REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 276, s. 2021

OBSERVANCE OF THE MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS DURING THE SEMANA SANTA 2021

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. Attached is the Memorandum from Regional Director, Eugene G. Cabrera, Office of Civil Defense Regional Office 1, City of San Fernando, La Union dated March 24, 2021.

2. For dissemination and compliance of all concerned.

For the Regional Director:

RONALD B. CASTILLO, CESO V
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Assistant Regional Director

Incl.: As Stated.
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subject:

HOLIDAY
HEALTH EDUCATION
SAFETY EDUCATION

ESSD-SPPS/jrbp/SemanaSanta2021
March 30, 2021

DepEd Region 1: Built on character; empowered by competence.
MEMORANDUM
NO. 007, s. 2021

FOR : ALL REGIONAL DRRM COUNCIL MEMBER-AGENCIES
PROVINCIAL DRRM COUNCIL OF ILOCOS NORTE;
PROVINCIAL DRRM COUNCIL OF ILOCOS SUR;
PROVINCIAL DRRM COUNCIL OF LA UNION;
PROVINCIAL DRRM COUNCIL OF PANGASINAN; and
CITY DRRM COUNCIL OF DAGUPAN

SUBJECT : PREPAREDNESS MEASURES AND REITERATION
 REGARDING COMPLIANCE TO THE QUARANTINE
PROTOCOLS AND MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS
FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF SEMANA SANTA (HOLY WEEK)
2021

DATE : 24 MARCH 2021

To further strengthen our implementation of Quarantine Protocols and observance of
Minimum Public Health Standards and to address the rising cases of COVID-19, the
RDRRMC1 reiterates strict adherence of the public to relevant provisions of IATF
Resolutions No. 102; 103; and 104, s. 2021 during the observance of Semana Santa
2021.

Attached are the IATF Resolutions No. 102; 103; and 104, s. 2021 for your reference.

The Regional DRRM Council 1 member-agencies and the Local DRRM Councils are
hereby requested to submit their respective preparedness measures in anticipation of
increased volume of local travelers during the Lenten Season. Reports can be
submitted through email at region1@ocd.gov.ph.

Further, all Local DRRM Councils are hereby directed to monitor their area of
responsibility (AOR) and submit their Situational Reports for any untoward incidents
regarding the observance of Semana Santa (Holy Week).

For information and guidance.

EUGÉNE G CABRERA
Regional Director, OCD RO1/
Chairperson, RDRRMC1

Telefax Number: (072) 619-5624; 607-6528
SMS Hotlines: 0920-919-2054 (smart); 0917-300-5096 (globe)
E-mail: region1@ocd.gov.ph; Website: www.ocd.gov.ph; www.rdrrmc.gov.ph
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLUTION NO. 102
Series of 2021
March 11, 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 mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases 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 received reports regarding a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) spreading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and another variant identified in South Africa (501.V2);

WHEREAS, Memoranda of the Executive Secretary provided for additional measures to be observed relative to the SARS-COV-2 Variant detected in the United Kingdom including the imposition of travel restrictions on countries/jurisdictions where the new COVID-19 variants were officially reported, and subjected Filipino citizens coming from the same countries/jurisdictions to an absolute 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse-Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people.

WHEREAS, as of March 11, 2021, there are a total of Forty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Nine Thousand (47,769) 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 recommendations of the Department of Health to strengthen the enforcement and implementation of the following minimum public health standards are adopted:
1. On the level of individuals:
   a. Wearing of face masks and face shields appropriately;
   b. Increasing the frequency in hand-washing for at least twenty (20) seconds each time;
   c. Ensuring the observance of social distancing and proper ventilation, and reducing time of interaction, if any; and
   d. Reinforcing correct information on COVID-19.

2. On the level of establishments:
   a. Implementing the following risk mitigation strategies:
      i. Engineering controls;
      ii. Ventilation; and
      iii. Contact tracing.
   b. Measuring compliance and establishing baselines.

3. On the level of local government units (LGUs), implementation of COVID-19 Coordinated Operations to Defeat Epidemic (CODE) through the strengthened mobilization of Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams:
   a. Actively looking for and ensuring that all suspect cases shall be tested with Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) and isolated within twenty-four (24) hours of detection;
   b. Tracing and quarantining of all close contacts within the next 24 hours:
      i. 100% of cases with symptoms are isolated in a facility within 24 hours;
      ii. 100% of those requiring isolation/quarantine who opt for home isolation/quarantine are in households that are eligible for home isolation/quarantine.
   c. Testing of close contacts who become symptomatic using RT-PCR test;
   d. Begin the contact tracing even among suspect cases;
   e. Monitoring of workplaces and other closed settings as to their case data and compliance to minimum public health standards and safety protocols; and
   f. Ensuring proper handover to the LGUs of Returning Overseas Filipinos and other incoming international travelers to ensure compliance to and completion of quarantine or isolation.
B. The recommendation of the IATF Technical Working Group to allow Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority to resume receiving all types of vessels for “hot/warm” layup purposes as an adjunct to its functions as a crew-change hub following the approved health and safety protocols is ratified.

