



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

RESOLUTION NO. 68

Series of 2020

September 03, 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 August 27, 2020, the IATF adopted major changes in the COVID-19 risk-classification method for Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities, and Independent Component Cities, use of new parameters for escalation and de-escalation of community quarantine classification, revised procedure for reporting and recommendations for risk classifications, and standardization of requirements for provinces, HUCs, and ICCs applying for de-escalation from GCQ to MGCQ;

WHEREAS, as of September 03, 2020, there are total of Sixty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Forty (65,240) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

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

- A. Consistent with the President's State of the Nation Address (SONA) directive, all government agencies are enjoined to adopt a streamlined and digitized process in the delivery of government services. Thus, the Anti-Red Tape Authority's Guidelines on the Issuance and/or Reinstitution of Permits and Licenses under the New Normal is hereby endorsed to all government agencies for adoption wherever applicable;
- B. The recommendations of the sub-Technical Working Group for Vaccine Development are adopted as follows:
 1. The World Health Organization Solidarity Trial (ST) shall be prioritized in the assignment of Trial Zones. This notwithstanding, independent trials should nonetheless be considered in such a way that they will not be deprived of trial sites.
 2. Vaccine recipients under the WHO ST will be recruited from the top 5-10 barangays reporting high COVID-19 cases, based on the attack rates per 1000 population per



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

barangay. The data will come from the DOH-Epidemiology Bureau (EB). DOH CHDs (Regional Offices) will be responsible for monitoring, and DOH EB for managing the database of all trial participants, their details, monitoring data, etc, at the regional, provincial, city and barangay levels. Trial sites will be at the barangay level, and randomization will be by households. The household census will be obtained from the barangay/s to identify residents to ensure follow up. Transient residents will be discouraged unless they can show proof that they will be staying in the area or the trial site for the next two (2) years.

3. Independent clinical trials by private vaccine companies will also be assigned Trial Zones, such that they are equally and rationally distributed to avoid competition in subject recruitment.
4. For outbreak situations, WHO Solidarity Trial Vaccine teams can move into the affected barangay provided that no independent Clinical Trial is going on or is being conducted at such time. In such a case, the next most adjacent barangay may be considered for the WHO ST vaccine teams.
5. To address shortfalls in recruitment by specific barangays, the deficit can be taken over by other barangays with faster recruitment to meet the total target sample size.
6. A Memorandum of Agreement between DILG and DOST, witnessed by appropriate LGU officials and the Vaccine Teams, is hereby proposed.
7. A Communication plan for the COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials should consider different levels of LGU and the criteria and considerations for recruitment (e.g. transmission rate cutoffs). Close coordination with the LGU for zoning in barangays will be made. The barangays should be informed to prepare for immunization in case there is an outbreak. There should be a meeting with City Health Officers to discuss the data needs and considerations for recruitment.
8. Considering the restriction in mobility due to enforcement of general community quarantine in some areas, alternative modes of follow-up should be put in place such as the use of Barangay health workers or local barangay volunteers, including utilization of cellphones for reminders.
9. The Creation of a separate Sub-Technical Working Group on Vaccine Procurement to be led by the Department of Budget and Management-Procurement Service, with the Department of Health, Department of Finance, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Trade and Industry,



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

Philippine International Trading Corporation, National Economic Development Authority, and Department of the Interior and Local Government as members. DOH will decide on which vaccine and number of vaccine doses to be procured, as well as the program of vaccine deployment.


C. The decisions of the Technical Working Group are hereby ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. In addition to the requirement of wearing face shields in public transportation and in workplaces as mandated by the issuance of Department of Transportation and the joint issuance of the Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Trade and Industry, respectively, the wearing of the same shall likewise be required in supermarkets, public markets, malls, and in venues where government-initiated meetings and critical government services are being conducted or provided. In all other public areas, the wearing of face shields shall be highly encouraged. Local government units are enjoined to provide their constituents with face shields, subject to availability of funds, and giving priority to members of the vulnerable population;
2. Student athletes of collegiate athletic associations as defined under Republic Act No. 10676 or the Student-Athletes Protection Act shall be allowed to resume their preparatory trainings in areas under General Community Quarantine and Modified General Community Quarantine, subject to guidelines as may be issued by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

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

APPROVED during the 68th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 3rd of September 2020 *via* video conference.


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


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



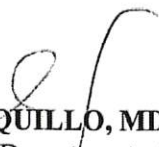
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the designated 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 the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on **3 September 2020** via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. **68** was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon 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 **3rd** day of September 2020, Manila.


KENNETH G. RONQUILLO, MD, MPH
Assistant Secretary, Department of Health
Secretariat Head, IATF