





17 September 2024

**TOLENTINO G. AQUINO**  
Regional Director  
Department of Education Region I  
City of San Fernando  
2500 La Union

Dear **Director Aquino**:

This is to inform your good office that in support of the implementation of the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty program at the regional level, the Regional Development Council-Ilocos Region, chaired by Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew J. Marcos Manotoc, has issued Resolution No. 56, series of 2024- Enjoining All Regional Line Agencies and Local Government Units to Support the Implementation of the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (EPAHP) Program in Region I.

In view of this, we are endorsing the official copy of the said resolution, attached herewith, for your ready reference.

For other concerns and queries, Ms. Honeycelle R. Jucutan of the EPAHP RPMO can be reached through mobile number 09157581676 or email: epahp.fo1@dswd.gov.ph

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

*Marie Angela S. Gopalan*  
**MARIE ANGELA S. GOPALAN**  
Regional Director





## **REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL – ILOCOS REGION**

**NEDA REGIONAL OFFICE I**

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL-1 (RDC-1) MEETING FOR CY 2024 HELD ON  
28 JUNE 2024 AT ARIANA HOTEL, BAUANG, LA UNION**

**RDC-1 Resolution No. 56, s. 2024**

### **ENJOINING ALL REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY (EPAHP) PROGRAM IN REGION 1**

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Philippine Constitution, embodied in State Policies, declares that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all and it shall encourage non-governmental, community-based, or sectoral organizations that promote the welfare of the nation;

**WHEREAS**, the Sustainable Development Goals as set by the United Nations, to which the Republic of the Philippines is a signatory, identifies "Zero Hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture" as one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals;

**WHEREAS**, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger which formulated the National Food Policy, was created under Executive Order No. 101 series of 2020 signed by then President Rodrigo Duterte on 10 January 2020; and further amended, by reorganizing the structure thereof through Executive Order No. 27, series of 2024 issued by President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on 18 May 2023;

**WHEREAS**, the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (EPAHP) is a banner program of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger which aims to synergize the efforts on mitigating hunger and poverty, promote food and nutrition security and proper nutrition through promoting access to markets and engaging Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) through the community participation in government procurement and as service providers of supplementary feeding programs, livelihood programs, food production, and other essential support services;

**WHEREAS**, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority, fisherfolks and farmers have the highest poverty incidence in the country;

**WHEREAS**, the cycle of poverty in a household is also the root cause of the persistent malnutrition problem in the country, and involuntary hunger, food security, poverty, undernutrition, child wasting, stunting and mortality, and sustainable agriculture are the long-time continuing challenges of the country;

ENJOINING ALL REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY (EPAHP) PROGRAM IN REGION 1

**WHEREAS**, on the DOST-FNRI Expanded National Nutrition Survey in Region 1, the province of Pangasinan has the highest incidence of food insecurity among the four provinces with 6 out of 10 households (55.4 percent), followed by Ilocos Norte with 4 out of 10 (43.6 percent) households, La Union with 3 out of 10 (28.7 percent) households, and Ilocos Sur with 2 out of 10 (22.6 percent) households experience severe food insecurity;

**WHEREAS**, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. recently pronounced Memorandum Circular No. 47, series of 2024, which directs all government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations, government financial institutions, and encourages all Local Government Units, to support the implementation of the EPAHP Program;

**WHEREAS**, the EPAHP is also grounded on Republic Act No. 11321 or the Establishing the Farmers and Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Program, also known as, the Sagip Saka Act of 2019 which seeks to strengthen the farmers and fisherfolk enterprise developments and directs the national and local government agencies to directly purchase agricultural and fisheries products from accredited farmers and fisherfolks;

**WHEREAS**, the Government Procurement Policy Board issued Resolution No. 18 Series of 2021 - Approving the amendment to Section 53.12 of the 2016 revised implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184 and the guidelines for the conduct of community participation in procurement;

**WHEREAS**, in Region 1, a Regional Memorandum of Agreement on the implementation of EPAHP was renewed and adopted by the twenty-one (21) regional partner-agencies on August 11, 2023, which composed the Regional Convergence Team (RCT), to wit: Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Education (DepEd), National Nutrition Council (NNC), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), DA-National Irrigation Administration (NIA), DA-Agricultural Training Institute, DA-Philippine Carabao Center at DMMSU Rosario, DA-Philippine Carabao Center at MMSU - Batac City, DOF-Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, Commission on Population and Development (CPD), National Food Authority (NFA), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and Department of Health (DOH) Center for Health Development;



ENJOINING ALL REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY (EPAHP) PROGRAM IN REGION 1

**WHEREAS**, the primary considerations on which agencies will be part of the EPAHP was the agency's alignment with EPAHP's components on demand, supply, and support services;

**WHEREAS**, EPAHP encourages the development and/or strengthening of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) as an avenue for farmers, fisherfolk and other poor individuals to better participate in economic activities as this Program prepared as suppliers for the institutionalized feeding programs of the government;

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the collective efforts of the RCT, in 2022, forty-two (42) CBO suppliers, consisting of small, medium and 4Ps farmer cooperatives and associations have been awarded contracts amounting to Php 82,198,441.70, which represents a 22 percent share out of the total aggregate budget agencies under the demand side of the program of Php 375,371,056.00; and in 2023, fifty-six (56) CBOs with sales amounted to Php 103,325,094.80 which is 27 percent of the total budget of demand side agencies at Php 387,902,193.97;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to organize and develop more CBOs of marginalized, small-scale, poor farmers and fishers to increase their access to the government programs and services such as capacity building, skills training, credit support, provision of farm inputs, equipment and development of necessary infrastructures that can provide better yield and productivity,

**WHEREAS**, the realization of the whole-of-government approach to address food insecurity in the country and aligned with the Regional Development Plan 2023-2028 of Region 1 to ensure food security and proper nutrition and help increase income-earning ability of farmers and fisherfolks;

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of EPAHP in Region will be through provision of institutional feeding programs, enhancing sustainability of the program through policies, provision of farm inputs and technologies, establishments, repair and construction of agricultural facilities and food hubs, and other productivity improvement to support food production, processing and distribution and developing and capacitating CBOs through but not limited to: credit assistance and capability building such as entrepreneurial mind setting and values formation, skills training, digitalization, business improvement, food safety; and utilizing them as Suppliers ensuring market linkage in related programs, projects, and activities using the Negotiated Procurement-Community Participation modality;

**WHEREAS**, in its 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting, the RSDC reviewed the initiative and recognized the importance of this undertaking towards realizing our region's vision and long-term vision of a *Matatag, Maginhawa at Panatag na buhay para sa lahat* and endorsed this initiative through the RSDC Resolution No. 07, s. 2024;



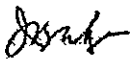
ENJOINING ALL REGIONAL LINE AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY (EPAHP) PROGRAM IN REGION 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to enjoin all Regional Line Agencies and Local Government Units to support the implementation of the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Program in Region 1;

RESOLVED FINALLY, to provide a copy of this resolution to all Regional Line Agencies and Local Government Units in Region 1 through the DILG for action;

APPROVED, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024 at San Fernando City, La Union.


CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

  
IRENEA B. UBUNGEN  
RDC-1 Secretary  
(Assistant Regional Director, NEDA RO1)

ATTESTED BY:

  
STEPHANIE F. CHRISTIANSEN  
RDC-1 Vice-Chairperson  
(Regional Director, NEDA RO1)

CONCURRED BY:

  
MATTHEW J. MARCOS MANOTOC  
RDC-1 Chairperson  
(Governor, Province of Ilocos Norte)