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 102nd Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 11th of March 2021 via video conference.

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

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;

2. I am the interim 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, 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 a regular meeting of the IATF, the IATF Resolution No. 102 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 11th day of March 2021, Manila.

[Signature]

ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
OIC-Head of the Secretariat, IATF
Assistant Secretary of Health
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 mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases 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 received reports regarding a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) spreading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and another variant identified in South Africa (501.V2);

WHEREAS, Memoranda of the Executive Secretary provided for additional measures to be observed relative to the SARS-COV-2 Variant detected in the United Kingdom including the imposition of travel restrictions on countries/jurisdictions where the new COVID-19 variants were officially reported, and subjected Filipino citizens coming from the same countries/jurisdictions to an absolute 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse-Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people.

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2021, there are a total of Sixty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Seven (66,567) 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 recommendations of the National Task Force Against COVID-19 Task Group Recovery Cluster on the Priority Group A4 of the National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan selected based on necessity of the service provided for the public and
level of exposure is hereby provisionally approved. Local government units (LGUs) are enjoined to prepare a masterlist of residents and workers within their jurisdiction.

B. The recommendations of the IATF Technical Working Group are hereby ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. Memorandum Circular No. 5, s.2021 issued by the National Task Force Against COVID-19 is adopted with modifications, as follows:
   a. All Filipino citizens whether returning Overseas Filipino or Overseas Filipino Worker shall be allowed to return to the Philippines;
   b. Effective 0001H March 22, 2021 to 2359H April 21, 2021, the entry of foreign nationals shall be temporarily suspended, except for the following:
      i. Diplomats and members of international organizations, and their dependents provided they hold a valid 9(c) visa or 47(a)(2) visa, as the case may be, at the time of entry;
      ii. Foreign nationals involved in medical repatriation duly endorsed by Department of Foreign Affairs - Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration provided they have a valid visa at the time of entry;
      iii. Foreign seafarers under the “Green Lanes” program for crew change provided that they hold a 9(c) crew list visa at the time of entry;
      iv. Foreign spouses and children of Filipino citizens travelling with them provided they have valid visas at the time of entry; and
      v. Emergency, humanitarian, and other analogous cases approved by the Chairperson of the NTF COVID-19 or his duly authorized representative, provided the foreign nationals have valid visas at the time of entry.

   c. The foregoing is without prejudice to immigration laws, rules, and regulations such that the Commissioner of Immigration shall have the exclusive prerogative to decide on waiver or recall of exclusion orders for all foreign nationals authorized entry under relevant IATF
resolutions, subject to regular reporting to the IATF Secretariat at the end of each calendar month.

d. The entry of all of the foregoing shall still be subject to such daily limit of incoming passengers as may be imposed by the Department of Transportation.

2. To address the rising cases of COVID-19, the following measures shall be in place in areas under General Community Quarantine until 4 April 2021:
   a. The operations of driving schools, traditional cinemas and video- and interactive- game arcades, libraries, archives, museums, and cultural centers, limited social events at accredited establishments of the DOT, and limited tourist attractions except open-air tourist attractions shall be temporarily suspended;
   b. Meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE) events shall be limited to essential business gatherings at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity;
   c. Religious gatherings shall observe a maximum of thirty percent (30%) 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 such LGUs have the discretion to allow higher venue capacity not exceeding fifty percent (50%) based on conditions in their localities;
   d. Venue capacity of dine-in restaurants, cafes, personal care services shall be reduced to a maximum of fifty percent (50%) of capacity;
   e. National government agencies are encouraged to defer the conduct of non-critical activities that would entail mass gatherings; and
   f. Cockfighting and cockpit operations are suspended, including in areas under Modified General Community Quarantine;

To implement the foregoing, all concerned government agencies are hereby requested to issue the appropriate operational guidelines.

3. Local government units shall retain the authority to impose a higher age limit for age-based restrictions for minors depending on the COVID-19 situation in their respective jurisdictions. The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority is directed to facilitate the establishment of reasonable and uniform exemptions with the local government units in the National Capital Region.
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 103rd Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 18th of March 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
CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;

2. I am the interim 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, 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 a regular meeting of the IATF, the IATF Resolution No. 103 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 18th day of March 2021, Manila.

[Signature]

ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
OIC-Head of the Secretariat, IATF
Assistant Secretary of Health
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 mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases 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 received reports regarding a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) spreading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and another variant identified in South Africa (501.V2);

WHEREAS, Memoranda of the Executive Secretary provided for additional measures to be observed relative to the SARS-COV-2 Variant detected in the United Kingdom including the imposition of travel restrictions on countries/jurisdictions where the new COVID-19 variants were officially reported, and subjected Filipino citizens coming from the same countries/jurisdictions to an absolute 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse-Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people.

