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MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO : The Director, Special Concerns Office, DENR Central Regional Executive Directors/Regional Directors All Bureau Directors, Heads of Attached Agencies

SUBJECT : IMPLEMENTATION OF R.A. 8976 OR THE PHILIPPINE FOOD FORTIFICATION ACT OF 2000

DATE : DEC 0 9 2004

To improve the intake of essential nutrients among Filipinos, the government has implemented a food fortification program as mandated in R.A. 8976 or the Philippine Food Fortification Act of 2000. More specifically, R.A. 8976 mandates the fortification of staple foods such as rice with iron, wheat flour with vitamin A and iron, refined sugar with vitamin A and cooking oil with vitamin A.

In view of this, the National Nutrition Council (NNC), Department of Agriculture (DA) would like to seek DENR's support and cooperation in its campaign against micronutrient malnutrition – one of the most prevalent nutritional disorders worldwide.

To emphasize the Department's participation in this undertaking, your active involvement in the implementation of R.A. 8976 is hereby enjoined. Below are suggested activities that you may undertake in support of the program:

- 1. Hang streamers in strategic areas highlighting the following message: Support RA 8976 or The Food Fortification Act. Buy and consume only fortified products. Look for the Sangkap Pinoy Seal in Products. (Suportahan ang RA 8976. Tangkilikin lamang ang mga produktong may Selyong Sangkap Pinoy) – Prototype attached.
- 2. Ensure that fortified products are sold in canteens or cooperative stores or are served by caterers in your offices.
- 3. Include RA 8976 and food fortification as an agenda during meetings and general assemblies of the employees, planning sessions, and orientations among others.

For your information and guidance.

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MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR