at scale (90% coverage), includes balanced energy protein supplementation;

WHEREAS, the attainment of nutritional well-being is a main responsibility of families but duty bearers like government organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and development partners should help the families especially the marginalized, to be able to provide for their own nutritional needs;

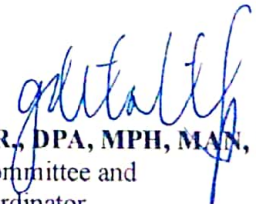
NOW THEREFORE, upon the motion of Dr. Hilaria Bustamante of Eastern Visayas State University, duly seconded by Ms. Felecita Borata of the Department of Health, be it;

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to enjoin all Local Government Units to support the implementation of the National Dietary Supplementation (DSP) program for nutritionally-at-risk (NAR) pregnant women and children from 6 to 23 months old;


RESOLVED FURTHER, that this resolution be provided to the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) 8 for wide dissemination.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, this 28th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty in Palo, Leyte.

Certified true and correct:


CATALINO P. DOTOLLO, JR., DPA, MPH, MAN, PSNT
Secretary, Regional Nutrition Committee and
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
National Nutrition Council VIII

Approved:


MINERVA P. MOLON, MD, MPH, FPPA, CESO III
Chairperson, Regional Nutrition Committee
and Regional Director, Department of Health VIII