



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.024

Series of 2022

AN ORDER RECONSTITUTING THE LOCAL INTER-AGENCY COUNCILS AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN (IACAT-VAWC) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PASACAO, CAMARINES SUR

WHEREAS, the incidence of Human Rights violations against women and children continue to rise and manifest in various forms, among them human trafficking, and violence within the context of family and intimate relationships. These problems threaten to reverse the initial gains achieved from efforts that protect and promote human dignity of women and children especially since they are counted among the most vulnerable sectors. Consequently, these public issues affect the peace and security of society's basic units: the family and the community, and are thus a great source of concern for the Philippine Government. The challenge facing government now is in ensuring that appropriate services for preventing and responding to VAWC and trafficking are quickly and effectively delivered, when and where they are needed;

WHEREAS, Whereas, in a government where resources are meager to effect innovations towards making bureaucracy work for public service, the Philippine government's response to this problem is enlightened by wisdom from experience, which has shown that the impact of a more systematic, synchronized, and holistic approach to addressing human trafficking and VAWC is longer lasting and stronger. Furthermore, the policy instruments for addressing these concerns need to be existent. Thus, the passage of the two new laws on VAW, namely: the Anti-Trafficking and Persons Act of 2003 or Republic Act (RA) 9208, and the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC) Act of 2004 or Republic Act (RA) 9262, which was realized through the collaboration of government and non-government organizations, provided stronger grounds to combat human trafficking and violence against women and children;

WHEREAS, Whereas, Republic Act No. 9208, declares that the state shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures and development of programs that will promote human dignity, protect the people from violence and exploitation, eliminate trafficking in persons and mitigate pressures for involuntary migration and servitude of persons to ensure their recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration. Republic Act 9262, the Anti-Violence Against Women and Children of 2004 underscores the commitment of the State on safeguarding the dignity of women and children while guaranteeing full respect of their human rights and to protect them from violence and threats to their personal safety and security;

WHEREAS, these two laws likewise provide stronger mandates and direction to relevant government agencies and stakeholders to immediately address human trafficking and VAWC by organizing Inter-Agency Councils (IACS) for trafficking (section 20 of RA9208), and VAWC (section 39 of RA 9262). These Councils are composed of government agencies and selected non-government organizations whose mandates are relevant to VAWC and trafficking. Primarily, these national Inter-Agency Councils are envisioned to serve as the coordinating and monitoring bodies on anti-VAWC and trafficking initiatives, respectively. Their other functions include the development of comprehensive and integrated programs to harmonize all initiatives in addressing these problems, and the creation of enabling mechanisms that shall ensure the full implementation of RAs 9262 and 9208 at the sub-





national and local levels;

WHEREAS, cognizant of the important roles and responsibilities of the field offices of national government agencies (NGAs) and local government units (LGUs) in the effective implementation of these laws, and in the prevention and monitoring of trafficking and VAWC cases at the local level, Section 13 of the IRR of RA 9208 and Section 59 of the IRR of RA 9262 further encourage the National IACS to establish or create mechanisms that shall facilitate the implementation of these laws at the sub-national and local levels. Organizing counterpart Inter-Agency Committee on Trafficking and VAWC (IACAT-VAWC) at the regional, provincial and municipal levels are therefore seen as imperative and timely at this juncture when the National IACS are already established and need to connect to the ground where policy and laws meet their ultimate tests. It is also a modest contribution to the Philippine government's efforts towards broadening participation and accountability in governance;

WHEREAS, this guidelines thus seeks to provide the basic standards for establishing at the local levels, the joint inter-agency councils on trafficking and VAWC that aim to promote and protect the rights of trafficked persons and VAWC victim-survivors. It lists the core functions, composition, and structure envisioned for such an institutional mechanism. For purposes of expediency, maximizing resources and preventing duplication of functions and representation at the local level, joint inter-agency mechanisms against trafficking and VAWC will be created instead of establishing two separate bodies at the regional, provincial and municipal levels.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JORGE R, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Pasacao, Camarines Sur, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order for the Creation of the Local Inter-Agency Committee on Trafficking and VAWC (IACAT-VAWC):

Section 1. Organization, Composition and Functions of the Local IAC

- a. Local Inter-Agency Committee on Trafficking and VAWC (IACAT-VAWC). The organizational membership of the National IACAT and IAC-VAWC were combined to define the core composition of the joint IACAT VAWC at the regional level and to a large extent, was inclusive of their counterpart offices at municipal level.

Section 1.1. Composition

Chairman: Jorge R. Bengua Municipal Mayor
V-Chairman: Marilou P. Fabi MSWDO

Members:

Mun. Councilor Virginia Obordo	Chairman, Committee on Women, Children & Family
Noel Julito T. Ciudadano	MPDC
Relly Peñaredondo	MLGOO
Dr. Melchor S. Baesa	MHO
PMAJ Chester Enriquez, Jr.	Chief of Police
Maria Victoria T. Regnim	PESO
Trisha Mae O. Tayco	Pasacao Womens Federation
Zenaida Cabilin	President, Pasacao OFW's Organization
Municipal Prosecutor	





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Section 1.2 Functions

1. Institute policies to protect women and children victims of trafficking and violence
2. Implement the program and activities as stated in the national plan of action
3. Undertake information, education and advocacy campaign against trafficking in persons
4. Create and establish systems on surveillance, investigation and rescue to ensure effective and efficient coordination
5. Monitor and oversee the strict implementation of RA 9208, RA 9262, other related laws for the protection of women and children, and of the IACAT and IACVAWC national plans of action.
6. Submit to the provincial IACAT – VAWC a comprehensive report on the programs undertaken on a semestral basis, to be submitted every 15th of July and January of the following year, OR in synchrony with the reporting schedule to the President by the National IACS on VAWC and Trafficking

Section 2. Meetings. Meetings planning shall be conducted every 2nd Tuesday of the Quarter.

Section 3. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 23rd day of September, 2022 at the Municipality of Pasacao, Camarines Sur.

JORGE R. BENGUA

Municipal Mayor

