



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

**RDC VIII Resolution No. 13, Series 2014**

**ENDORISING THE ADOPTION OF THE PHILIPPINE INTEGRATED  
MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION PROTOCOL/REFERRAL SYSTEM**

*Whereas*, the conduct of Operation Timbang which started in the early 70's and regularly done by the local government units through their local nutrition committees has been an integral part of the committees' annual nutrition planning activities and in the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of nutrition interventions;

*Whereas*, in 2009, the Operation Timbang Plus growth monitoring and promotion was adopted by the Philippines to generate timely, accurate and important nutrition information about children 0-71 months old to facilitate nutrition planning and implementation;

*Whereas*, the 2012 and 2013 Operation Timbang results showed 2.98% and 3.06% severe acute malnutrition cases in the region, respectively;

*Whereas*, when super typhoon Yolanda devastated the provinces of Leyte, Samar and Eastern Samar, a team called the Nutrition Cluster was deployed to conduct the Rapid Nutrition Assessment using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference for 6-59 months old children, covering, as of March 2014, 124,615 children which resulted to the detection of 270 severe acute malnourished children and 2,037 moderate acute malnourished children, indicating that there are two acutely malnourished children in every hundred children;

*Whereas*, while there are various nutrition programs, projects and activities embodied in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition 2011-2016, for the LGUs to select from, the Philippine Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (PIMAM) approach is being proposed for adoption by the Department of Health as it is recommended by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF);

*Whereas*, the PIMAM protocol is a major step taken by DOH in ensuring that children who are most vulnerable to death due to malnutrition receive appropriate, cost-effective, evidenced-based life saving treatment;

*Whereas*, results from both the Operation Timbang and post Yolanda nutrition assessment show that Eastern Visayas has an estimated 2-3% acute malnutrition rate which qualifies for the PIMAM approach to be adopted since the protocol suggests that a less than 5% malnutrition rate should adopt the protocol;

**Whereas**, considering the transition plan and the sustainability of the present activities implemented by the Nutrition Cluster, there is a need to adopt a referral protocol for the treatment and management of severe acute malnutrition cases by local government units and hospitals;

**Whereas**, the adoption of an effective referral system for the management and treatment of acute malnutrition cases supports the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) and achieve the 1<sup>st</sup> MDG target of eradicating extreme poverty by reducing the prevalence of malnourished children, thereby ensuring a healthy and productive human resource as espoused in the 2013-2016 Updated Regional Development Plan;

**Whereas**, in its meeting held last March 18, 2014, the Social Development Committee passed Resolution No. 6, s. 2014, "*Recommending RDC VIII Endorsement of the Adoption of the Philippine Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Protocol/Referral System.*"

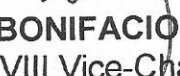
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to endorse the adoption of the Philippine Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Protocol/Referral System.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, Two Thousand and Fourteen, Palo, Leyte.

Certified True and Correct:

  
**ERNESTO T. OCTAVIANO**  
Acting RDC VIII Secretary

Attested/Approved by:

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