



COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE : JUNE 17, 2026

TO : THE PRESIDING OFFICER

FROM : COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT and
NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS and WAYS & MEANS

SUBJECT : PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2026-021 - AN ORDINANCE
STRENGTHENING MUNICIPAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT,
PROTECTING LOCAL FISHERFOLK LIVELIHOODS, PROVIDING FOR
SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE MECHANISMS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

A joint committee meeting of the Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources and the Committee on Appropriations, Ways and Means was convened to deliberate on **Proposed Ordinance No. 2026-021**, entitled, *"An Ordinance Strengthening Municipal Fisheries Management, Protecting Local Fisherfolk Livelihoods, Providing for Sustainable Aquaculture Mechanisms, and Appropriating Funds Thereof."*

The meeting was attended by SB Member Raymond B. Senia, SB Member Arnel Milay, Ms. Ann Ann Galore Ayson, Municipal Budget Officer, and Ms. Ezra P. Margante, Agriculturist I from the Office of the Municipal Agricultural and Biosystems Engineer (OMABE).

During the discussion, it was explained that the proposed ordinance aims to protect the welfare of the municipality's fisherfolk and provide them with additional support through livelihood programs. According to the representative from OMABE, funds allocated for the fisheries sector are currently sourced from the Annual Investment Program (AIP), while the funding for Bantay Dagat operations is derived from the Peace and Order and Public Safety (POPS) Plan.

Members of the committee inquired whether a specific percentage of the annual budget is allocated to the fisherfolk sector. The Municipal Budget Officer explained that there is currently no fixed percentage allocated specifically for fisheries, as both the agriculture and fisheries sectors are funded jointly under OMABE. She further stated that the preparation of the annual budget is generally based on the previous year's approved budget, which may be increased subject to the needs of the department and the sufficiency of its justification.

The committee likewise discussed Section 6, Item No. 2 of the proposed ordinance concerning the Alternative Livelihood Fund, which provides for the allocation of ten percent (10%) of the Local Economic Development Fund for alternative livelihood programs intended for coastal residents during typhoons, monsoon seasons, and other ecological emergencies. The Municipal Budget Officer stated that she was not aware of such a fund existing under the current municipal budget structure. Based on the information provided by the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator (MPDC), no such fund presently exists within the local government. Consequently, the



committee agreed that further study is necessary to determine the possible source of funding for the proposed program.

It was also proposed that, instead of enumerating all affected barangays in the ordinance, the phrase “all coastal barangays in the Municipality of Naic” be used to ensure clarity and broader applicability of the provision.

The committee likewise discussed a portion of the explanatory note concerning the alleged encroachment of large commercial fishing vessels and fisherfolk from neighboring municipalities into the municipal waters of Naic. During the discussion, it was suggested that greater emphasis be placed on the common concern of local fisherfolk being apprehended or cited while fishing in the waters of neighboring municipalities. As a result, the committee recommended that representatives from the Bantay Dagat and the Philippine Coast Guard be invited to the next hearing to explain the implementation of existing ordinances against illegal fishing activities, including the use of prohibited fishing methods such as galadgad, sudsod, dynamite fishing, electrofishing, and other unlawful fishing practices.

The representative from OMABE explained that each municipality has its own fisheries ordinances and that, at present, legitimate fisherfolk from different municipalities within the Province of Cavite are generally allowed to fish, provided they comply with existing laws and regulations. It was likewise emphasized that imposing excessive restrictions may result in similar restrictions being imposed on Naic fisherfolk when they fish in neighboring municipalities.

With regard to the provision concerning the establishment of a cold storage facility, SB Member Arnel Milay stated that the practice of middlemen purchasing fish catches directly from fisherfolk has long existed and that such a concern may not be fully addressed merely through the construction of a cold storage facility. OMABE explained that the municipality currently has no cold storage facility for local fisherfolk due to limitations in available space and funding. It was further reported that a Community Fish Landing Center (CFLC), recognized by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), already exists in Barangay Munting Mapino, although it is not yet directly managed by the local government.

OMABE also reported that there are currently three major fish trading areas or “bulungan” operating within the municipality, located in Barangay Munting Mapino, Barangay Bucana Malaki, and Barangay Labac. The office is considering the establishment of a centralized fish landing and trading center to improve efficiency in fish marketing and monitoring; however, such an initiative would require additional funding and personnel.

Regarding registration procedures, it was explained that Fisherfolk Registration is conducted annually, while Boat Registration is undertaken throughout the year based on the expiration dates of vessel registrations. Registration under FishR is considered lifetime registration and is updated only to reflect whether the fisherfolk member remains active or is deceased. Similarly, BoatR maintains records of registered vessels as either active or inactive.

The committee was further informed that registered fishing vessels in Naic with a gross tonnage of three (3) gross tons or less are identified by the color sky blue. Larger commercial fishing vessels, on the other hand, are registered with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) and BFAR.

The committee also recommended the conduct of an inventory of fish traders or middlemen to facilitate seminars and the formulation of better regulations governing fish trading practices. According to OMABE, these traders are duly registered and possess the necessary permits issued by the local government.

OMABE further shared that from January to May of the current year, twenty-four (24) fishing vessels had already been apprehended for various violations of existing fisheries laws and regulations. These vessels originated from the municipalities of Ternate, Tanza, Rosario, and even from Naic itself.

The committee also discussed another proposed ordinance aimed at strengthening measures against Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing (IUUF). It was explained that the Proposed Comprehensive Municipal Fisheries Ordinance (CMFO) of 2026 clearly distinguishes violations into two categories: destructive and non-destructive violations.

Destructive violations include the use of air compressors, dynamite fishing, and other environmentally harmful fishing methods. Corresponding penalties include fines, confiscation of fish catch and fishing gear, impoundment of vessels, and the filing of criminal charges for repeated violations.

Meanwhile, non-destructive violations include offenses involving unregistered fishing vessels, unregistered fisherfolk, and incomplete or invalid registration documents. Applicable penalties include community service and administrative fines depending on the frequency of violations.

OMABE likewise explained that enforcement of existing fisheries ordinances is primarily undertaken by the Bantay Dagat in coordination with BFAR. At present, the municipality has one (1) speedboat and two (2) patrol boats utilized for monitoring and enforcement activities. The twenty-one (21) members of the Bantay Dagat are employed as Job Order personnel under the local government and receive insurance coverage and fuel allowances as part of their benefits.

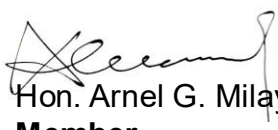
After thorough deliberation, the committee agreed that the provision concerning the Alternative Livelihood Fund requires further study in order to determine a legally and financially feasible funding source. The committee likewise recommended that during the next budget deliberations, OMABE consider requesting an increased allocation for fisherfolk livelihood programs, subject to proper justification and demonstrated necessity.

There being no further questions or matters for discussion, the meeting was declared closed. The committee likewise recommended the submission of a copy of the Proposed Comprehensive Municipal Fisheries Ordinance (CMFO) of 2026 for further study and consideration by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources:


Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo
Chairperson


Hon. Raymond P. Senia
Vice-Chairperson


Hon. Arnel G. Milay
Member