



Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

Bangsamoro Government Center, Governor Gutierrez Avenue, Rosary Heights VII, Cotabato City 9600

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 0007
Series of 2026

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER STRENGTHENING MULTISECTORAL COLLABORATION
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE RABIES
PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS
REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM) THROUGH
THE ONE HEALTH APPROACH**

WHEREAS, rabies is a fatal yet preventable zoonotic disease that continues to pose a significant public health threat, particularly in communities with high incidences of animal bites and gaps in access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP);

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9482, otherwise known as the "Anti-Rabies Act of 2007", mandates a strengthening of the Rabies Prevention and Control Program through multisectoral collaboration among national government agencies and local government units;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of R.A. No. 9482 provides for the establishment of a multi-agency National Rabies Prevention and Control Program, affirming the necessity of inter-agency coordination for rabies elimination;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture jointly implement the National Rabies Prevention and Control Program pursuant to the One Health Approach in addressing zoonotic diseases;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 11054, otherwise known as the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL), the Bangsamoro Government is vested with the authority to implement region-specific public health programs consistent with national policies and within the framework of autonomy;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government recognizes the One Health Approach, an integrated, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach that recognizes the interconnection of human, animal, and environmental health and promotes collaborative action in preventing, detecting, and controlling zoonotic diseases, including rabies;

WHEREAS, the Bangsamoro Government, through the Ministry of Health (MOH-BARMM), Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR-BARMM), Ministry of the Interior and Local Government (MILG-BARMM), Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy (MENRE-BARMM), and other relevant regional instrumentalities, recognizes the need for a collaborative, culturally aligned, and sustainable approach to eliminate rabies as a public health concern;

WHEREAS, there is a necessity to institutionalize a regional mechanism that promotes coordination, ensures accountability, mobilizes resources, and aligns local actions with both national and regional rabies elimination goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ABDULRAOF A. MACACUA, Chief Minister of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region and Muslim Mindanao, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. CREATION OF THE BARMM RABIES PROGRAM INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE (BRP-IATF). There is hereby created a BARMM Rabies Program Inter-Agency Task Force (BRP-IATF) to serve as the primary coordinating body for policy direction, strategic planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the Regional Rabies Prevention and Control Program.

The BRP-IATF shall be composed of the following:

- **Chairperson:** Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform
- **Vice-Chairperson:** Minister of Health
- **Members:**
 - Minister of the Interior and Local Government
 - Minister of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
 - Minister of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy
 - Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority
 - Local Government League Representatives
 - Bangsamoro Darul-Ifta'
 - Other BARMM ministries, offices, instrumentalities, and BARMM-recognized sectoral representatives may, through a resolution of the BRP-IATF, be designated as members whenever necessary to achieve the objectives of this Executive Order. The Chairperson may invite resource persons, observers, development partners, or representatives from national government agencies to meetings whenever their expertise is required, without conferring membership.

Members shall serve in an ex officio capacity and shall receive no additional compensation, per diem, honoraria, or similar benefits by reason of their membership in the BRP-IATF, subject to existing compensation, budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

The Office of the Chief Minister shall exercise overall policy oversight over the implementation of this Executive Order and may issue such directives as may be necessary to ensure its effective implementation.

The BRP-IATF shall adopt the One Health Approach as the guiding framework for the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of all rabies prevention and control initiatives in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, recognizing the interdependence of human, animal, and environmental health.

SECTION 2. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BRP-IATF.

