

By Jasmine Mohammadsali

The Zamboanga City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (ZCDRRMC) on Friday morning approved revisions to its fund investment plan put forward by members to further shore up the City's disaster-preparedness mechanisms.

Led by Acting Mayor Cesar Iturralde, the committee approved the revisions to the Zamboanga City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund Investment Plan (ZCDRRMFIP) to accommodate different needs, specifically, to provide calamity assistance to farmers affected by the dry spell, and to augment electricity expenses, water expenses and other maintenance and operating expenses (OMOE).

The around Php 29 M fund revision will be utilized to procure agricultural supplies such as corn, cassava, rubber, bananas, and vegetables, and to augment funds allocated for electricity, water, and other maintenance and operating expenses.

The Council likewise approved the proposal to revise the ZCDRRMFIP for years 2013 and 2014 in conformity to the CDRRMC Resolution No. BC-02 S.2015 dated March 30, 2015.

Per resolution, the CDRRMO will utilize available resources from the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund, amounting to at least Php 130 million, to purchase heavy equipment, rescue motor vehicles, and mobile medical clinic with its pertinent accessories and equipment.

Other resolutions approved by the CDRRMC were: a resolution to approve the work plan for the conduct of training and the facilitated workshop for the formulation of the local climate adaptation plan chaired by the City Mayor, a motion urgently calling for the immediate revision of the AIP to include the funding for satellite phones and funding for the repeater systems for the City of Zamboanga, and a resolution, subject to existing rules and regulations, to authorize the City to allocate insurance coverage for volunteer responders of the CDRRMO. — Jasmine Mohammadsali