

22

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Ilocos Sur
MUNICIPALITY OF NARVACAN

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

29TH Regular Session
Held at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall
On 25 September 2006

ORDINANCE NO. 06
Series of 2006

**ORDINANCE PROMULGATING THE GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF
THE MUNICIPALITY OF NARVACAN, ILOCOS SUR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Narvacan in session duly assembled that:

ARTICLE I
General Principles

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the Gender and Development Code of Narvacan, Ilocos Sur.

Section 2. Scope. This Ordinance is enacted to establish the distinct rights and responsibilities of men and women in Narvacan which will help identify their different needs and aspirations.

Section 3. Declaration of Policies and Principles. The Municipality of Narvacan hereby adopts the following policies and principles:

- A. Respect for the human rights of men and women. The promotion of gender equality shall respect the human rights of men and women including: respecting the dignity of men and women as individuals; no direct or indirect gender-based discriminatory treatment; securing opportunities to display abilities as individuals; eliminating human rights abuses between men and women – physical, psychological, economical, and abuse such as sexual abuse;
- B. Consideration of social systems or practices. Social systems and practices that reflect rigid gender-based division of roles shall be considered so as not to hinder a man or woman's unrestricted activity;
- C. Securing joint participation in planning and deciding policies. Concerted efforts to promulgate gender and development shall secure opportunities for men and women, as equal partners in society, to jointly participate in the planning and deciding of policies made by the Municipality, businesses and other organizations;
- D. Compatibility of family, work and other community activities. In upholding gender equity, men and women shall be able to, with mutual cooperation and support from society, take responsibility as household members and smoothly perform home-related activities, including child-raising and nursing of family members, while performing work or other activities in the community. Promote gender and development with the understanding that it is a goal undertaken by the United Nations and shall be conducted with an international perspective; and,
- E. Ensure that men and women respect each other's gender and decisions on pregnancy, childbirth and other reproductive and sexual matters, and for their lifelong physical and psychological health.

Section 4. Purposes. This Code aims to:

- A. Ensure the equal influence of men and women in decision-making and policy-making in the society;
- B. Enable men and women to reconcile their occupational and family obligations;
- C. Improve the status of women and increase their opportunities in the society; and,
- D. Ensure equal access to education.

Section 5. Definition of Terms. The following terms used in this Ordinance shall be defined as follows:

- A. 'Gender' refers to the distinct roles that men and women are assigned in any society. As a result, women and men assume distinct socially and culturally defined responsibilities and tasks both within the household and in the wider community;
- B. 'Development' pertains to men and women becoming empowered to bring about positive changes in their lives: about personal growth together with public action; about both the process and the outcome of challenging poverty, oppression and discrimination, and about the realization of human potential through social and economic justice. Above all, it is about the process of transforming lives, and transforming societies;
- C. 'Gender and Development (GAD)' denotes the development perspective, which recognizes the equal contribution of men and women in all aspects of development. Such a perspective involves the process of searching for new and innovative initiatives that help transform unequal gender relations into opportunities, which will equitably uplift both men and women.
- D. 'Gad Focal Point Officer' is a person who renders leadership service in preparing the Gender and Development Plan, coordinating, directing and monitoring the programs on gender and development concerns within the local government unit;
- E. 'Gender Equality' means that men and women have equal conditions for realizing their human rights and potential to contribute to national political, economic, social and cultural development and benefit equally from the results.

ARTICLE II

Gender and Development (GAD) Programs

Section 6. Planning for the Promotion of Gender and Development. The Municipality of Narvacan shall initiate the Work and Financial Plan for the Promotion of Gender and Development where said plan shall be responsive to the needs of the times. The same shall be drawn through the consultative and participatory involvement of the non-government organizations and other concerned groups and agencies, and shall be incorporated in the annual development, and short and long-term plans of the Municipality.

Section 7. Legislative Measures. The Sangguniang Bayan shall ensure that in the enactment of legislative measures, issues and concerns on gender equality and development shall be taken into consideration.

Section 8. Health Programs. The Municipality shall support gender-related health programs through the efforts of the Municipal Health Office:

- A. **Maternal and Child Health.** This program emphasizes disease prevention and wellness promotion throughout the primary reproductive years to ensure better birth outcomes and good health for women as they grow older. This also promotes best practices and conducts advocacy and education on issues related to pregnant women, new mothers, and their infants.
- B. **Family Planning.** This program aims to assist couples to practice responsible planning and decision-making regarding reproductive health. It also intends to strengthen the implementation of reproductive health initiatives and activities in order to reduce unmet needs, high risk births, prevent abortions and improve sustainability.
- C. **Nutrition Program.** This program strives to safeguard the health of low-income families, infants, and children who are at nutrition risk by providing information on healthy eating, and referrals to health care. Among the activities under this program are supplementary feeding, deworming, free dental services and other future activities with the same relevance.

Section 9. Social Welfare Programs. The Municipality of Narvacan shall support the following Social Welfare Programs for Gender and Development:

- A. **Crisis Intervention Center.** A center where staff and trained volunteers are available to listen, provide basic services and needs such as counseling, health services, food, clothing and referrals to the proper agency that can assist them further.
- B. **Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Program.** A program designed to provide both men and women with coping mechanisms and skills to enable them to develop self-esteem and eventually maximize their potentials. Some of the activities in this program are Parents Effectiveness Service (PES), Solo Parenting and Women Counseling.
- C. **Livelihood Programs and Projects.** These are innovative programs that enhance knowledge and develop skills to enable men and women to generate additional income. Among the projects under this program are livestock-raising, food processing, cocoon making, candle making and other future undertakings with the same relevance.

