RDC XI Executive Committee Resolution No. 45, Series of 2021

APPROVING THE DAVAO REGION COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CFIDP), 2022-2026, SUBJECT TO THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EDC XI

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) 11524 or the Coconut Famers and Industry Trust Fund Act, mandated the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) to formulate the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP), as the basis for the utilization and management of Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund, for the development and rehabilitation of the Coconut Industry in the Philippines for 50 years, within 120 days from the effectivity of the said Act;

WHEREAS, before the finalization and submission of the CFIDP to the President for approval, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) shall provide advisory opinions on whether the Plan is supportive and consistent with socio-economic development programs and towards the achievement of explicit objectives and expected results, to ensure that the utilization of Coconut Levy Fund is conducted effectively and whether the Plan accelerates and sustains economic growth for the coconut industry;

WHEREAS, the proposed coordination mechanism in the implementation of the CFIDP shall provide directions and recommendations toward sustainable development of the coconut industry, focusing on inclusive growth to lift the coconut farmers out of poverty and improving the competitiveness and expanding market potential of traditional and non-traditional coconut products;

WHEREAS, PCA deemed it necessary to create a Regional Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan to properly effect the coordination mechanism in the implementation of the law at the regional level;

WHEREAS, during the June 28, 2021 special meeting of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) XI, the strategic programs, projects and activities (PPAs), as well as, the five-year targets, program management, inter-agency coordination and monitoring and evaluation of the Davao Region CFIDP were discussed and deemed to be important and responsive to the needs of the Coconut Industry in the region;

WHEREAS, the Committee recognized that Davao Region CFIDP shall provide guidance and recommendation for the coconut industry's long-term development, with a focus on sustainable growth to lift coconut farmers out poverty, and improving competitiveness and expanding market potential of coconut products in Davao Region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that this Committee approve the Davao Region Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP), 2022-2026, subject to the comments and recommendations of the EDC XI, attached as Annex A of this resolution.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to PCA Central Office and PCA Region XI, for its appropriate action.

Issued this 8th day of July, Two Thousand and Twenty-One in Davao City, Philippines.

Certified True and Correct:

MÁRIO M. REALISTA, CESE Acting RDC XI Secretary

Attested:

MARIA LOURDES D. LIM, CESO II

RDC XI Vice-Chairperson and NEDA XI Regional Director

Approved:

JAYVÉE TYRON L. UY, MPA

RDC XI Chairperson and Presiding Officer Governor, Province of Davao de Oro

ANNEX A

The following are the EDC XI comments and recommendations on the Plan, viz:

- 1. It is recommended that Davao Region Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan, 2022-2026 be aligned with the Davao Regional Development Plan (DRDP), 2017-2022 Midterm Update, particularly in Chapter 8: Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries; and the Updated Davao Region Industry Clusters Roadmap (DR-ICR), 2014-2030, particularly in improving agricultural productivity and raising production levels of the Region's priority commodities, especially for coconut industry.
- On the institutional mechanism of the Plan, it is recommended that an organizational structure be established, indicating the specific roles and responsibilities of the concerned agencies, to ensure smooth implementation of the Plan, particularly that of the Regional Line Agencies in Davao Region.
- 3. Moreover, clarification is sought on the composition of the member agencies who shall form part of the inter-agency technical working group (TWG) at the regional level to handle all the vertical and horizontal coordination and monitoring and evaluation purposes.
- 4. RA 11524 provides that the Plan shall set the directions and policies for the development and rehabilitation of the coconut industry within fifty (50) years. However, it is noted that the timelines of the programs, activities and projects (PAPs) in the CFIDP cover only the periods 2022-2026. Clarification is sought on the rationale of the indicated timelines (2022-2026) of the Plan.
- 5. On the COCOFIRM operating framework, clarification is sought on the process of the release and utilization of trust fund and the required reportorial and submission of documentary requirements. May we recommend that a process flow for the release and disbursement of funds, tapping the coco levy fund, be created, for transparency and accountability purposes? This process flow should indicate the requirements, timelines and person's/office responsible for each step.
- 6. The law also provides that the Plan shall provide an indicative funding requirement or allocation for the implementation of any and all of the programs and projects to be funded by the Trust Fund which funding or allocation shall be itemized or broken down on a project-to-project basis. It is recommended that columns for indicative funding requirement and timelines be added in compliance with the mandate of the law and to ascertain the extent of resources needed for every strategic undertaking and for every year of implementation.
- 7. It is also recommended that a concomitant investment program be drawn up as a companion document to the CFIDP.
- 8. PCA XI needs also to consider the following:
 - For projects which are recurring, or to be implemented on a regular basis, the allocation shall indicate the annual amount that may be required to implement said project;
 - For projects that are to be implemented or concluded within a period of time, the allocation shall indicate the total amount that may be required for the

- implementation of the whole project, itemized according to the phases or stage of said project; and
- All projects shall be evaluated on the basis of financial returns and increased farmers income;
- 9. The law mandates that the Plan shall provide the criteria for targeting beneficiaries, the indicators in determining the attainment of the Plan objectives, and the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the impact of the different components of the program. Clarification is sought as to who are the target beneficiaries of the PAPs indicated in the Coconut Industry Development Plan (2022-2026), as well as, the identification and selection criteria for targeting these beneficiaries. May we recommend that a checklist be created to facilitate the selection process of the beneficiates? Moreover, we also recommend that target beneficiaries be included as a separate section in the Plan.
- 10. Moreover, the monitoring and evaluation on the implementation of the Plan is not clear, since it is just subsumed in Part VII of the Davao Region CFIDP, with a general reference to result matrices. It is recommended that a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan be incorporated, as well as the M&E tools, to ensure the effectiveness of the Plan.
- 11. It is also recommended that a contingency plan, risk management plan, and communication plan be incorporated in the Davao Region Coconut Industry Development Plan, 2022-2026, in order to minimize the possible disruption in the implementation of the plan.
- 12. Include the role of Local Government Units (LGUs) in the SCARF Management System Framework.
- 13. Consider translating the national framework into a Regional System Framework, indicating the roles of agencies, LGUs and the private sector.
- 14. Engage the private sector/civil society in the development and implementation of the CFIDP.
- 15. Highlight the role of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in the Research, Marketing and Promotion Component, under Value-adding and Food Safety.
- 16. Emphasize the need for enterprise-based research studies, aligned with the program on grassroots innovation and shopfloor R&D.
- 17. Consider provision of quality assurance/testing services for coconut-based industries, especially for export products.
- 18. Establish linkage with DOST's Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (DOST-SETUP) to increase productivity.
- 19. Consider collaboration with DOST XI and DTI XI in terms of Halal training and consulting services.