



REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL – ILOCOS REGION

NEDA REGIONAL OFFICE 1

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 1 (RDC-1) FULL COUNCIL MEETING FOR CY 2022 HELD ON 29 JUNE 2022 VIA ZOOM

RDC-1 RESOLUTION NO. 51, s. 2022

ADOPTING SALT AS A STRATEGIC COMMODITY OF REGION 1

WHEREAS, salt is a basic commodity and an essential ingredient for food processing, water treatment, feeds, fertilizer and in the production of chemicals used in agro-industrial and chemical industry processing activities;

WHEREAS, in the past years, the country was self-sufficient on salt until the passage of R.A. No. 8172 or the Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN) in 1995 requiring all salt manufacturers to iodize food-grade salt for human and animal consumption, since then, salt production declined tremendously and at present, the country's salt self-sufficiency level is at seven percent while 93 percent of salt requirement is being imported;

WHEREAS, the four provinces of Region 1 are among the 10 provinces in the country with existing salt production areas considering its Type 1 Climate described to have the longest pronounced dry season from November to April which makes it suitable for salt production;

WHEREAS, an estimated land area of 4,062 hectares (has.) is also available for salt production distributed among the four provinces of the region as follows: Ilocos Norte - 920.45 has.; Ilocos Sur - 733.85 has.; La Union - 1,472.90 has.; and Pangasinan - 934.80 has.;

WHEREAS, based on the study conducted by the Pacific Farms, Inc., the country's largest salt producer, the estimated net income to be generated for a one-hectare salt farm is at Php 42,750.00 per season;

WHEREAS, the revival of salt industry in the region will contribute in improving the production and productivity of the local fisherfolks as well as create additional employment in relevant enterprises on logistical support, input production (materials and equipment), and civil engineering works, among others;

WHEREAS, aside for prospects from local demands, the country may take advantage of the export potentials of salt considering that our neighboring countries such as China, Japan, Indonesia, South Korea, and Taipei are the Asia's largest salt importers based on CY 2017 documented reports;

WHEREAS, Region 1, being envisioned as the Agribusiness and Tourism Hub in Northern Philippines, could contribute toward making significant strides in the development of salt, particularly in enjoining national line agencies such as Department of Agriculture (DA), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Science and

Technology (DOST), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and the Local Government Units (LGUs) in providing financial resources and technical expertise to support salt industry development as well as in enticing private sectors to invest in the industry;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 8550 also known as “**The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998**” considers salt as one of the aquatic resources, thereby eligible to be acknowledged as a priority commodity of Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources which can be provided with fund allocation in the agency’s budgetary resources;

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Sectoral Committee (EDSeCom) approved during its 2nd Quarter Meeting on June 9, 2022 the endorsement to RDC-1 the adoption of salt as a strategic commodity of Region 1 through EDSeCom Resolution No. 6, 2022;

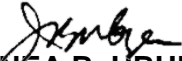
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to adopt salt as a strategic commodity of Region 1;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to recommend to the DA-BFAR Central Office the inclusion of salt as a priority commodity of the agency and to designate DA-BFAR Region 1 as the commodity champion in advocating the promotion, support and development of salt in Region 1, and where feasible, in the external market;

RESOLVED FINALLY, to provide copies of this resolution to all RDC-1 members for information and guidance;

APPROVED, this 29th day of June 2022 in a virtual meeting conducted via Zoom.


CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:


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

ATTESTED BY:


NESTOR G. RILLON
RDC-1 Vice-Chairman
(Regional Director, NEDA 1)

CONCURRED BY:


JUAN CARLO S. MEDINA
RDC-1 Chairman
(Mayor, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur)