

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

RESOLUTION NO. 28

Series of 2020 April 23, 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION

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 whether the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon should be totally or partially lifted, extended, or expanded to other areas, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) convened a sub-Technical Working Group tasked to define parameters in assessing recent developments in the Philippine COVID-19 situation;

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2020, the IATF finalized the parameters for deciding on the lifting or extension of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon, which include trends on the COVID-19 epidemiological curve, the health capacity of the country, social factors, economic factors, and security factors;

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2020, upon the recommendation of the IATF, the President extended the implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine over the entirety of Luzon until April 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2020, the IATF and public health experts met with the President to discuss options with regard to the implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon after April 30, 2020. The President thereafter directed the IATF to finalize and submit recommendations on or before April 23, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF formally recommends to the Office of the President without prejudice to any amendments and/or modifications which he may thereafter introduce, the recommendations of the Sub-Technical Working Group on Data Analytics *in toto*, the specifics of which are the following:

- A. The extension of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in the following high-risk administrative regions, provinces, or areas until May 15, 2020:
 - 1. The National Capital Region (NCR);
 - 2. Region III (Central Luzon);
 - 3. Region IV-A (CALABARZON);
 - 4. The Province of Pangasinan;

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- 5. The Province of Benguet;
- 6. The island of Mindoro;
- 7. The Province of Albay; and
- 8. The island of Catanduanes.
- B. The imposition of ECQ in the following high-risk administrative regions, provinces, or areas, until May 15, 2020;
 - 1. The island of Panay;
 - 2. The island of Cebu; and
 - 3. The Provinces of Davao del Norte and Davao de Oro*, and Davao City.
- C. For all other moderate-risk and low-risk administrative regions, provinces, or areas, a General Community Quarantine (GCQ) shall be implemented starting May 1, 2020. *Provided,* that as a precondition, minimum health standards in relation to Paragraph (D) of this Resolution are achieved and continually observed.

General community quarantine in low-risk areas may be lifted by May 15, 2020, should no change in the risk level occur.

- D. The implementation of any form of community quarantine shall be in accordance with approved minimum health standards which shall be defined by the Department of Health, in coordination with sector-specific guidelines which may be issued by the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), among others. Implementation thereof shall begin by April 27, 2020.
- E. For areas placed under General Community Quarantine, the following guidelines shall be observed:
 - 1. Only workers and sectors in Category I, II and III may continue to work or operate in phases;
 - 2. The general population may go out of their homes only for purposes of accessing basic necessities;
 - 3. In any case, those with ages below 21 years old and those 60 years old and above, as well as those with ages ranging from 21 years old but below 60 years old but reside with persons with co-morbidities or other risk factors, shall remain at home:
 - 4. Non-leisure stores in malls and shopping centers may partially open;

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- 5. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) may continue classes to finish the Academic Year and issue credentials to students, in accordance with guidelines as may be issued by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- 6. Priority and essential construction projects may resume in accordance with guidelines as may be issued by the DPWH;
- 7. Public transportation may operate at a reduced capacity in accordance with guidelines as may be issued by the DOTr;
- 8. Local Government Units (LGUs) shall enforce curfew at night for non-workers; and
- 9. Airports and seaports may continue to operate insofar as the unhampered movement of goods.
- F. The national government shall consider the reprioritization of the Social Amelioration Program towards residents of areas placed under Enhanced Community Quarantine.
- G. Any recommendation by the IATF shall be subject to regular reassessment and reconsideration as public health, economic stability, national security, and social factors may warrant. The IATF Technical Working Group is directed to recommend guidelines for proper implementation of the aforementioned provisions before April 30, 2020.

APPROVED during the 28th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 23rd of April, 2020 *via* video conference.

FRANCISCO/F. DUQUE III

Secretary, Department of Health

IATF Chairperson

KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES

Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretary 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;
- 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 ______ via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. ____ 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 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 _____ day of April 2020, Manila.

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