Section 10. Protective and Legal Services. The Municipality shall support / institutionalize / establish the following Protective and Legal Programs:

- A. **Philippine National Police (PNP) Women and Children's Desk (WCD).** The Municipality shall support the PNP Children and Women's Desk by allocating funds in its annual budget to ensure the operation of the same.
- B. **Separate Detention Cell for Women.** The Municipality shall provide a separate cell for women to protect their dignity and ensure their safety despite the crime or offense they may have committed.

Section 11. Education and other GAD Programs. The Municipality shall support / institutionalize / establish the following Programs:

- A. **Scholarship Program.** The Municipality shall continuously support the scholarship programs for poor but deserving high school and college students who are willing to comply with the requirements and maintain good grades.

- B. Awareness Program on Men's Role in Family Life. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) defines the "new" father as one who:
1. Supports the mother during pregnancy and childbirth;
 2. Has close relationships with his children;
 3. Cooperates with his partner; and,
 4. Shares in household tasks.

As such the Municipality shall promote a new ideal of fatherhood through seminars and information campaign programs.

ARTICLE III **Special Gender Related Events**

Section 12. Women's Day. In compliance with RA 6949, otherwise known as an Act to declare March 8 of every year as a working special holiday to be known as National Women's Day, the Municipality of Narvacan shall adopt the said event focusing on the promotion of gender and development. Such event shall be spearheaded by the Gender and Development Coordinating Council (GDCC).

Section 13. AIDS Awareness Month. The month of December shall be observed as the AIDS Awareness Month. There shall be an advocacy program for the whole month of December for the dissemination of information for the prevention and control of AIDS. The Municipal Health Office shall assume the responsibility for holding of the event.

Section 14. National Children's Month. Pursuant to Proclamation No. 267 dated September 30, 1993, declaring the month of October of every year as National Children's Month, the Municipality of Narvacan shall observe the foregoing. There shall be events focusing on the promotion of the rights of children. Such activities shall be conducted by the Municipal Council for the Protection of Children through the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office.

ARTICLE IV **Implementing Mechanism**

Section 15. The Gender and Development Coordinating Council (GDCC). There shall be created the Gender and Development Coordinating Council in the Municipality of Narvacan under the office of the Mayor hereinafter referred to as Council.

Section 16. Composition of the Council. The Council shall be composed of the following:

Chairperson: Municipal Mayor

Member:

1. Chairperson of the Committee on Women and Family of the Sangguniang Bayan
2. Chairperson on the Committee on Rules, Laws, Ordinance and Legal Affairs of the Sangguniang Bayan
3. Representative of the Liga ng mga Barangay
4. Representative of the Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan
5. Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer

6. Municipal Health Officer
7. Municipal Planning Officer
8. Nutrition Action Officer
9. GAD Focal Point Officer
10. Five (5) representatives from the Women Non Government Organizations operating in the Municipality

The Municipal Mayor, as Chairperson, may designate any member as co-chairperson. Other members may be included as the need arises.

Section 17. Functions of the Gender and Development Coordinating Council (GDCC). The following shall be the functions of the Council:

- A. Formulate the Municipality's plan for the protection of men and women's rights for consideration by the Local Development Council and be included in the funding;
- B. Monitor, evaluate and review the implementation of the Municipality's policy on gender and development;
- C. Promote the participation of women in social, political, economic and cultural development and activities in the Municipality;
- D. Promptly address gender issues and concerns affecting men and women; and,
- E. Conduct advocacy programs promoting partnership between men and women, discouraging gender-based violence between them and encouraging a greater role for men in raising a family.

Section 18. The GAD Focal Point Officer and the Secretariat. There shall be designated the GAD Focal Point Officer, who shall head the Secretariat that shall be responsible for the documentation of meetings and preparation of reports and other necessary documents of the Council.

**ARTICLE V
Final Provisions**

Section 19. Appropriation. Funds shall be appropriated for the implementation of this Ordinance for administrative expenditures.

Section 20. Separability Clause. If any part or provision of this Code shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

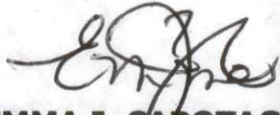
Section 21. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders and other issuances which are inconsistent with this Code are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 22. Suppletory Clause. On matters not provided for in this Code, any existing applicable laws and their corresponding implementing rules and regulations, executive fiats and relevant issuances issued therefore shall apply in supplemental manner.

Section 23. Effectivity Clause. This Code shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication.

APPROVED on this 25th day of September 2006.

Certified Correct:


EMMA J. CABOTAGE
Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

Attested by:


SAMUEL M. CORDERO
Acting SB Secretary


CONFORME:


COUNCILOR RAFAEL C. CACHOLA

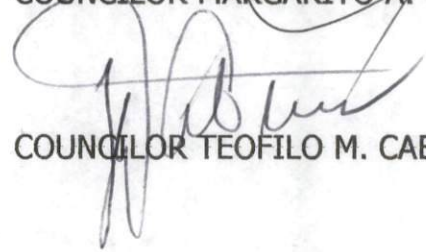

COUNCILOR OSCAR R. POTENCION


COUNCILOR ROSALINDA C. CABANILLA

COUNCILOR JOEL CONSTANTINO C. COPIOZO


COUNCILOR JACINTO C. GARCES
ABC President


COUNCILOR MARGARITO A. TEJADA



COUNCILOR TEOFILO M. CABRERROS

COUNCILOR IRVIN R. LIM


COUNCILOR CARLITO T. CORRALES

COUNCILOR ELIEZER S. CORRALES
SKF President

APPROVED:


EDGARDO D. ZARAGOZA
Municipal Mayor