



AOCG Memo No. **457 - 2021**

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TO : ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS
ALL ACDD CHIEFS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : ATTY. EDWARD JAMES A. DY BUCO
Deputy Commissioner, AOCG *dl*

SUBJECT : COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT-IMPOSED HEALTH
PROTOCOLS IN THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC AUCTION

DATE : August 10, 2021

Relative to Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Resolution No. 130-A Series of 2021 dated 29 July 2021, you are hereby instructed to adopt and comply with the aforementioned resolution to minimize the negative impact of the pandemic on individuals and the community.

For your immediate and strict compliance.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 130-A

Series of 2021

July 29, 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, upon the recommendations of the Screening and Validation Committee, the IATF approves the following risk-level classifications of Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs), and Independent Component Cities (ICCs) effective 01 August 2021:

- A. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) until 31 August 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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1. For Luzon:

- a. Cordillera Administrative Region - Ifugao, Kalinga, Abra, Benguet, Mt. Province;
- b. Region I - La Union, Pangasinan, Dagupan City;
- c. Batanes;
- d. Region III - Aurora, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, Angeles City, Olongapo City;
- e. Region IV-B - Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro*, Oriental Mindoro, Romblon, and Palawan*; and
- f. Region V - Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon.

2. For the Visayas:

- a. Region VII - Bohol, Siquijor; and
- b. Region VIII - Biliran, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, Western Samar*, and Ormoc City*.

3. For Mindanao:

- a. Region X - Bukidnon*, Camiguin*, Iligan, Lanao del Norte*, Misamis Occidental*;
- b. Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) - Basilan, Maguindanao*, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi.

**Areas requiring special attention by the Local Government Units and Regional IATF/RTF*

B. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) until 31 August 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas:

1. For Luzon:

- a. Cordillera Administrative Region: Baguio City and Apayao;
- b. Region II: Santiago City, Quirino, Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya;
- c. Region IV-A: Batangas and Quezon; and
- d. Puerto Princesa.

2. For Visayas:

- a. Region VI: Guimaras, Negros Occidental.



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3. For Mindanao:

- a. Region IX: Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga City, Zamboanga del Norte;
- b. Region XI: Davao Oriental, Davao del Sur;
- c. Region XII: Gen. Santos City, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, North Cotabato, and South Cotabato;
- d. Region XIII (CARAGA): Agusan Del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao Del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Dinagat Islands; and
- e. Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) - Cotabato City.

**Areas requiring special attention by the Local Government Units and Regional IATF/RTF*

C. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) until 15 August 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas:

1. For Luzon: Ilocos Norte, and Bataan; and
2. For Visayas: Mandaue City, Lapu Lapu City, Cebu City** and Cebu Province.**

***subject to further appeals by their respective LGUs.*

D. Gingoog City of Misamis Oriental, Iloilo, Iloilo City, and Cagayan de Oro City shall be placed under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) until 07 August 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas;

E. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) with heightened restrictions until 15 August 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas:

1. For Luzon:
 - a. Ilocos Sur;
 - b. Cagayan,



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additional 10 percentage points beyond the prescribed on-site capacity or venue/seating capacity, whichever is applicable;

6. Indoor sports courts and venues and indoor tourist attractions shall not be allowed to operate;
7. 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;
8. 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;
9. Particular to Cavite, Bulacan, Laguna, and Rizal, which together with the National Capital Region, shall form the NCR Plus Area, only Authorized Persons Outside their Residences as provided for under Section 7(2)(a) of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, shall be allowed to travel into and out of said NCR Plus Area;
10. 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



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11. Other provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, 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.
- F. The National Capital Region shall remain to be under General Community Quarantine until 05 August 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas, subject to the immediate observance and implementation of the following heightened restrictions:
1. Indoor dine-in services and *al fresco* dining of food preparation establishments such as commissaries, restaurants, and eateries shall not be allowed. The operation of these establishments shall be limited to take-out and delivery;
 2. 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;
 3. Indoor sports courts and venues; and indoor tourist attractions; specialized markets of the Department of the Tourism, may not operate;
 4. Outdoor tourist attractions, as may be defined by the Department of Tourism (DOT), shall remain to be allowed at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity with strict adherence to minimum public health standards;
 5. Only Authorized Persons Outside their Residences as provided for under Section 7(2)(a) of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, shall be allowed to travel into and out of the NCR Plus Area;
 6. Only virtual religious gatherings shall be allowed. 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



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the prescribed minimum public health standards for the duration of the activity; and

7. Other provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, not affected by the foregoing shall continue to be in effect including those on the operation of public transportation. The use of active transportation shall likewise be promoted.

