



**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0632**

**PRESCRIBING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR  
NON-LETHAL FIREARM (CHEMICAL AND BLUNT IMPACT TYPE)**

**WHEREAS**, Section 14, paragraph (m) of Republic Act No. 6975, as amended by Section 5, paragraph (a), sub-paragraph (8) of Republic Act No. 8551, empowers the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) to prescribe minimum standards for arms, equipment and uniforms and, after consultation with the Philippine Heraldry Commission<sup>1</sup>, for insignia of ranks, awards and medal of honor;

**WHEREAS**, NAPOLCOM Memorandum Circular No. 2019-002 dated January 29, 2019, defines the duty and authority of NAPOLCOM to prescribe minimum standards for uniforms, arms, and equipment that are germane and fit to the intended use, purpose and objective of the equipment/items to be acquired or procured by the Philippine National Police (PNP);

**WHEREAS**, based on the afore-cited legal bases, the PNP Directorate for Research and Development (PNP-DRD) endorsed for the Commission's consideration, Resolution No. 2023-01-001 dated January 20, 2023 of the Technical Working Group for the Formulation and Amendment of Standards (TWG-FAS), entitled "Prescribing Minimum Standards for Non-Lethal Weapon", with attached documentary requirements;

**WHEREAS**, Non-Lethal Firearms Weapons (Chemical and Blunt Impact Types) refer to various tools designed for incapacitating or subduing individuals without causing fatal injuries, such as pepper ball launcher, tear gas launcher, rubber bullet shotgun, bean bag shotgun, etc.;

**WHEREAS**, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) defines non-lethal weapon as "*weapons which are explicitly designed and developed to incapacitate or repel personnel, with a low probability of fatality or permanent injury, or to disable equipment, with minimum undesired damage or impact on the environment*"<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for the PNP to procure Non-Lethal Firearms of the Chemical and Blunt Impact Type, as these provide police personnel with safer alternatives to traditional firearms and other lethal equipment; aims to protect individuals and uphold the law; and, may be used either in situations where some degree of force is necessary, but where the use of firearms would be unlawful or as a less dangerous alternative to firearms, to reduce the risk of injury to members of the public, including those suspected of criminal conduct<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> National Historical Commission of the Philippines - mandated to undertake research and publication of Philippine historical works, educational activities on historical events and persons, restoration, preservation and conservation of movable and immovable objects of historical value, and implementation of the National Historic Act of the Philippines (PD 260 and PD 1505).

<sup>2</sup> NATO Policy on Non-lethal weapons, available at: <http://www.nato.int/docu/pr/1999/p991013e.htm>.

<sup>3</sup> See Section 1 1.1 *United Nations Human Rights: Guidance on Less-Lethal Weapons in Law Enforcement*. New York and Geneva, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to procure the said weapon because it provides the PNP and their law enforcement officials and personnel with safer alternatives to traditional firearms and other lethal equipment. Non-lethal weapon and its kinds have an important role in law enforcement, which aims to protect individuals and uphold the law. They may be used either in situations where some degree of force is necessary but where the use of firearms would be unlawful, or as a less dangerous alternative to firearms, in order to reduce the risk of injury to members of the public, including those suspected of criminal conduct<sup>4</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, after a thorough review and evaluation of the proposed minimum standard and pertinent documents submitted by the PNP, the Installations and Logistics Service (ILS) of the Commission submitted a proposed minimum standard for Non-Lethal Firearm (Chemical and Blunt Impact Type);

**WHEREAS**, the Commission finds the said proposed minimum standards to be in order, and in conformity with the requirements of RA No. 6975, as amended by RA No. 8551, its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), and all existing policies and issuances of the NAPOLCOM, and meet the requirements of the PNP;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Commission, in the exercise of its statutory power to administer and control the Philippine National Police, **HAS RESOLVED TO PRESCRIBE, AS IT HEREBY PRESCRIBES**, the Minimum Standards for Non-Lethal Firearm (Chemical and Blunt Impact Type), as follows:

Particulars	Minimum Standards
1. Description	A non-lethal weapon that can discharge non-lethal ammunition through a barrel of any type of weapon e.g. pistol, rifle, shotshell type, or launcher with trigger, safety pin, loading mechanism, and buttstock that can be either fixed or foldable
2. Capability/ Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Able to discharge projectiles such as CS Smoke Grenades, CS Powder Grenade, Cluster, Ball Type Rubber Grenade, Rubber Ball Bullets, and Pellets to the target, without penetrating the skin</li> <li>b) Can incapacitate or repel personnel, without causing serious injury or fatality</li> <li>c) Accurate within specified ranges to minimize the risk of unintended injuries or collateral damage</li> </ul>
3. Others	Compliant with applicable international and local law enforcement standards for safety, reliability and durability <sup>5 6</sup> .

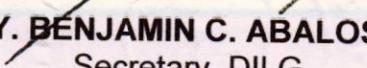
<sup>4</sup> See Section 1 1.1 *United Nations Human Rights: Guidance on Less-Lethal Weapons in Law Enforcement*. New York and Geneva, 2020.

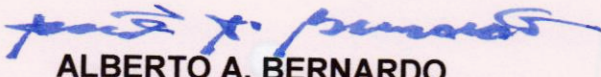
<sup>5</sup> See NATO policy on non-lethal weapons [https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official\\_texts\\_27417.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_27417.htm). Accessed on January 31, 2024.

<sup>6</sup> D O EGNER (1977). EVALUATION OF LESS-LETHAL WEAPONS. US Dept of the Army. <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/Digitization/52037NCJRS.pdf>

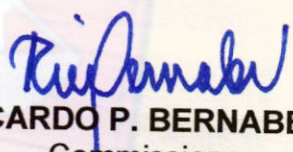
**BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the PNP shall formulate the Technical Specifications for Non-Lethal Firearm (Chemical and Blunt Impact Type), a copy of which shall be submitted to the Commission within five (5) days upon approval, which will be the basis for its procurement, and shall ensure that the same comply, conform with, and are within the aforementioned NAPOLCOM-approved minimum standards and with the pertinent provisions of RA No. 9184 or the "Government Procurement Reform Act", and advantageous to the PNP;

**APPROVED** this 21st day of June 2024 in Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

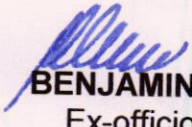
  
**ATTY. BENJAMIN C. ABALOS, JR.**  
Secretary, DILG  
Ex-officio Chairperson, NAPOLCOM

  
**ALBERTO A. BERNARDO**  
Commissioner  
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Commissioner

  
**RICARDO P. BERNABE III**  
Commissioner

  
**BEATRICE AURORA A. VEGA-CANCIO**  
Commissioner

  
**BENJAMIN C ACORDA, JR**  
Ex-officio Commissioner

I hereby attest and certify that this Resolution was approved *ad referendum*, upon due consultation by the members of the Commission *En Banc*.

  
**MYRNA DE PERSIA-MEDINA**  
Deputy Executive Director IV