



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 95

Series of 2021

January 21, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2(b) of Executive Order No. 168 mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s.2020) extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 21, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health received reports regarding a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) spreading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and another variant identified in South Africa (501.V2);

WHEREAS, Memorandums of the Executive Secretary provided for additional measures to be observed relative to the SARS-COV-2 Variant detected in the United Kingdom including the imposition of travel restrictions on countries/jurisdictions where the new COVID-19 variants were officially reported, and subjected Filipino citizens coming from the same countries/jurisdictions to an absolute 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse-Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people.

WHEREAS, as of January 20, 2021, there are a total of Twenty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Four (28,904) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF approves the following:

- A. Pursuant to the approved Philippine National COVID-19 Vaccination Roadmap and Implementation Plan, the National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19,



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which shall serve as the end-to-end guide for vaccination implementers such as the local government units, is hereby ratified;

- B. Beginning February 1, 2021, when provinces, highly urbanized cities, and independent component cities shall be placed under their new community quarantine classifications, age-based restrictions for areas placed under Modified General Community Quarantine shall be relaxed. For areas under General Community Quarantine, local government units are enjoined to adopt the same relaxation for age-based restrictions. For this purpose, the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines is hereby amended as follows:

Section [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS PLACED UNDER MODIFIED GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under MGCQ shall observe the following protocols:

*3. Any person below **ten (10)** years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women shall be required to remain in their residences at all times; Provided that all activities and movements allowed under other Sections of these Guidelines for the foregoing persons shall continue to be permitted under MGCQ.*

- C. The recommendations of the IATF Technical Working Group, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. To approve the request of the Professional Regulation Commission to conduct and administer the licensure examinations for professionals scheduled for January to March 2021, with observance of the strict health protocols as approved by the Department of Health. Agencies are directed to render full assistance for the safe and successful conduct of the examinations;
2. Following the directives to the IATF TWG under IATF Resolution No. 94 to establish implementing guidelines for exemptions to entry travel restrictions, IATF Resolution No. 92 to be amended as follows:

x x x



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C. *All foreign travelers coming from, or with travel history within the last 14 days prior to arrival in the Philippines in countries/jurisdictions covered by travel restrictions for the COVID-19 variants shall not be permitted entry into the Philippines until January 31, 2021, notwithstanding any previous IATF resolutions or exemptions, except for the following **foreign nationals with valid visas:***

- 1. Accredited foreign diplomats and **personnel of accredited international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations, provided they will undergo RT-PCR test upon arrival at the airport, execute an undertaking, and observe strict 14-day quarantine pursuant to relevant DOH memorandum circular;***
- 2. Foreign dignitaries who shall observe existing testing and quarantine protocols upon arrival;*
- 3. Those for medical and emergency cases, including their medical escorts, if any, **subject to the applicable testing and quarantine protocols as prescribed by the Department of Health;** and*
- 4. **Spouse and minor children of Filipino citizens travelling with them, subject to the same testing and quarantine protocols applicable to Filipino citizens.***

D. *Filipino citizens coming from countries/jurisdictions where travel restrictions **for COVID-19 new variants** are in place, or who have been to the same within fourteen (14) days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines shall **be subject to the prescribed testing and quarantine protocols. Filipino citizens arriving for highly exceptional and/or medical reasons, and local diplomats, shall be subject to the applicable quarantine protocols as prescribed by the Department of Health;** and*

x x x

3. To amend the testing and quarantine protocols for passengers coming from, and transiting through countries where travel restrictions are in place due to the new COVID-19 variants. Incoming passengers shall be tested upon



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arrival and shall be quarantined until the result of a subsequent test administered on the fifth day is released. After which, said persons who yield a negative result from both COVID-19 tests shall be endorsed to their local government units of destination who shall then strictly monitor the remainder of the fourteen-day quarantine through their respective Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams. The Department of Health, and such other implementing agencies providing for quarantine protocols, are directed to amend their issuances to conform with the foregoing;

4. To adopt the amendments of the Department of Tourism to the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines as follows:

SECTION [2] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS PLACED UNDER ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under ECQ shall observe the following protocols:

x x x

9. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients for legitimate purposes under a state of public health emergency. The operations of such hotels and accommodation establishments, as well as ancillary establishments within their premises such as restaurants, cafés, gyms, spas, function halls, and the like, shall be subject to guidelines issued by the DOT and the IATF.

x x x

SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS PLACED UNDER MODIFIED ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under MECQ shall observe the following protocols:

x x x

8. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients for legitimate purposes under a state of public health emergency. The operations of such hotels and accommodation establishments, as well as ancillary establishments within their premises such as



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restaurants, cafés, gyms, spas, function halls, and the like, shall be subject to guidelines issued by the DOT and the IATF.

x x x

SECTION [4] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under GCQ shall observe the following protocols:

x x x

10. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients for legitimate purposes under a state of public health emergency. The operations of such hotels and accommodation establishments, as well as ancillary establishments within their premises such as restaurants, cafés, gyms, spas, function halls, and the like, shall be subject to guidelines issued by the DOT and the IATF.

x x x

SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS PLACED UNDER MODIFIED GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under MGCQ shall observe the following protocols:

x x x

11. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients for legitimate purposes under a state of public health emergency. The operations of such hotels and accommodation establishments, as well as ancillary establishments within their premises such as restaurants, cafés, gyms, spas, function halls, and the like, shall be subject to guidelines issued by the DOT and the IATF.

12. Except as otherwise provided below, all permitted establishments and activities under Categories I, II and III of Section 4(6) and those in previous Sections of these Omnibus Guidelines shall be allowed to operate or be undertaken at full operational capacity:

x x x



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c. Category IV and all other establishments not permitted to operate under previous Sections of these Guidelines, at a maximum of fifty percent (50%) operational capacity. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the DTI is hereby authorized to issue a negative list of industries which shall remain prohibited even in areas under MGCO. Establishments in the negative list shall not be allowed to operate in any form of community quarantine.

x x x

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson and the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign this Resolution for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.

APPROVED this 21st of January 2021 via videoconference.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health
IATF Chairperson


KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretary
IATF Co-Chairperson




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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the interim OIC-Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, series of 2014 and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
5. In a regular meeting of the IATF, the IATF Resolution No. **95** was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect;
8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this **21st** day of January 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
OIC-Head of the Secretariat, IATF
Assistant Secretary of Health