WHEREAS, as of March 20, 2021, there are a total of Eighty Thousand Six Hundred Forty-Two (80,642) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF endorses to the President for his approval, the following measures to address the rising cases of COVID-19 in the National Capital Region and contiguous provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal effective for the limited period of March 22, 2021 until April 4, 2021, subject to review upon the expiration of said period:
A. The provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal shall be placed under General Community Quarantine together with the highly urbanized cities of the National Capital Region, and the municipality of Pateros. For purposes of this Resolution, the following areas shall be treated as one Subject Area;

B. The following additional restriction measures shall be put in place in the entirety of the Subject Area:

a. To prevent the transmission of COVID-19 to other parts of the country, only essential travel into and out of the Subject Area shall be allowed. Public transportation shall remain to be operational at such capacities and protocols in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Transportation. The use of active transportation shall likewise be promoted;

b. All mass gatherings including religious gatherings shall be prohibited. The holding of face-to-face meetings are highly discouraged and in the alternative, virtual meetings are highly encouraged;

c. Holding of weddings, baptisms, and funeral services shall be limited to 10 persons;

d. Current operational capacities of essential and non-essential services/industries shall be maintained, subject to adherence to safety protocols and minimum public health standards, particularly in the prohibition of aggregation in communal areas such as pantries, canteens, etc. However, the private sector is enjoined to adopt similar alternative working arrangements as those already in place in the executive branch of government, i.e. thirty percent (30%) to fifty percent (50%) operational or on-site capacity, where applicable;

e. Dine-in restaurants, cafes, and establishments shall be limited to delivery, take-out, and any outdoor or al fresco dining shall be allowed provided that additional engineering and administrative controls are put in place such as but not limited to, placing of acrylic or similar dividers, limiting to two persons per table with appropriate seating arrangements (one-seat apart in a diagonal configuration);

f. The suspension of operations of businesses/industries pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 103 issued on March 18, 2021, is hereby reiterated. The operations of driving schools, traditional cinemas and video- and interactive- game arcades, libraries, archives, museums, and cultural centers, limited social events at accredited establishments of the DOT, and limited tourist attractions except open-air tourist attractions shall be temporarily suspended. Cockfighting and cockpit operations, including in
areas under Modified General Community Quarantine shall be temporarily suspended. Venue capacity of outdoor dine-in restaurants and cafes, personal care services shall be reduced to a maximum of fifty percent (50%);

g. A common curfew shall be imposed between ten o’clock in the evening to five o’clock in the morning (10:00 PM to 5:00 AM). Workers, cargo vehicles, and public transportation, however, shall not be restricted by such curfew;

h. Any person below eighteen (18) years old and above sixty-five (65) years old, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, including any persons who reside with the aforementioned, shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services, or for work in their respective industries and offices. Persons above sixty-five (65) years old may likewise be allowed for outdoor non-contact sports and other forms of outdoor exercises; Persons with disability (PWD) may be allowed outdoors for their therapy as well as for outdoor non-contact sports and other forms of outdoor exercises, upon presentation of prescription from their physicians or presentation of PWD ID;

i. Visiting persons outside their immediate family or other households is strongly discouraged. Even at home, the wearing of masks for the elderly and the vulnerable and for the rest of the household, is strongly advised; and

j. Subject to the above additional restrictions, all provisions applicable to GCQ areas in the Omnibus Guidelines in the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended, shall remain in effect in the Subject Area

C. The Department of the Interior and Local Government is directed to ensure that all local government units enforce the following measures:

a. Ensure that the protocols for isolation/quarantine are completed before facilitating reintegration with the community.

b. Ensure and monitor minimum public health standards adherence specifically in the following settings:

i. In the homes - distribute masks and face shields especially to the vulnerable sectors, with the Barangay Health Emergency Response
Teams and other barangay officials to monitor and ensure compliance of households; and

ii. In the workplace - implement such other alternative working arrangements, with the Department of Labor and Employment-Department of Trade and Industry to monitor compliance of workplaces to minimum public health standards.

c. Activate the following surge responses for the health system:

i. Actively find cases in the barangays with highest cases using the Coordinated Operations to Defeat the Epidemic (CODE) visits

ii. Increase and improve the facility-based quarantine and isolation through the Oplan Kalinga

iii. Ensure appropriate patient care navigation through the use of One Hospital Command Center, Oplan Kalinga, and local government unit call centers with referral of mild and moderate cases to available temporary treatment and monitoring facilities; and

iv. Increase dedicated beds to surge capacity (30% private and 50% public) to increase health system capacity.

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 104th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 20th of March 2021 via video conference.

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

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

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1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;

2. I am the interim 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, 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 a regular meeting of the IATF, the IATF Resolution No. 104 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 March 2021, Manila.

Charade B. Mercado-Grande
ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
OIC-Head of the Secretariat, IATF
Assistant Secretary of Health