

RESOLUTION NO. 84

Series of 2020 November 19, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, to prevent the sharp rise of COVID-19 cases in the country, the President placed the entirety of Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine until April 14, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, to develop a science-based approach in determining the risk-based classification of areas in the country, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) convened a sub-Technical Working Group tasked to develop the LGU Epidemic Response Framework and to define parameters in assessing recent developments in the Philippine COVID-19 situation;

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, the Office of the Executive Secretary issued Executive Order (E.O.) No. 112 Imposing an Enhanced Community Quarantine in High-Risk Geographic Areas of the Philippines and a General Community Quarantine in the Rest of The Country from 01 To 15 May 2020, Adopting The Omnibus Guidelines On The Implementation Thereof, And For Other Purposes;

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2020, the IATF released an updated risk classification in all Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities and Independent Component Cities in the country, placing localities under different classifications of community quarantine with the goal of balancing economic activity and public health;

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s.2020) extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 declared under Proclamation No. 929, (s.2020)

WHEREAS, as of November 19, 2020, there are total of Thirty-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Seven (32,777) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

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

- A. The IATF adopts the following recommendations of the National Task Force (NTF) COVID-19 Chief Implementer to address the rise of COVID-19 cases in the City of Davao:
 - Pursuant to Section 2 of Executive Order No. 112, s. 2020, the City of Davao shall be placed under General Community Quarantine, effective immediately until 30 November 2020;



- Coordinated Operations to Defeat the Epidemic (CODE) teams shall be deployed to the locality to assist in response activities, to be headed by Melquiades Feliciano, NTF Deputy Chief Implementer for the Cities of Bacolod and Cebu;
- 3. Efforts shall be made to address the acute shortage of nurses in health facilities;
- To address the high critical care utilization rate, private hospitals are mandated to increase their ward bed occupancy by at least twenty percent (20%) to thirty percent (30%);
- A One Hospital Command center shall likewise be established in the city to ensure an efficient referral system;
- Additional provisions of high-flow oxygen cannulae, Favipiravir (Avigan), Remdesivir, medical equipment, among others shall be provided for as necessary;
- Accommodation establishments shall be tapped to serve as quarantine facilities for health workers, as well as for the isolation of positive cases of COVID-19; and
- Law enforcement agencies are directed to assist in the enforcement of granular lockdowns upon affected communities or clusters, and if necessary, deploy additional personnel in the locality;
- B. The following recommendations of the IATF Technical Working Group are hereby approved:
 - 1. To allow the conduct of the nationwide Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Consumer Payments Survey in accordance with Republic Act (RA) No. 11127 or the "National Payments System Act" as well as RA No. 11211 or the "Act Amending Republic Act No. 7653 otherwise known as the New Central Bank Act, and for Other Purposes", in recognition that such an activity is an exercise of a critical government function, and that the same had been initially approved by the Philippine Statistics Authority and duly coordinated with the League of Cities of the Philippines and the League of Municipalities of the Philippines. For the avoidance of doubt, enumerators of the survey activity, whether directly employed/engaged or subcontracted, shall be considered authorized persons outside of residence (APORs) and shall be permitted interzonal travel whenever performing their functions as such, pursuant to the Section [7](2)(a) of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines;
 - 2. To adopt the guidelines for the conduct of onsite written, oral, and practical specialty and subspecialty examinations as issued by the Philippine Medical Association (PMA). Provided, that, a PMA representative should be present during the conduct of such examinations to ensure and enforce compliance with said guidelines. Provided, further, that specialty/subspecialty divisions or societies conducting the same must designate persons who will comprise and function as an epidemiology and surveillance unit (ESU) pursuant to Section 1(f)



of Rule X of the 2020 Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act. *Provided, further,* that no waiver of liability or COVID-19 testing shall be required of examinees subject to strict compliance with minimum public health standards for the duration of the activities. *Provided, finally,* that the PMA shall be required to coordinate the schedule of examinations as well as the prospective number of examinees to the IATF;

- Upon recommendation by the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), the requirement for air carriers to reserve a portion of the aircraft cabin as an isolation area for suspected/ill passengers on board shall no longer be mandated to be part of the COVID-19 health protocols for domestic flights;
- 4. All local government units (LGUs) are instructed to relax health entry protocols imposed upon airline crew layovers/positioning due to emergency situations (e.g. typhoons, volcanic activities, diversions and emergency landings, other similar unforeseen and time-sensitive evacuations) by exempting such instances from their respective test-upon-arrival requirement, and permitting said airline crew to temporarily billet in accommodation establishments under a 'bubble' concept as supervised by the LGUs. For this purpose, the DILG is instructed to coordinate with all LGUs to align their health entry protocols for this limited purpose. The CAAP is likewise instructed to supervise and police the implementation of these activities;
- As recommended by the DOTr and CAAP, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority is hereby authorized to set up a corporate jet flight maintenance and crew layover hub at the Subic Special Economic and Freeport Zone under a strict 'bubble' concept, without prejudice to visa or work permit requirements as imposed by applicable laws;
- 6. The IATF authorizes the onsite conduct of the 2020 Foreign Service Officer Examinations on December 15 to 17, 2020, subject to strict compliance with the minimum public health standards and observance of the requirement of imposing a maximum of thirty percent (30%) seating capacity in any given examination venue:
- 7. To amend Paragraph A(1) of IATF Resolution No. 80, series of 2020, to read:

Beginning 01 November 2020, the following foreign nationals may be allowed entry into the Philippines:



- a. Those with visas issued by the Bureau of Immigration pursuant to <u>Section 9(d) of Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended,</u> Executive Order No. 226 or the Omnibus Investments Code, as amended, and Republic Act No. 8756;
- b. Those with 47(a)(2) visas issued by the Department of Justice; and
- c. Those with visas issued by the Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, <u>Authority</u> of the Freeport Area of Bataan, Cagayan Economic Zone Authority, and Clark Development Corporation.

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 To further amend the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, particularly Section [5](3) on the Guidelines for Areas Placed under Modified General Community Quarantine, to wit:

Any person below fifteen (15) years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years old, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women shall be required to remain in their residence 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. The aforementioned age restrictions for travellers for tourism purposes may be relaxed upon the determination of local government units, and subject to prior consultation with the DOT, DOH, and DILG and the development of specific guidelines for this purpose.

RESOLVED FURTHER, 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 84th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 19th of November 2020 via video conference.

KARLO/ALEXEI B. NOGRALES

Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretary

IATF Co-Chairperson

Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry