



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

RESOLUTION NO. 135-A

Series of 2021

August 26, 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 Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics, the IATF approves the following risk-level classifications of Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs), and Independent Component Cities (ICCs) effective 01 September 2021:

- A. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) until 07 September 2021, without prejudice to their reclassification as may be warranted and the declaration of localized Enhanced Community Quarantine in critical areas:



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

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, 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, Lanao del Sur, and Tawi-Tawi.

B. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) until 07 September 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. Baguio;
- b. Region II: Santiago City, Quirino, Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya;
- c. Tarlac; and
- d. Puerto Princesa.



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

2. For Visayas:

- a. Region VI: Guimaras and Negros Occidental.

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

C. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) until 07 September 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. National Capital Region;
- b. Apayao;
- c. Ilocos Norte;
- d. Region III: Bulacan and Bataan; and
- e. Region IV-A: Cavite, Lucena City, Rizal, and Laguna.

2. For Visayas:

- a. Region VI: Aklan, Iloilo Province, Iloilo City;
- b. Region VII: Lapu-lapu City, Cebu City, and Mandaue City;

3. For Mindanao: Cagayan de Oro City.

For the National Capital Region, Bataan, and Laguna, the following guidelines shall be observed:

1. Indoor and *al fresco* dine-in services, and personal care services including beauty salons, beauty parlors, barbershops, and nail spas shall not be allowed.



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

2. Pastors, priests, rabbis, imams, or other religious ministers and their assistants may conduct religious services performed through online video recording and transmission, necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals, and they shall be allowed to move for such purposes. Corollarily, immediate family members of the deceased who died of causes other than COVID-19 shall be allowed to move from their residences to attend the wake or interment of the deceased upon satisfactory proof of their relationship with the latter, fully complying with the prescribed minimum public health standards for the duration of the activity.
 3. 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.
- D. The following provinces, HUCs, and ICCs shall be placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) with heightened restrictions until 07 September 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,
 - c. Region IV-A: Quezon, and Batangas; and,
 - d. Naga City.
 2. For Visayas:
 - a. Region VI: Antique, Bacolod City, and Capiz; and,
 - b. Region VII: Cebu Province and Negros Oriental.
 3. For Mindanao:
 - a. Zamboanga del Sur;
 - b. Misamis Oriental;
 - c. Region XI: Davao City, Davao del Norte, Davao Occidental, and Davao de Oro; and
 - d. Butuan City.

The provinces, HUCs, and ICCs in the preceding paragraph shall observe and implement the following heightened restrictions:



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

1. 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%).
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. Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions (MICE) events and social events in venue establishments shall not be allowed;
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. Under the Safety Seal Certification Program, business establishments awarded Safety Seal Certifications shall be allowed to operate at an additional ten (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



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

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

9. 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

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

1. Ramp up vaccination efforts among Priority Groups A2 and A3 populations to reduce occurrence of more severe disease and fatalities. Parallel efforts to vaccinate A4 and A5 population, if resources are adequate;
2. Improved implementation of engineering and administrative controls, especially ventilation standards and actions against crowding and gatherings;
3. Health promotion and strict enforcement of minimum public health standards, especially their uniform implementation in high-risk areas such as healthcare settings, wet markets, supermarkets, government offices, workplaces, and at home, among others;




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

4. The implementation of localized community quarantine and the ramping up of the availability of identified quarantine facilities in priority/critical areas with community transmission, including in private and public establishments, with the concurrence of the RIATF;
5. Immediate facility-based isolation of all returning citizens, suspect, and probable cases, and the isolation of persons exhibiting symptoms and individuals awaiting their test results;
6. Improved distribution of personal protective equipment and waste management;
7. Continuous health education on COVID-19 transmissions;
8. Scaling up of local health systems capacity, especially for community isolation and critical care, including dedicated mechanical ventilators, and Intensive Care Units, isolation, and ward beds for COVID-19 cases; and
9. Submission of complete and accurate data through COVID-Kaya and the DOH DataCollect.

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 135th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this August 26, 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




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 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 26 August 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 135-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 26th day of August 2021, Manila.


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