



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF ISABELA**  
City of Ilagan  
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## *Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan*

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF ISABELA HELD AT PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, ILAGAN CITY, ISABELA ON SEPTEMBER 06, 2022.

**PRESENT:**

DELFINITO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO	Acting Vice-Governor & Presiding Officer Protempore
MANUEL FAUSTINO U. DY	Member (5 <sup>th</sup> District) & Floor Leader Protempore
EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. AÑES	Member (1 <sup>st</sup> District)
ED CHRISTIAN S. GO	Member (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)
EDGAR R. CAPUCHINO	Member (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)
MARY GRACE D. ARREOLA	Member (3 <sup>rd</sup> District)
RAMON JUAN N. REYES, JR.	Member (3 <sup>rd</sup> District)
CLIFFORD R. RASPADO	Member (4 <sup>th</sup> District)
VICTOR G. DY	Member (4 <sup>th</sup> District)
EDWARD S. ISIDRO	Member (5 <sup>th</sup> District)
MARCO PAOLO A. MERIS	Member (6 <sup>th</sup> District)
AMADOR A. GAFFUD, JR.	Member (6 <sup>th</sup> District)
ANTONIO S. HUI	Member, PCL Federation President
DANTE G. HALAMAN	Member, LnB Federation President
DAX PAOLO C. BINAG	Member, SK Federation President
ADRIAN PHILIP S. BAYSAC	Member, Agricultural /Industrial Workers Labor Sector Representative
MARGARETTE U. CHIN	Member, Indigenous Cultural Communities Sector Representative
EVYN JAY C. DIAZ	Member, Labor Sector Representative
On Leave:	
LOURDES S. PANGANIBAN	Member, Women's Sectoral Representative

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-34-05** Series of 2022

#### **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF ISABELA ON THE COMMERCIAL PROPAGATION OF GOLDEN RICE BY SEEDS GROWERS AND FARMERS IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA**

**Sponsor: HON. ADRIAN PHILIP S. BAYSAC**  
Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Isabela upholds a policy in which it accords preferential consideration to the promotion of the agriculture sector in the formulation of its plans and in the implementation of its programs;

**WHEREAS**, this August Body recognizes that malnutrition significantly reduces the productiveness of the people, poses a great risk to their health, and impedes the development of families and communities;

**WHEREAS**, existing government interventions that address malnutrition such as supplementation, food fortification, promotion of a diversified diet, and breastfeeding programs have proved successful. However, most of those within the poverty line have failed to consistently achieve the benefits of such interventions;

***Nagkaisa para sa Isabela***

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**WHEREAS**, given the continued challenges brought about by population growth, rising food prices, effects of climate change, and health emergencies, among others, additional interventions are needed to improve nutrition in communities and fill the nutrition gap;

**WHEREAS**, biofortification is the “process by which the nutritional quality of food crops is improved through agronomic practices, conventional plant breeding, or modern biotechnology”. Modern biotechnology tools include genetic engineering and gene editing which offers a huge potential for increasing productivity and improving the nutrient content of crops such as rice, corn, and vegetables. Crop biofortification is intended to promote a sustainable, cost-effective, and food-based means of delivering target micronutrients to those who cannot access nor afford existing nutrient interventions;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Agriculture – Philippine Rice Institute (DA – PhilRice) is leading the development and pilot-scale deployment of biofortified Golden Rice developed through modern biotechnology. Golden Rice is a new type of rice that is genetically engineered to contain beta-carotene – a source of vitamin A, in the grains to complement existing nutrition interventions to address vitamin A deficiency (VAD), a prevalent form of micronutrient malnutrition that affects 15.5% of Filipino children;

**WHEREAS**, on July 16, 2001, Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo approved the Policy Statement on Modern Biotechnology, promoting the safe and responsible use of modern biotechnology and its products as one of several means to achieve and sustain food security, equitable access to health services, sustainable and safe environment, and industry development;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Proclamation No. 1414 was issued in 2007 in recognition of the crucial contribution of biotechnology in sustaining increases in crop yields and farm productivity, and in enhancing the quality, value, and sustainability of crops for food and other uses that are complementary to modern agriculture;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines, as a signatory to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, is committed to ensuring the development, handling, transport, use, transfer, and release of genetically modified organisms are undertaken in a manner that prevents or reduces the risks to biological diversity and human health. The Philippines is the first country in Southeast Asia to develop robust biosafety regulations and approve the commercial cultivation of a genetically modified crop for feed and food;

**WHEREAS**, Golden Rice has undergone all necessary biosafety assessments pursuant to the DOST-DA-DENR-DOH-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2016, and has received regulatory approval for Food, Feed, and for Processing (FFP) from the DA – Bureau of Plant Industry (DA-BPI) stating that Golden Rice is safe as conventional rice with the added benefit of beta-carotene in the grains. On July 21, 2021, the DA-BPI approved the cultivation and commercialization of Golden Rice, which means that it can be planted in farmers’ fields and consumed by those who need it the most;

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**WHEREFORE**, upon motion of the Honorable Adrian Philip S. Baysac, duly approved and seconded in a session duly assembled, it was –

**RESOLVED, AS IT HEREBY RESOLVES, TO PASS A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF ISABELA ON THE COMMERCIAL PROPAGATION OF GOLDEN RICE BY SEEDS GROWERS AND FARMERS IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA**

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to ensure a successful introduction of these products of modern biotechnology in the Province of Isabela, there is a need to work in close collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, and in the case of Golden Rice, the DA-PhilRice and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) to ensure that when there are sufficient amount of seeds available, that appropriate preparations and consultation with relevant local stakeholders are undertaken.

**RESOLVED FURTHERMORE**, to request the DA-PhilRice and IRRI to provide relevant training and advocacy support to promote the cultivation, commercialization, and consumption of Golden Rice in the Province of Isabela.

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the Provincial Governor, the Honorable Rodolfo T. Albano III; all Municipal and City Mayors in the Province of Isabela, and; the Executive Director of the Philippine Rice Research Institute, Director John C. de Leon, for their information.

**Approved and Adopted, September 06, 2022.**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS  
of the foregoing Resolution:**

  
**ATTY. FRANCIS JAMES E. MEER**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**ATTESTED/ APPROVED:**

  
**BELENITO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO**  
Acting Vice-Governor