

Republic of the Philippines Department of Education Region IX, Zamboanga Peninsula

SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

RECORDS SECTION DepED, Division of Zambo, Norto

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

NO. **3**20 S. 2022

TO:

Assistant Schools Division Superintendents Heads, Functional Divisions/Sections/Units Heads, Elementary and Secondary Schools

All Others Concerned

This Division

FROM:

MA LIZAR, TABILON EdD, CESO V

Schools Division Superintendent

SUBJECT:

REITERATING ADHERENCE TO NATIONAL AND LOCAL COVID

TASK FORCE ISSUED GUIDELINES

DATE:

JANUARY 21, 2022

- This has reference to implementation of the Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response per Executive Order No. 151 signed by President Rodrigo R. Duterte. The National IATF issued Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response that include protocols which shall be observed in an area depending on the alert level being implemented.
- Relative thereto, this office enjoins strict adherence to the issued guidelines 2. specifically on the workforce requirement in the government offices in provinces placed at Alert Level 3. The said guidelines provide that "agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of the agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission."
- All concerned officials are advised to apprise themselves with the alert level imposed in the area and shall abide by the corresponding protocols.
- Enclosed are the guidelines for ready reference. 4.
- 5. Immediate and widest dissemination of this memorandum is directed.



GUIDELINES ON THE NATIONWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE As of December 14, 2021

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), since having been declared as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), has irreversibly affected millions of lives and families worldwide. Its unprecedented speed of transmission and infectivity has placed a huge burden on essential areas of governance, most importantly in vulnerable sectors such as the economy, education, and healthcare;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Executive Order No. (E.O.) 112, (s. 2020) provides that provincial governors shall be authorized to impose, lift or extend the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in component cities and municipalities upon the concurrence of the relevant regional counterpart body of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF); and, that the mayors of cities and municipalities are likewise authorized to impose, lift or extend ECQ in barangays, upon the concurrence of the relevant regional counterpart body of the IATF; provided, that this is without prejudice to the authority of the IATF to directly impose, lift or extend ECQ in these areas should circumstances call for it;

WHEREAS, the IATF issued the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines (IATF Omnibus Guidelines), as amended, to harmonize and codify existing guidelines of the IATF and member-agencies pertaining to community quarantine, which shall be applied to all regions, provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays placed under community quarantine;

WHEREAS, Guidelines for the Pilot Implementation of Alert Level System in the National Capital Region was adopted by the IATF and was published on 13 September 2021.

WHEREAS, the pilot area for implementation of the Alert Level System was expanded to include other provinces, highly urbanized cities, and independent component cities pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 144-D (s.2021) issued on 18 October 2021.

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 151 (s.2021) issued on 11 November 2021, approved the nationwide rollout of the Alert Level System and adopted these Guidelines as the guidelines to be implemented and enforced in all areas under the Alert Level System.

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Executive Order No. 151 (s.2021) further provides that Executive Order No. 112 (s.2020) shall be deemed repealed once all areas of the country are placed under the Alert Level System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVED, that in consideration of the premises set forth herein, the IATF issues these Guidelines to enjoin and



proactively advocate the principles of 3C's (Closed, Crowded, and Close Contact) strategy against COVID-19 to curb the further spread of infection:

For purposes of these Guidelines, the following shall be defined as follows:

- Accommodation Establishments refers to establishments operating primarily for accommodation purposes including, but not limited to, hotels, resorts, apartment hotels, tourist inns, motels, pension houses, private homes used for homestay, ecolodges, serviced apartments, condotels, and bed and breakfast facilities.
- COVID-19 refers to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 which is caused by the virus known as the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).
- 3. COVID-19 Alert Level System refers to the new Community Quarantine Classifications for dealing with COVID-19 covering entire cities, municipalities and/or regions; aimed to manage and minimize the risk of the disease through System Indicators, Triggers and Thresholds determined by the IATF to specify the public health and social measures to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 response, as may be updated based on new scientific knowledge, information about the effectiveness of control measures in the country and overseas, and its application.
 - Alert Level 1 refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, total bed utilization rate, and intensive care unit utilization rate is low.
 - b. Alert Level 2 refers to areas wherein case transmission is low and decreasing, healthcare utilization is low, or case counts are low but increasing, or case counts are low and decreasing but total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate is increasing.
 - c. Alert Level 3 refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at increasing utilization.
 - d. Alert Level 4 refers to areas wherein case counts are high and/or increasing, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at high utilization.
 - e. Alert Level 5 refers to areas wherein case counts are alarming, with total bed utilization rate and intensive care unit utilization rate at critical utilization.

