



Excerpts from the Minutes of the Regional Development Council (RDC) VIII meeting held on March 25, 2014 at Tierra de Milagros, Brgy. Arado, Palo, Leyte.

RDC VIII Resolution No. 12, Series of 2014

ENJOINING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO CREATE THE POSITION OF A NUTRITION ACTION OFFICER IN ANY MANNER THAT WILL BEST SUIT THE EXISTING ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF THE LGU

Whereas, during the Joint Social Development Committee (SDC) VIII and Development Administration Committee (DAC) VIII Meeting held last August 20, 2013, the National Nutrition Council (NNC) VIII requested the committees' endorsement on the Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) Resolution No. 11, s. 2011, *"Requesting the Local Government Units of Eastern Visayas to Create a Mandatory Position of Nutrition Action Officer with Corresponding Office"*;

Whereas, Presidential Decree 1286, issued on January 28, 1978, entitled *"Regulating the Practice of Nutrition in the Philippines, and for Other Purposes"* provides that *"there shall be required at least one (1) nutritionist dietician for each province, city, municipality and rural health units"*;

Whereas, the creation of the position of a Nutrition Action Officer is consistent with the desired outcomes of the 2011-2016 Regional Nutrition Strategic Plan to increase the percentage of local government units (LGUs) with full time Nutrition Action Officer who will coordinate the implementation of nutrition and related programs in the locality;

Whereas, while the nutrition situation in the region appears to be stable now, there is a need to sustain the gains and avoid the risk of sudden deterioration in the nutritional status, thus the need to exert more efforts across sectors;

Whereas, to further study the matter, the joint committees created a task force composed of NNC, DBM, DILG, DOH, representatives from the LGUs, RDC VIII-Private Sector Representative for the Health Sector and, in addition, the CSC who volunteered to join the group in view of its mandate relative to the creation of positions in government service;

Whereas, while the Task Force recognizes the need to create a full time Nutrition Action Officer in each LGU, there are also other health concerns that need to be addressed and that LGUs have varying structure and financial capabilities that may affect their willingness to create the position;

Whereas, notwithstanding other health issues and concerns, the Task Force recommends the creation of a full-time Nutrition Action Officer in each LGU which may be done in any of the following options:

- a) create a position of Nutrition Action Officer with corresponding nutrition office who shall focus solely on the implementation of the PPAN and RNSP;
- b) tap/strengthen the existing local nutrition councils and designate a full-time Nutrition Action Officer who shall coordinate the activities of the nutrition council; and
- c) create or designate a Nutrition Action Officer under the Rural Health Unit;

Whereas, the Task Force's report was presented in the March 18, 2014 SDC VIII meeting and the Committee passed Resolution No. 5, series of 2014, endorsing to RDC VIII the passing of a resolution enjoining the local government units to create the position of a Nutrition Action Officer in any manner that will best suit the existing organizational structure and financial capability of the LGU.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to enjoin the Local Government Units to create the position of a Nutrition Action Officer in any manner that will best suit the existing organizational structure and financial capability of the LGU.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to request the National Nutrition Council to issue a clear guidelines on the roles and functions of the Nutrition Action Officer.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, this 25th day of March, Two Thousand and Fourteen at Palo, Leyte

Certified True and Correct:

ERNESTO T. OCTAVIANO
Acting RDC Secretary

Attested/Approved by:

DIR. BONIFACIO G. UY
RDC VIII Vice-Chair and Presiding Officer