

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION VII

RNC Resolution No. 2019-01 s. 2019

Excerpts from the Minutes of the Regional Nutrition Committee Meeting held on 26 February 2019 at the Harolds Hotel, Cebu City

RE-ORGANIZING THE REGIONAL BANTAY ASIN TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, RA 8172 otherwise known as an *“Act Promoting Salt Iodization Nationwide and for Related Purposes”*, or commonly called *“ASIN Law”* was enacted in 1995 with the goal to drastically decrease iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) through salt-iodization via the National Salt Iodization Program (NSIP);

WHEREAS, despite individual agency efforts to enforce the ASIN law, iodine deficiency is still evident in the region, according to the 2013 National Nutrition Survey, with a median urinary iodine concentration of 105 mcg/L in pregnant women (target: ≥ 150 mcg/L) and 77 mcg/L in lactating women (target: 100 mcg/L). There is also a 25.5% low birth weight prevalence (2013 NDHS) and 37.7% of children under five years of age are stunted (2015 NNS);

WHEREAS, to complement the NSIP, a regional strategic plan was formulated in Central Visayas for 2017-2019 implementation. This plan calls for a concerted effort of government and non-government key players to improve iodine status through improved supply and adequate use of iodized salt;

WHEREAS, the Regional Bantay Asin Task Force (RBATF) 7 is a sub-group of the Regional Nutrition Committee created specifically to implement the Regional Strategic Plan for Salt Iodization and is currently involved in monitoring salt iodization, salt importation, salt distribution and advocacy;

WHEREAS, participation of members to the RBATF 7 activities has declined since its organization due to changes in the different member agency mandates and the fast turn-over of RBATF 7 focal persons in each agency;

WHEREAS, the Regional Nutrition Committee recognizes the need to re-organize the Regional Bantay Asin Task Force in Central Visayas and redefine roles of each member;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that Central Visayas Regional Nutrition Committee re-organize the Regional Bantay Asin Task Force in Central Visayas as a sub-group of said committee

RESOLVE FINALLY, that the membership and roles and responsibilities be classified as follows:

- A. Chairperson and Vice Chairperson - to be elected among member agencies every three years
- B. Members - classified according to their function as follows:
- a. Production and Distribution - strengthen salt iodization through technical assistance and certification and ensuring that imported salt and distributed salt in the region are safely and adequately iodized
 - Philippine Port Authority
 - Bureau of Customs
 - Food and Drug Administration
 - Department of Science and Technology
 - Department of Trade and Industry
 - Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Environmental Management Bureau
 - Philippine National Police
 - Philippine Coast Guard
 - Salt producers/ importing companies
 - b. Promotion and Advocacy - promote continued use of iodized salt, include salt iodization in school curriculum, conduct partner summit with program stakeholders
 - Department of Health
 - Philippine Information Agency
 - Department of Education
 - Nutrition-Dietitian Association of the Philippines - Cebu Chapter
 - Philippine Association of Nutrition - Cebu Chapter
 - Philippine Nurses Association - Cebu Chapter
 - Educational Institutions
 - Other Regional Nutrition Committee member agencies
 - Other Civil Society Groups
 - c. Regulation and Monitoring - implementation of RA 9711
 - Food and Drug Administration
 - Local Government Units
 - Department of the Interior and Local Government
 - d. Program Management - act as secretariat to the RBATF 7, facilitate policy and program planning related to NSIP
 - National Nutrition Council

APPROVED, this 26th of February 2019 during the 1st RNC Full Committee Meeting Series 2019 held at Harolds Hotel, Cebu City.

Certified Correct:



Parolita A. Mission, DPA, RN
RNC 7 Secretary

Attested by:



Jaime S. Bernadas, MD, MGM, CESO III
Chairperson, RNC