The BRP-IATF shall perform the following functions, subject to existing laws and the authority of the concerned BARMM ministries, instrumentalities, and the Bangsamoro Parliament, where applicable:

- a. Formulate a Regional Rabies Prevention and Control Strategic Plan consistent with Republic Act No. 9482, the Bangsamoro Development Plan, and the National Rabies Elimination Roadmap;
- b. Develop a Rabies Elimination Roadmap for BARMM;
- c. Coordinate policies, programs, plans, and activities among concerned ministries and local government units to ensure harmonized implementation of the regional Rabies Prevention and Control Program;
- d. Establish and strengthen an integrated rabies surveillance, reporting, and information-sharing system among the human health, animal health, environmental, and local government sectors to facilitate timely detection, coordinated response, and evidence-based decision-making, consistent with existing national surveillance systems and applicable laws;
- e. Promote coordinated planning and implementation of animal vaccination, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), responsible pet ownership, animal population management, and other rabies prevention and control interventions through collaborative action among concerned ministries, local government units, and stakeholders, subject to existing procurement, budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws;
- f. Institutionalize the One Health Approach through coordinated planning, implementation, monitoring, information-sharing, capacity-building, risk communication, and resource mobilization among the human health, animal health, environmental, education, and local governance sectors;
- g. Conduct joint capacity-building activities, simulation exercises, public awareness campaigns, community education programs, and risk communication initiatives to strengthen intersectoral collaboration and community participation in rabies prevention and control; and
- h. Monitor and evaluate implementation and submit annual accomplishment reports and policy recommendations to the Office of the Chief Minister and the Bangsamoro Cabinet.

SECTION 3. SECRETARIAT. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) shall jointly serve as the Secretariat of the BRP-IATF and shall provide the necessary technical, administrative, and operational support for the effective implementation of this Executive Order.

The Secretariat shall:

- a. Convene meetings upon the authority of the Chairperson;
- b. Prepare meeting agendas and minutes;
- c. Maintain official records and documents of the BRP-IATF;
- d. Consolidate reports and recommendations submitted by the Technical Working Group and member agencies;
- e. Coordinate the implementation of BRP-IATF resolutions, decisions, and approved activities among member ministries, offices, instrumentalities, and other concerned stakeholders;
- f. Monitor compliance by member agencies with the policies, resolutions, and directives of the BRP-IATF and provide periodic updates to the Chairperson;
- g. Facilitate communication and information-sharing among member agencies and stakeholders; and
- h. Perform such other technical and administrative functions as may be necessary to carry out the objectives of this Executive Order.

SECTION 4. FUNDING. All concerned ministries, offices, instrumentalities, and local government units shall, subject to the availability of funds and existing budgeting,

resources for rabies-related programs within their respective Annual Investment Plans and regular budgets.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform and the Ministry of Health shall jointly prepare consolidated funding proposals for endorsement to the Ministry of Finance, Budget and Management for possible inclusion in the annual BARMM appropriations process and external financing programs, subject to existing budgeting laws and procedures.

SECTION 5. INTERNAL OPERATING GUIDELINES. The BRP-IATF may promulgate internal operating guidelines governing:

- a. meeting procedures;
- b. decision-making processes;
- c. technical standards;
- d. reporting templates;
- e. surveillance protocols;
- f. data-sharing arrangements;
- g. coordination mechanisms; and
- h. other internal administrative matters,

Provided, however, that such guidelines shall be consistent with existing laws and shall neither amend nor supersede policies issued by competent authorities.

SECTION 6. CREATION OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG). A Technical Working Group (TWG) is hereby created under the BRP-IATF, composed of designated focal persons from member agencies, animal health officers, health officers, and planning officers.

The TWG shall provide technical guidance, coordinate operational activities, recommend strategies, and prepare periodic program reports and technical recommendations for consideration by the BRP-IATF.

SECTION 7. MEETINGS. The BRP-IATF shall convene at least quarterly or as often as necessary upon the call of the Chairperson.

SECTION 8. MONITORING AND REPORTING. The BRP-IATF, through the Technical Working Group, shall submit annual reports to the Office of the Chief Minister and the Bangsamoro Cabinet containing:

- a. Accomplishments;
- b. Implementation status;
- c. Policy recommendations;
- d. Resource utilization; and
- e. Progress toward regional and national rabies elimination targets.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect upon completion of the publication requirements prescribed by applicable laws, including publication in the Bangsamoro Gazette, where required.

DONE this 27th day of August, 2026, at the Bangsamoro Government Center, Cotabato City.



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ABDULRAOF A. MACACUA
Chief Minister