

# PRESS RELEASE

## PSA Board Approves National Methodology for Multidimensional Poverty Index, Key Resolutions at 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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*[L-R]. Secretary Balisacan and Undersecretary Mapa discuss the proposals presented before the PSA Board.*

15 May 2025 – QUEZON CITY. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) Board gathered and approved four key resolutions during its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held at the PSA Headquarters in Quezon City.

This quarter's meeting highlighted the discussion on the proposed methodology for estimating the Philippine Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) of the PSA, through the Technical Committee on Poverty Statistics.

Based on the global MPI developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), the Philippine MPI measures the country's poverty through various indicators beyond income such as health and nutrition, education, standard of living, and employment, among others.

United with the intention of addressing the current data gap, the PSA Board approved in favor of the proposed methodology. Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev) Secretary Arsenio M. Balisacan presided over the meeting and noted the importance of the MPI as a comprehensive tool for capturing various dimensions of poverty. National Statistician and Civil Registrar General and the Chairperson of the PSA Board Secretariat, Undersecretary Claire Dennis S. Mapa, concurred with Secretary Balisacan and emphasized that the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) and the Annual Poverty Indicators Survey (APIS) will be the sources of data for the generation of the MPI. He also added that through the CBMS data, the MPI can be estimated at the barangay level.

The meeting was attended by several member agencies including Undersecretary Ronald U. Mendoza of the Department of Education, Undersecretary Adonis P. Sulit of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Undersecretary Jocelle Batapa-Sigue of the Department of Information and Communications Technology, and Interim Undersecretary Amihilda J. Sangcopan of the Department of Agrarian Reform.

The PSA Board also nodded to the approval of several key proposals, including the revised definitions and conversion rates for carcass and offal of livestock and poultry animals, the harmonization of data items, operational definitions, and statistical classifications for agencies collecting international migration data, and the establishment of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (RIACCRVS).



*[Photo A, L-R] Usec. Sigue uses the online agenda folder during a discussion with Usec. Mendoza; [Photo B] Interim Usec. Sangcopan presents her thoughts on the MPI during the meeting.*

On the other hand, the Board has recommended the creation of a sub-committee to further look into the updated framework for estimating the housing needs for the period 2023 to 2028. This was a commissioned study by Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development to the Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute, which also sought the approval of the Board. There were several concerns raised by the members which will be the subject of the discussion of the sub-committee.

The PSA Board is scheduled to convene again in August 2025 for its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Office of the National Statistician – Planning and Management Service