



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

RESOLUTION NO. 116

Series of 2021

May 20, 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 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) 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 (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has detected B.1.1.7, B.1.351, P.1, and P.3 variants of the COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance has likewise received information on the existence of B.1.617 variant first detected in India;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives;

WHEREAS, as of May 20, 2021, there are a total of Fifty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Twelve (51,912) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines.

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



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

- A. The Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines is hereby amended by adding a new provision as Section 7(2)(d), which essentially reproduces the protocols for inbound international travel now in effect, as follows:

x x x

d. The inbound international travel of all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to any port of the Philippines, shall be governed by the following entry, testing and quarantine protocols:

i. All arriving travelers shall undergo a fourteen (14) day quarantine upon arrival, with the day of arrival being the first day. The first ten days shall be observed in a quarantine facility, with the remainder to be completed under home quarantine in their respective local government units of destination;

ii. Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing shall be conducted on the seventh day of quarantine. Notwithstanding a negative test result, the arriving traveler shall complete the facility-based quarantine period of ten (10) days;

iii. The Bureau of Quarantine shall ensure strict symptom monitoring while in the facility quarantine for ten (10) days; and

iv. The foregoing shall be subject to special protocols approved by the IATF or the Office of the President for certain classes of travelers or ports of origin.

x x x

- B. The recommendations of the National Economic and Development Authority are approved, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. Contact tracing applications of various local government units such as those used by Pasig, Mandaluyong, Antipolo, and Valenzuela, among others, be scaled up to aid in addressing the rise in COVID-19 cases; and,
2. The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to issue a policy to ensure that all



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

contact tracing applications are interoperable, with the DICT as the lead in national interoperability pursuant to the IATF Resolution No. 109.

- C. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be allowed to resume with their voluntary relocation and involuntary relocation activities for affected informal settler families in furtherance of their construction projects. Provided, that these activities be conducted in accordance with existing laws and ordinances, with strict observance of minimum public health standards and health and safety protocols;
- D. The recommendations of the IATF Technical Working Group, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. Consistent with the provisions of the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines (IATF Omnibus Guidelines) wherein gatherings that are essential for the provision of government services are allowed, the conduct of the 9th Meeting of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve of the National Food Authority is exempt from the prohibition on meetings, incentives, conventions, exhibition (MICE) venues. NFA's choice of a specific MICE venue shall be subject to applicable laws and rules;
2. For the duration of the GCQ with heightened restrictions in the NCR Plus, the provision on religious gatherings for Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine under the IATF Omnibus Guidelines is adopted, as follows:

Religious gatherings shall be allowed up to ten percent (10%) of the venue capacity. Provided that, there is no objection from the local government unit where the religious gathering may take place. Provided, further, that the LGU may increase the allowable venue capacity up to thirty percent (30%). The religious denominations should strictly observe their submitted protocols and the minimum public health standards.



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

Gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 shall be allowed, provided that the same shall be limited to immediate family members, upon satisfactory proof of their relationship with the deceased and with full compliance with the prescribed minimum public health standards for the duration of the activity.

As far as the National Capital Region is concerned, the IATF notes that the Metro Manila Council has allowed religious gatherings at 30% venue capacity.

3. Recommending to the Interim National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (iNITAG) the priority vaccination of the athletes, coaches, delegates, and officials bound for the Tokyo Olympics and South East Asian Games, and the inclusion in Priority Group A4 of the frontline employees in the business process outsourcing industry, and the frontline employees of the Commission on Elections.
4. The request of the Philippine Swimming Incorporated to host the 2021 Swimming National Selection Meet under a bubble-type format at the New Clark City Aquatics Center, Capas, Tarlac is approved. For this purpose, delegates of the National Selection Meet shall be considered as authorized persons outside of residence and shall be allowed interzonal travel consistent with the IATF Omnibus Guidelines, subject to the rules as may be imposed by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA). Further, athletes bound for the Tokyo Olympics and the Southeast Asian Games may commence with their bubble-type training subject to the applicable guidelines of the Philippine Sports Commission, Games and Amusement Board, and Department of Health;
5. A Small Working Group is hereby created composed of the Department of Tourism as chairperson and co-chaired by the Department of Foreign Affairs, with the Department of Health




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

and the Bureau of Quarantine, Department of Justice and the Bureau of Immigration, Department of Information Communications Technology, Department of Transportation, Office of the Presidential Adviser to the Peace Process being the Vaccine Czar, Department of Labor and Employment and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, and the Department of Trade and Industry, to study and formulate protocols for inbound international travel of fully vaccinated individuals, and such other protocols that may be applicable to them; and

6. Confirming that liquified petroleum gas (LPG) dealers, retailers, and attendants form part of the approved Priority Group A4.2 for vaccine deployment under the “retail trade operators and frontliners.”

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 during the 116th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this May 20, 2021, via video conference.


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


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



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
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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 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, (s.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. 116 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 **20th** day of May 2021, Manila.


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