



EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION – ARTISANAL FISHERFOLK SECTORAL COUNCIL (NAPC-AFSC) $4^{\rm TH}$ QUARTELY COUNCIL MEETING AND ASSESSMENT HELD ON NOVEMBER 18-19, 2019 AT HOTEL RODOLFO, TACLOBAN CITY

Resolution No. 7

Series of 2019

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY-BASED SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

WHEREAS, Section 2 (e) of Republic Act (R.A. No. 10654), which amended R.A. No. 8550, states that it is the policy of the State 'to provide support to the fishery sector, primarily to the municipal fisherfolk, including women and youth sectors, through appropriate technology and research, adequate financial, production, construction of post-harvest facilities, marketing assistance, and other services;

WHEREAS, it is also the policy of the State to alleviate poverty and provide supplementary livelihood among municipal fisherfolk;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) in 2015 has recorded high poverty incidence in the fisheries sector with 34% as compared to national poverty incidence of 21.6%¹;

WHEREAS, in a study by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) in 2019, poverty may have increased among the fisheries sector due to the implementation of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) law with a projected increase of 3.2%² in poverty incidence;

WHEREAS, fisherfolk and people who live in low lying coastal areas are highly vulnerable to climate change associated risks that pose adverse impacts to their lives, livelihood and subsistence;

WHEREAS, the newly appointed Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Dr. William Dar, proposed to implement his 8-point agenda to increase farmers and fisherfolk harvest (*ani*) and income (*kita*);

¹ Farmers, fishermen and children consistently posted the highest poverty incidence among basic sectors. https://psa.gov.ph/content/farmers-fishermen-and-children-consistently-posted-highest-poverty-incidence-among-basic. Philippine Statistics Authority, June 30, 2017.

² Study: TRAIN Law Hurt Lower Income Folk More, https://www.pids.gov.ph/pids-in-the-news/2829, Philippine Institute for Development Studies, April 25, 2019.





WHEREAS, representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) and the Artisanal Fisherfolk Sectoral Council of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) conducted a dialogue with the DA through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) particularly the Fisheries Industry Development and Support Services in order to learn more about the KADIWA Ani and Kita program and propose strategies and activities to improve it last November 11, 2019. It was agreed that positive outcomes like improved income of fisherfolk and additional income sources have been shown by implementing various programs under the Community-Based Coastal Resources Management (CB-CRM);

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of CM Gerardo Malinao, duly seconded by CM Gavina Tumbaga, **BE IT RESOLVED**, **AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the NAPC-AFSC unanimously approved to endorse to DA-BFAR the following recommendations, as a result of the dialogue:

- 1. To adopt the principles and strategies of CB-CRM/Eco-system approach to fishery management as proven framework in improving not only the conditions of the coastal and marine resources but also the plight of the people who depend on them for livelihood and subsistence;
- 2. To develop and implement a program that form savings clubs and group savings and loan associations in fishing communities;
- 3. To form a Technical Working Group (TWG) for social and conservation enterprises that will meet regularly in order to learn latest and effective innovations and to discuss, identify and propose policies that will create a conducive environment for community-based livelihood programs;
- 4. To develop a program, in consultation with CSOs and NAPC-AFSC and other stakeholders, and allocate sufficient funds to support social and conservation enterprises that are in 'incubation period'; and
- 5. To continue providing assistance to marginalized fishing communities in the development and improvement of existing social and conservation enterprises for replication and scaling-up.

RESOLVED FURTHER that the Department of Agriculture, shall continue community-based fisheries programs and projects for the small-scale fisheries sector with appropriate funds provided;

RESOLVED FINALLY that this resolution be furnished to the Office of the Secretary of Department of Agriculture and Office of Undersecretary for Fisheries and Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for their appropriate action.

Unanimously deliberated and approved by the members of the National Anti-Poverty Commission-Artisanal Fisherfolk Sectoral Council during its 4th Quarterly Council Meeting and Assessment on November 18 - 19, 2019 at Hotel Rodolfo, Tacloban City.

Duly signed this November 19, 2019 at Hotel Rodolfo, Tacloban City.





DANILO C. TRONGCO CAR TEDDY A. MATULAC REGION 6

ANDRES P. SALUTA CARAGA

GAVINA P TUMBAGA REGION 1 VEDA A. RAUNILLO REGION 7

NUKSÁ A. JAMMANG ARMM

MERCEDITA A. SUETOS REGION 2 DELFA TI TALAID
REGION 7

SAMSON A. SARAWI ARMM

RESTITUTO C. DEL ROSARIO REGION 3 GERARDO M. MALINAO REGION 8

RUPERTO B. ALEROZA NATIONAL

RODOLFO C. RONDON

NCR

EMILIO H. ALVERIO REGION 9 PABLO R. ROSALES NATIONAL

DANILO C. TRONGCO CAR TEDDY A. MATULAC REGION 6 ANDRES P. SALUTA CARAGA

GAVINA PHTUMBAG

REGION 1

VEDA A. RAUNILLO

REGION 7

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