

NATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR HEALTH 2005-2010



Department of Health
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FOREWORD

The health status of Filipinos has generally improved in the last decades as evidenced by longer life expectancy at birth, lower maternal and child mortality rates, and better health outcomes seen in the management of many important diseases. The development of the Health Sector Reform Agenda (HSRA) in 1999 has prompted the implementation of sector-wide strategies aimed at further enhancing these gains by improving the way health care is delivered, regulated, managed and financed.



The health reforms taken at the start of this century witnessed pioneering strategies in turning health policy and advocacy into action from a wider array of actors, both in and out of the health sector. Better access to quality health goods and services has been made possible through the expansion of social health insurance coverage, especially among the poor, and through the establishment of mechanisms to bring down the price of essential medicines. Greater fiscal autonomy given to national government hospitals has enabled them to pursue higher quality services while enhanced coordination among local government units has transformed their fragmented local health systems into more dynamic and effective inter-local health zones.

On top of these reforms, aggressive national health campaigns were launched resulting in better service coverage against lingering infectious diseases and higher awareness and enhanced preventive measures against rising lifestyle-related diseases. Comprehensive health education and promotion on family and reproductive health were also carried out targeting both the general public and high-risk populations. We have also witnessed the successful halting and management of newly emerging global health threats like SARS which provided valuable lessons in the current international efforts to stop the spread of highly fatal avian influenza and to reverse the course of HIV/AIDS.

Our initial efforts in health reforms have definitely yielded promising results. However, celebration of these achievements is both untimely and presumptuous even as wide regional differences in health status remain. The country today still wrestles with the double burden of disease, which further stretches the limited resources of our economy while more ferocious killers, both emerging and resurgent, are increasingly hammering our doors. A large proportion of our poor is still defenseless from the scourge of curable

illnesses and preventable deaths. Although infant and maternal mortality rates have improved over the years, the rate of decline is slow, thus, the Philippines still lags behind our close neighbors in the Southeast Asian region. Obviously, we still have to fulfill the promise of bridging the gap between the rich and the poor in terms of providing equal health opportunities, equitable access to quality health care services and better health for all regardless of ethnicity, religion, belief or rank.

Several issues hamper the health sector from realizing these most urgent tasks. There are potent barriers and multiple forces necessitating the action of more than the health sector: macroeconomic and sociopolitical issues, fragmented local health systems and private health care markets, limited capacity for quality assurance of health care products and services, many essential drugs still excessively priced out of reach for the poor, low investments in health, and the maldistribution of health professionals compounded by their massive out-migration. In the face of all these challenges, the country has to follow through with its commitment to attain the goals set in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) 2004-2010 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of ending poverty, improving access to health, education and other basic social services and attaining greater national development.

The time to act is now. The time to begin is right away. But with old problems still unresolved and new issues on the rise, a great deal remains to be done in order to address the gaps in the health sector. The Department of Health, in its visionary quest to strengthen the Philippine health system and make it a vehicle for social change, engineered the *Fourmula One for Health (F1)* as the new implementation framework for vital health sector reforms. It is designed to implement critical health interventions with *speed, precision and effective coordination* to achieve the three major goals of the health care system: *better health outcomes, more responsive health system and more equitable health care financing*. *F1* strategically focuses on cost-effective interventions which can create the most impact, while maximizing limited health resources and generating buy-in from all potential partners.

The goals and objectives stated herein reflect the major thrusts of *F1* in *health care financing* (public financing for health and social health insurance), *health regulation* (quality assurance of health goods and services, and cost containment of essential medicines), *health service delivery* (delivery of public health programs and hospital

services) and *good governance* (local health systems development, human resource development, financial and procurement management, and knowledge management).

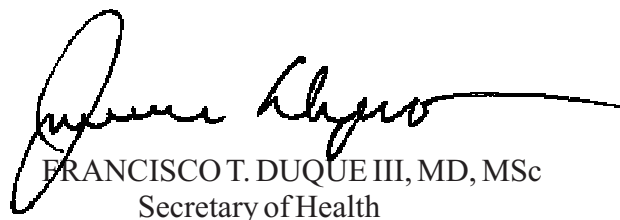
The development of the National Objectives for Health (NOH) for the period 2005 to 2010 builds on and integrates many of the lessons learned from previous experiences while ensuring that gains are sustained and institutionalized. But just like the first NOH (for the period 1999 to 2004), various health professionals and resource persons within and outside the DOH contributed to its completion. This ensures that the objectives and strategies set herein address the true needs of our people, are technically sound, and can be realistically accomplished within the next five to six years. It aims to unify the entire Philippine health sector towards improving the health of all Filipinos by spelling out a common direction and setting achievable medium-term goals for all.

In essence, the NOH provides the “road map” of key ideas, targets, indicators and strategies to bring the health sector to its desired outcomes. It also defines the collective and individual roles that the various stakeholders – policy makers, program planners and managers, service providers, local government executives, development partners, the academe and civil society – play in shaping the future of our country’s health system and in bringing better health outcomes for our people.

Thus, we enjoin each and everyone to make full use of this valuable document for the purpose of health planning, policy and program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It is our fervent wish to share a common vision with you and all our partners in this exciting race towards “*Health for all Filipinos*”.

Hence, with *Fourmula One for Health* as our *guiding philosophy* and *strategic approach*, let us make that crucial appointment today. Let us commit ourselves to winning and meeting very soon at the finish line with victory in our faces and with health finally in the hands of our people. Working in synergy, we can overcome all roadblocks that may slow or halt our progress. Together, we will definitely share the triumph of a healthy, productive and progressive nation for all generations of Filipinos.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!



FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AFP	Acute Flaccid Paralysis	FIES	Family Income and Expenditure Survey
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	FPS	Family Planning Survey
ASAP	Araw ng Sangkap Pinoy	FSCAP	Federation of Senior Citizens Association of the Philippines
BCG	Bacillus Calmette Guerin	GIDA	Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas
BEMOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care	GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
BHERT	Barangay Health Emergency Response Team	GMP	Good Manufacturing Practices
BnB	Botika ng Barangay	GP	Garantisadong Pambata
BSNOH	Baseline Survey for the National Objectives for Health	HIV	Human Immune Deficiency Virus
BSS	Behavioral Sentinel Surveillance	HRH	Human Resource for Health
CBJA	Competency-Based Job Description Analysis	HRHIS	Human Resource for Health Information System
CDMS	Career Development and Management System	HSS	HIV Serologic Surveillance
CELF	Coalition to Eliminate Filariasis	IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
CEPR	Center for Economic and Policy Research	IIS	Integrated Information System
CGMP	Current Good Manufacturing Process	ILHZ	Inter-Local Health Zone
COSE	Coalition of Services for the Elderly	IPP	Individually Paying Program
CPG	Clinical Practice Guidelines	ISO	International Standards Office
CQI	Continuous Quality Improvement	JRRSS	Job Related Recruitment and Selection System
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child	KM	Knowledge Management
CROWN	Consistent Regional Outstanding Winners in Nutrition	LHA	Local Health Accounts
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short Course	MARIA	Medical Aid to Rural Indigents Areas
EOHP	Essential Oral Health Package	MBFHI	Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative
EPHF	Essential Public Health Functions	MMAQIS	Metro Manila Air Quality Improvement Sector
ESRD	End-Stage Renal Disease	MTPDP	Medium Term Philippine Development Plan
ESWM	Ecological Solid Waste Management Act	NAMRU	Naval Medical Research Unit
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control	NBCP	National Bio-safety Committee of the Philippines
FGD	Flue Gas Desulfurization	NCORP	National Comprehensive Occupational Rehabilitation Program
		NDHS	National Demographic and Health Survey

NDS	National Disability Survey	PNS	Philippine Normal Standard
NESSS	National Epidemiology Sentinel Surveillance System	POGI	PhilHealth Organized Groups Interface
NGAS	New Government Accounting System	PPAC	Philippine Plan of Action for Children
NHA	National Health Accounts	PPAN	Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition
NHIP	National Health Insurance Program	PPAOP	Philippine Plan of Action for Older Persons
NNHS	National Nutrition and Health Survey	PRO	PhilHealth Regional Office
NNS	National Nutrition Survey	PSY	Philippine Statistical Yearbook
NRL	National Reference Laboratory	PWD	Persons with Disability
NSCB	National Statistical Coordination Board	QAP	Quality Assurance Program
NSD	Normal Spontaneous Delivery	REB	Reaching Every Barangay
NTPS	National Tuberculosis Prevalence Survey	RSP	Rationalization and Streamlining Plan
OFW	Overseas Filipino Workers	SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
OPIF	Organizational Performance Indicator Framework	SEMP	Social Expenditure Management Program
OPV	Oral Polio Vaccine	SHI	Social Health Insurance
OSHC	Occupational Safety and Health Center	SSM	Sentrong Sigla Movement
OTC	Over-the-Counter Drugs	TCT	Tobacco Control Team
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization	TDNA	Training and Development Needs Analysis
PCAHO	Philippine Council for the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations	TRC	Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers
PCEG	Presidential Committee on Effective Governance	TSP	Total Suspended Particulates
PDEA	Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency	ULAP	Union of Local Authorities in the Philippines
PEM	Protein Energy Malnutrition	UPMO	Unified Project Management Office
PHS	Philippine Health Statistics		
PITC	Philippine International Trading Corporation		
PLHIS	Philippine Local Health Information System		
PMCC	Philippine Medical Care Commission		
PMS	Performance Management System		
PNHA	Philippine National Health Account		

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