



REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE X
Resolution No. 5, s. 2021

**REITERATING THE “NO MILK DONATION POLICY” IN TIMES OF DISASTERS,
EMERGENCIES AND PANDEMICS**

WHEREAS, Section 4 (f) and Section 11 of the Executive Order (EO) 51 otherwise known as “*The Milk Code*” and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations prohibits the advertising, promotion, sponsorship or marketing of infant formula, breastmilk substitutes and other related products such as, but not exclusive of, teats, feeding bottles, and artificial feeding paraphernalia;

WHEREAS, the same law states that “Donations of breastmilk substitutes including infant formula, powdered milk and other milk; feeding bottles, teats and commercial baby food are not allowed and that these should not be part of general distribution of emergency food packs”;

WHEREAS, Department of Health (DOH) Administrative Order (AO) 2006-0014 or the “*National Policies on Infant and Young Children*” indicates that in times of crisis, breastfeeding is the first and best feeding option for infants and young children and that mothers and babies should remain together and provided with support to be able to feed appropriately even under difficult circumstances;

WHEREAS, DOH AO 2007-0017 or the “*Guidelines on the Acceptance and Processing of Foreign and Local Donations during Emergency and Disaster Situations*” states that “Infant formula, breastmilk substitutes, feeding bottles, artificial nipples, and teats shall not be items for donation. No acceptance of donation shall be issued for any of the enumerated items” as these products pose greater risk to the infant and young child;

WHEREAS, the DOH prescribed the following feeding options for infant and young children in times of emergencies:

1. Breastfeeding is the first and best option for infants;
2. Expressed breastmilk and fed by cup;
3. Breastfeeding from healthy wet nurse; and
4. Human milk from milk bank and fed by cup.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to reiterate the “No Milk Donation Policy” to promote, protect and support exclusive breastfeeding for infants 0-6 months and continued breastfeeding for children 6 months old up to 2 years and beyond at all times, especially during emergencies;

RESOLVED FURTHER that the request for donation of infant formula, breastmilk substitutes and other related products that fall under the scope of the code must be coursed through the Secretary of Health and the Inter-Agency Committee (AIC) for approval and is subject to conditions provided by the DOH in response to the request;



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RESOLVED FURTHER that the local government, civil society and stakeholders must abide and implement the policy for the welfare of the affected population, particularly the infants and young children;

RESOLVED FURTHER that violation of the policy should be reported to the local health office or at <http://www.mbfp.doh.gov.ph/>;

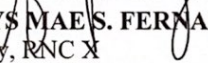
RESOLVED FINALLY that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the RNC X member agencies, members of the Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Task Force, concerned local government units and other relevant partners and stakeholders for appropriate action and support;

APPROVED, 8 June 2021

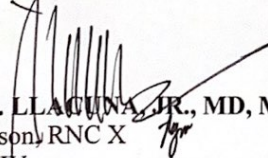
Joint RNC, RNCI and RTWG 1st Semester Virtual Meeting

Via video conferencing through Zoom

Certified Correct:


GLADYS MAE S. FERNANDEZ, RND, MDM
Secretary, RNC X
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator
National Nutrition Council X

Approved:


JOSE R. LLAGUNA, JR., MD, MPH, CESO III
Chairperson, RNC X
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