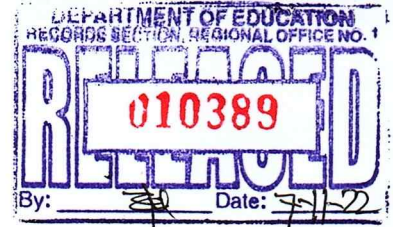




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I



Office of the Regional Director

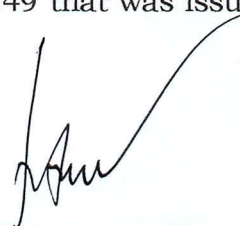
REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 776, s. 2022

JUL 11 2022

**RESPONSE TO ALL CONCERNS ON COVID-19 VACCINATION AND TESTING
OF PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads
Teachers
All Others Concerned

1. The Office of Undersecretary Atty. Nepomuceno A. Malaluan, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Secretary, issued a Memorandum dated June 28, 2022, regarding the implementation of Resolution No. 169, issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases dated June 27, 2022, which was uploaded to the online Official Gazette on June 28, 2022.
2. The attached IATF Resolution No. 169 is in response to various concerns regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and testing requirements in relation to onsite work under the IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 that was issued in November 2021.
3. For information and guidance.


TOLENTINO G. AQUINO
Director IV

Encl.: Unnumbered Memorandum dated June 28, 2022
IATF Resolution No. 169 s. 2022
Reference: Unnumbered Memorandum dated June 28, 2022
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subject:

Vaccination
Issuances

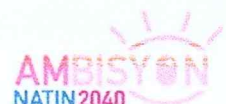
ORD-LU/RMW/gsl/RMLU2022-00018
July 8, 2022

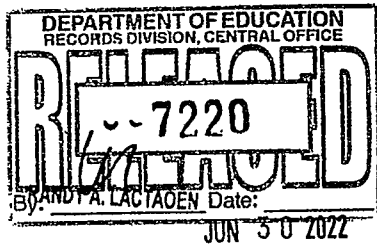


DepEd Region 1: Built on character; empowered by competence.

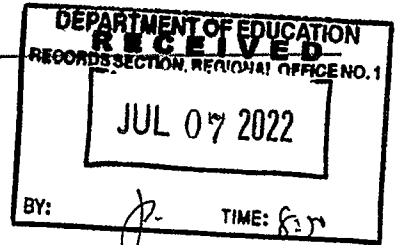


Flores St., Catbangan, City of San Fernando, La Union
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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



MEMORANDUM

TO : Regional Directors
All others concerned

FROM : *[Signature]*
ATTY. NEPOMUCENO A. MALALUAN
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

SUBJECT : Concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing of personnel of the Department of Education

DATE : June 28, 2022

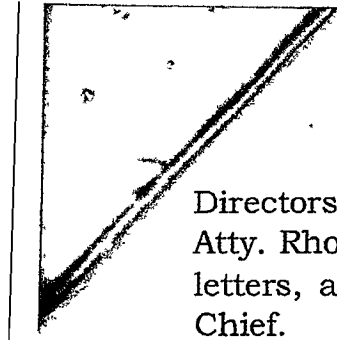
Various concerns raised by some personnel regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and testing requirements in relation to onsite work under IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, issued in November 2021, have been brought to the attention of the Central Office.

Acting on these concerns, the Department of Education (DepEd) wrote to the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), referring these concerns emanating from implementation of its Resolutions.

In response, the IATF issued the attached Resolution No. 169, dated June 27, 2022, which was uploaded to the online Official Gazette on June 28, 2022. Other concerns which had been raised by DepEd, but may not be addressed by IATF Resolution No. 169, are recommended for future consideration of the IATF.

Given this development, the Regional Directors are directed to implement IATF Resolution No. 169 as the latest directive of the IATF on the matter, and accordingly address letters and correspondences pertaining to concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing relative to onsite work, with consideration of said Resolution. For this purpose, all such letters and correspondences forwarded to the Central Office shall be returned to the respective Regional





Directors for proper action. The Office of the Director, Legal Service, through Atty. Rhoan G.L. Orebia, Director IV, shall facilitate the prompt return of such letters, assisted by the Legal Division, through Atty. Rodel James R. Pulma, Chief.

With respect to face-to-face classes and vaccination, however, Office Order 00-OSEC-2022-003, dated February 2, 2022, entitled "Interim Guidelines on the Expansion of Limited Face-to-Face Classes" remains in force.

For guidance and compliance.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 169

Series of 2022

June 27, 2022

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(e) of Executive Order No. 163 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to educate the public on emerging infectious diseases and its prevention, control and management to promote positive health behaviors, and address public fear and anxiety through the conduct of a nationwide EID awareness campaign:~~

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires the mobilization of a whole-of-government response, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte declared a State of Public Health Emergency in the entire Philippines through Proclamation No. 922. The declared State of Calamity was extended on 16 September 2021 for one year through Proclamation No. 1021 s.2020, and on September 10, 2021, was further extended until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant, through Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021);

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines that have been granted with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are considered safe and effective, and, based on current available evidence, have been shown to (1) prevent symptomatic infection (2) prevent severe infection and (3) prevent transmission;

WHEREAS, following the Enhanced Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Treat - Reintegrate - Vaccinate Strategy of the National Task Force Against COVID-19, its Vaccine Cluster is currently implementing the National COVID-19 Immunization Program that aims to provide added protection to all eligible Filipinos from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the National COVID-19 Immunization Program has been opened to the general public nationwide as provided for under IATF Resolution No. 141 (s.2021). Further, the IATF approved the recommended strategy for the Vaccination Rollout for the Rest of the Pediatric Population (ROPP) pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 146 (s.2021);

WHEREAS, according to the National COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard of the Department of Health, as of 26 June 2022, 153,196,264 COVID-19 vaccine doses have already



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

been administered, broken down as follows: 68,057,339 first dose administered, 70,277,898 complete dose administered, 14,861,027 booster doses administered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, upon the recommendation of the IATF Technical Advisory Group and the IATF Technical Working Group, the IATF hereby approves the following:

1. Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 148-B s. 2021 dated 11 November 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

“A. In areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be required to undergo RT-PCR tests once every two (2) weeks, or weekly antigen tests for purposes of on-site work.

However, for public sector employees, government agencies, instrumentalities, including local government units may cover the costs of the RT-PCR or antigen tests to be administered, subject to availability of funds, and civil service, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.”

2. Employees with recent COVID-19 infection within ninety (90) days, and those with alternative working arrangements that do not require on-site reporting may be exempted from the testing requirements under Section 1.
3. The testing requirements under Section 1 shall be waived for areas under Alert Level 1 classification, subject to the implementation of clinical-based management, including symptomatic testing. However, the testing requirements under Section 1 shall be reinstated in areas under Alert Level 2 classification or higher.

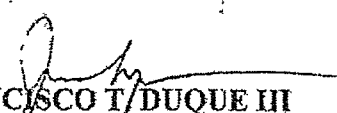
RESOLVED FURTHER, that the provisions of IATF Resolution No. 149 in relation to IATF Resolution No. 148-B, and all other Resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby modified accordingly.



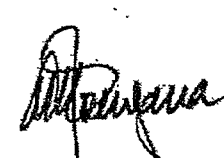
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESOLVED FINALLY, 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 169th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this June 27, 2022, at Diamond Hotel Philippines, Malate, Manila.



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



DELEIN N. LORENZANA
Secretary, Department of National Defense
NTF Chairperson
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 OIC-Undersecretary 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. IATF Resolution No. 169 was unanimously approved and adopted;
6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana 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 27th day of June 2022, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
OIC-Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF