



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

RESOLUTION NO. 128

Series of 2021

July 22, 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 have detected B.1.1.7 (Alpha), B.1.351 (Beta), and P.1 (Gamma) variants of SARS-CoV-2 in the Philippines. The DOH, UP-PGH, and UP-NIH have likewise confirmed the presence of the B.1.617 (Delta) variant that was 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;

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

- A. The recommendations of the Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics are approved, the specifics of which are as follows:
 - 1. Beginning 23 July 2021, the National Capital Region shall hereinafter be placed under General Community Quarantine with the observance and implementation of the following heightened restrictions until 31 July 2021, during which the following rules shall apply:



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- a. Food preparation establishments such as commissaries, restaurants, and eateries may operate with their indoor dine-in services at the venue or seating capacity of twenty percent (20%), and with their al fresco or outdoor dine-in services at the venue or seating capacity of fifty percent (50%).
- b. Personal care services, such as beauty salons, beauty parlors, barbershops, and nail spas, may operate up to thirty percent (30%) of venue or seating capacity. For this purpose, these establishments shall only provide services that can accommodate the wearing of face masks at all times by patrons/clients and service providers.
- c. Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions (MICE) events and social events in venue establishments shall not be allowed;
- d. Outdoor tourist attractions, as may be defined by the DOT, shall remain to be allowed at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity with strict adherence to minimum public health standards;
- e. Under the Safety Seal Certification Program, business establishments awarded Safety Seal Certifications shall be allowed to operate at an additional 10 percentage points beyond the prescribed on-site capacity or venue/seating capacity, whichever is applicable;
- f. Indoor sports courts and venues and indoor tourist attractions shall not be allowed to operate;
- g. Specialized markets of the DOT such as Staycations without age restrictions shall remain to be allowed at such capacities, protocols, and restrictions as may be imposed by the DOT;
- h. Interzonal travel shall be allowed subject to restrictions of the local government unit of destination. Point-to-Point travel to areas under General Community Quarantine and Modified General Community Quarantine shall be allowed without age restrictions subject to an RT-PCR test-before-travel requirement for those below eighteen



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years old (18) and above sixty-five (65), and other protocols and restrictions as may be imposed by the DOT and the Local Government Unit of destination;

- i. 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.

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; and

- j. Other provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, and other IATF resolutions not affected by the foregoing shall continue to be in effect including those on interzonal travel into and out of the aforementioned areas and the operation of public transportation. The use of active transportation shall likewise be promoted.

2. To further prevent introductions of variants of concern to the country, all incoming international travelers in all ports of entry must strictly comply with testing and quarantine protocols approved by the IATF. The following actions shall likewise be strengthened:
 - a. The Bureau of Quarantine must identify who close contacts in the plane/vessel of the confirmed case and closely monitor them;
 - b. Infection prevention and control protocols must be strictly followed in all quarantine and isolation facilities to prevent



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transmission in the facility and in the households of facility workers;

- c. Local Government Unit handover must include clear transportation arrangements and quarantine accommodation;
- d. LGUs must closely monitor for the appearance of any sign or symptom while arrivals are completing their quarantine and immediately conduct Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing after detection of symptoms; and
- e. Health assessment must be done for all arrivals at the end of the isolation or quarantine period.

3. The implementation of Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Treat - Reintegrate Strategy should be continuous and strengthened, as follows:

- a. Active case finding;
- b. Intensified contact tracing;
- c. Immediate quarantine/isolation which should preferably be in a facility;
- d. Declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine down to the zone or barangay levels;
- e. Stricter implementation and observance of minimum public health standards; and
- f. Fast-tracked deployment of COVID-19 vaccine.

4. To enable the safe continuity of economic activities, consider developing and converting more outdoor spaces into temporary outdoor weekend markets and dining spaces, and permanently accessible urban green spaces, outdoor recreational spaces, and public sanitation facilities (handwashing, toilet, showers).

B. Upon the recommendations of the Screening and Validation Committee, the risk-level classifications of Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs), and Independent Component Cities (ICCs) effective 23 July 2021 shall be as follows:

1. Davao del Sur shall hereinafter be placed under General Community Quarantine until 31 July 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas;



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2. Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Davao de Oro, and Davao del Norte shall hereinafter be placed under General Community Quarantine with the observance and implementation of the following heightened restrictions until 31 July 2021, during which the following rules shall apply:
 - a. Food preparation establishments such as commissaries, restaurants, and eateries may operate with their indoor dine-in services at the venue or seating capacity of twenty percent (20%), and with their al fresco or outdoor dine-in services at the venue or seating capacity of fifty percent (50%).
 - b. Personal care services, such as beauty salons, beauty parlors, barbershops, and nail spas, may operate up to thirty percent (30%) of venue or seating capacity. For this purpose, these establishments shall only provide services that can accommodate the wearing of face masks at all times by patrons/clients and service providers;
 - c. Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions (MICE) events and social events in venue establishments shall not be allowed;
 - d. Outdoor tourist attractions, as may be defined by the DOT, shall remain to be allowed at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity with strict adherence to minimum public health standards;
 - e. Under the Safety Seal Certification Program, business establishments awarded Safety Seal Certifications shall be allowed to operate at an additional 10 percentage points beyond the prescribed on-site capacity or venue/seating capacity, whichever is applicable;
 - f. Indoor sports courts and venues and indoor tourist attractions shall not be allowed to operate;
 - g. Specialized markets of the DOT such as Staycations without age restrictions shall remain to be allowed at such capacities, protocols, and restrictions as may be imposed by the DOT;



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- h. Interzonal travel shall be allowed subject to restrictions of the local government unit of destination. Point-to-Point travel to areas under General Community Quarantine and Modified General Community Quarantine shall be allowed without age restrictions subject to an RT-PCR test-before-travel requirement for those below eighteen years old (18) and above sixty-five (65), and other protocols and restrictions as may be imposed by the DOT and the Local Government Unit of destination;
- i. 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.

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; and

- j. Other provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, and other IATF resolutions not affected by the foregoing shall continue to be in effect including those on interzonal travel into and out of the aforementioned areas and the operation of public transportation. The use of active transportation shall likewise be promoted.
- C. Upon the recommendation of the IATF Technical Working Group, foreign spouses, parent/s, and/or children of Filipino citizens with valid 9(a) visas may be allowed entry to the Philippines without the need of an entry exemption document beginning 01 August 2021. For this purpose, the visas of the foregoing shall



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contain the following notation: “EED not required per IATF Resolution No. 128 (s.2021)”

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 128th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this July 22, 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



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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 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 the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on **22 July 2021** via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. **128** 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 **22nd** day of July 2021, Manila.


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