Beginning 06 August 2021, the risk classification of the National Capital Region shall be escalated to Enhanced Community Quarantine until 20 August 2021, observing the provisions of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine, as amended.

G. All areas shall continue to implement the following measures:

1. Shorten detection to isolation/quarantine interval to less than five (5) days:
 - a. Conduct active case finding in all areas, prioritizing those with clustering;
 - b. Close contacts of suspect, probable, and confirmed cases must be traced within twenty-four (24) hours of detection of a case;
 - c. Immediate isolation/quarantine and testing of cases and close contacts;
 - d. Rapid antigen tests may be used for confirmation of suspect/probable cases and close contacts;
 - e. Those who turn negative on rapid antigen test must undergo Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test;
 - f. Local Government Units (LGUs) and Regional Epidemiological Surveillance Units (RESUs) must identify areas with case increases or clustering and facilitate immediate submission samples for sequencing from these areas through the Epidemiology Bureau and UP-Philippine Genome Center (within 7 days of sample collection);
 - g. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to ensure that workplaces and establishments conduct daily health and exposure screening, report identified cases and close contact to the LGU, and coordinate for investigation and response;
 - h. Workplaces to consider incentives that will encourage reporting and adherence to isolation/quarantine;



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2. Prioritize facility-based isolation and quarantine to prevent household transmission:
 - a. Increase number and utilization of isolation and quarantine facilities and Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities (TTMFs);
 - b. Deploy additional staff, as needed, to ensure that cases and close contacts are closely monitored and infection prevention and control protocols are strictly followed;
3. Make readily available and accessible health care capacities and systems in preparation for case spikes:
 - a. Each health facility must have a COVID-19 Surge Plan that will detail needed resources and how it shall be operationalized;
 - b. Define additional metrics that will serve as early warning to signal a beginning “surge”, such as emergency department occupation rate and number of pending admissions;
 - c. Needed logistics as indicated in the COVID-19 Surge Plan have to be secured and pre-positioned/readily accessible, including review of available supplies of ventilation requirements, oxygen tanks, regulators and canisters, and stockpiles of personal protective equipment and medicines, as needed;
 - d. LGUs should have triage and referral systems that will enable assessment of cases for swift management at the appropriate facility;
4. Ramp up vaccination among Priority Groups A2 and A3 populations to reduce occurrence of more severe disease and fatalities. Parallel efforts to vaccinate A4 population, if resources are adequate, will provide protection for the economic sector. The NTF Vaccine Cluster is directed to ensure sufficient vaccine supply of up to Four Million Doses for the National Capital Region, and additional Two Million and Five Hundred Thousand Doses for Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal. All of the foregoing is subject to availability of vaccine supply. The provincial, city, and municipal local government units are likewise directed to intensify vaccination efforts during the period of Enhanced Community Quarantine;
5. Strictly enforce border control protocols at all ports of entry:
 - a. Both air and sea ports, including sea ports for cargo vessels;





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- b. Isolation and quarantine facilities must strictly implement infection prevention and control protocols;
 - c. Close contacts among passengers have to be identified and closely monitored by the Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ);
 - d. LGU must ensure proper endorsement, monitoring, and quarantine completion;
6. Continuously assess COVID-19 situation at all levels:
- a. Regular assessment of trends of cases and admissions;
 - b. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to monitor that the Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Treat - Reintegrate (PDITR) Strategy of the National Task Force Against COVID-19 is implemented and enhanced case finding and contact tracing as well as proper isolation/quarantine are done; and
7. Disseminate information on the variants of concern and expected actions to be taken by individuals, establishments and implementers:
- a. Correct information on the variants of concern to counter mis- and dis-information;
 - b. Clear call to action on:
 - i. Correct and consistent Minimum Public Health Standards (MPHS) implementation;
 - ii. Early consultation and adherence to isolation/quarantine guidelines;
 - iii. Implementation of adequate ventilation and safety protocols at workplaces and establishment; and
 - iv. Enhanced response by the LGUs to areas with case increases.

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 130th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this July 29, 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 29 July 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 130-A 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 29th day of July 2021, Manila.


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