With Amendments as of December 14, 2021. 2



- 4. Essential goods and services covers health and social services to secure the safety and well-being of persons, such as but not limited to, food, water, medicine, medical devices, public utilities, energy, and others as may be determined by the IATF.
- Granular Lockdown refers to a micro-level quarantine for areas identified as "critical zones" by the local government unit (LGU) which may be declared regardless of Alert Level.
- 6. Health and emergency frontline services refers to services provided by public health workers [all employees of the DOH, DOH Hospitals, Hospitals of LGUs, and Provincial, City, and Rural Health Units, and Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers including those managed by other government agencies (e.g. police and military hospitals/clinics, university medical facilities), uniformed medical personnel], private health workers, such as but not limited to medical professionals, hospital and health facility administrative and maintenance staff, and aides from private health facilities, as well as their service providers, health workers and volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross and the World Health Organization, and employees of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC), health insurance providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers.
- 7. Minimum public health standards (MPHS) refers to the national, local, and sector-specific guidelines on mitigation measures for its COVID-19 response across all settings by implementing non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs), consistent with the Department of Health (DOH) Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions. This term shall also encompass specific NPIs of community mitigation strategies or public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications, or other pharmaceutical interventions, that individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population.
- On-site capacity refers to the number of employees or workers who can be permitted
 or required to be physically present at their designated workplace outside of their
 residences.
- Skeleton workforce refers to the on-site capacity which utilizes the smallest number of people needed for a business or organization to maintain its basic functions.



PART I. ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

SECTION [1] GENERAL GUIDELINES

- The DOH, shall identify the Alert Level of the areas. These areas shall follow the protocols consistent with the declared Alert Level.
- LGUs shall submit on a daily basis to their respective Regional Inter-Agency Task
 Force (RIATF) such data as determined by National Government Agencies based
 on the template provided for by the IATF Sub-Technical Working Group on Data
 Analytics.
- MPHS shall be implemented at all times consistent with the DOH Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions.
- The benefits for hazard pay and special risk allowances for all personnel in health facilities shall be applicable under the Alert Level System for the duration of the state of Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19.
- Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients subject to guidelines issued by the Department of Tourism and the IATF.
- 6. In all areas not under Alert Level 5, establishments permitted to operate under each Alert Level may be allowed additional venue/seating capacity on top of the existing allowable venue/seating capacities, as follows:
 - a. An additional twenty percent (20%) if the area where such establishments are located has a vaccination coverage above seventy percent (70%) for both Priority Group A2 (senior citizens) and Priority Group A3 (adults with comorbidities), as determined by the Vaccine Cluster of the National Task Force Against COVID-19; and
 - An additional ten percent (10%) if said establishments have been awarded Safety Seal Certificates under the Safety Seal Certification Program.
- 7. LGUs are enjoined to enact the necessary ordinances to enforce protocols contained in these Guidelines and to penalize, in a fair and humane manner, violations of these protocols. Law enforcement agencies are likewise strongly enjoined to observe fair and humane treatment of violators.
- 8. All national government agencies and instrumentalities, as well as private sector establishments, shall adopt measures to strictly implement and enforce the minimum



public health standards set by DOH and other standards set by relevant government agencies.

- As a national policy, all LGUs shall ensure unhampered movement by land, air, or sea of all types of goods and cargoes - including their personnel and delivery vehicles - to and from their destination regardless of alert level.
- 10. Notwithstanding the provisions under the different alert levels as set forth under this Guidelines, the IATF may, in exceptional circumstances, suspend the application of the rules or adopt rules applicable to a different alert level, in order to address the COVID-19 situation in a region, province, city, or municipality.
- 11. Other COVID-19 measures not specifically provided herein such as those on border control for international travel and those for the implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines shall be governed by the appropriate IATF Resolutions.
- 12. Any violation of these Guidelines may be prosecuted under the appropriate local ordinance or as non-cooperation of the person or entities punishable under Section 9 par. (d) or (e), as the case may be, of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION [2] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 5. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 5, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- Intrazonal and interzonal movement of all persons shall be limited to accessing goods and services from permitted establishments, for work in such establishments, or for such other activities allowed in this section. Any person below eighteen (18) years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except for obtaining essential goods and services, or for work in industries and offices or such other activities permitted in this Section.
- Only the following establishments, persons, or activities are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken for the duration of the Alert Level 5:
 - a. With full on-site capacity:
 - Public and private hospitals;
 - ii. Health, emergency, and frontline services, including those provided by dialysis centers, chemotherapy centers, HMOs, health insurance



- providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers, and the like;
- Manufacturers of medicines and vitamins, medical supplies, devices, and equipment, including suppliers of input, packaging, and distribution;
- iv. Industries involved in agriculture (crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock, and poultry), forestry, fishery, and such other components of the food value chain and their workers, including farmers and fisherfolks:
- Logistics service providers (delivery and courier services; cargo handling; warehousing; trucking; freight forwarding; shipping, port and terminal operators and contractors and ancillary services (i.e. drivers, conductors, terminal workers);
- vi. Essential and priority construction projects, whether public or private, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) including contractors, subcontractors, and consultants of the Department of Transportation for the construction of Build Build Build flagship infrastructure projects;
- Manufacturing related to food and other essential goods such as but not limited to soap and detergents, diapers, personal hygiene products, toilet paper, and wet wipes, and disinfectants;
- Companies that manufacture, distribute, and/or supply equipment or products necessary to perform construction or maintenance works, such as cement and steel, or spare parts;
 - ix. Essential retail trade and service establishments such as public markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies or drug stores, hardware, office supplies, bicycle shops, laundry shops, and water-refilling stations;
 - x. Food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, but limited to take-out and delivery;
 - Public and private financial service providers involved in the distribution of government grants and amelioration subsidies;
- xii. Business process outsourcing establishments (BPOs), and export-oriented businesses, including mining and quarrying activities; and
- xiii. Public transport providers and operators;
- b. At a maximum of fifty percent (50%) on-site capacity:
 - Media establishments and their total permanent staff complement, inclusive of reporters and other field employees.
- c. With an on-site skeleton workforce:



- Dental, rehabilitation, optometry, and other medical clinics for the treatment of illness or injuries. Provided, that there is strict observance of infection prevention and control protocols. Provided, further, that dental procedures shall be limited to emergency cases only and that the wearing of full Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) by dentists and attendants shall be mandatory. Provided, finally, that home service therapy for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) shall be allowed;
- ii. Veterinary clinics;
- Banks, money transfer services, including pawnshops only insofar as performing money transfer functions, microfinance institutions, and credit cooperatives, including their armored vehicle services, if any;
- iv. Capital markets, including but not limited to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Securities and Exchange Commission, Philippine Stock Exchange, Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corporation, Philippine Securities Settlement Corporation, and Philippine Depository and Trust Corporation;
- Water supply and janitorial/sanitation services and facilities, including waste disposal services, as well as property management and building utility services;
- vi. The energy sector (oil, gas, and power companies), their third-party contractors and service providers, including employees involved in electric transmission and distribution, electric power plant and line maintenance, electricity market and retail suppliers, as well as those involved in the exploration, operations, trading and delivery of coal, oil, crude or petroleum and by-products (gasoline, diesel, liquefied petroleum gas or LPG, jet oil, kerosene, lubricants), including gasoline stations, refineries, LPG stations, and depots or any kind of fuel used to produce power;
- vii. Telecommunications companies, internet service providers, cable television providers, including those who perform indirect services such as the technical, sales, and other support personnel, as well as the employees of their third-party contractors doing sales, installation, maintenance, and repair works;
- viii. Airline and aircraft maintenance, pilots and crew, and employees of aviation schools for purposes of the pilot's recurrent training for flight proficiency and type rating using simulator facilities; and ship captains and crew, including shipyard operations and repair;
- ix. Funeral and embalming services;
- x. Security personnel licensed by the PNP Supervisory Office for Security and Investigation Agencies;
- xi. Printing establishments authorized by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and those contracted by other government agencies;



- xii. Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment, for households and essential permitted establishments;
- Establishments engaged in repair and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including the sale of spare parts;
- xiv. Leasing of real and personal properties;
- xv. Employment activities that involve the recruitment and placement for permitted sectors;
- xvi. Teachers, professors and other staff for purposes of conducting online/offline, and flexible classes, completion of grades, and processing of student credentials, requirements and documents;
- Lawyers only when required to provide on-site legal representation necessary to protect rights of persons, whether natural or juridical;
- xviii. All other establishments, to the extent necessary for the buying and selling of consumer goods or services via the internet.

All other businesses, persons, or activities, shall not be allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken on-site during Alert Level 5.

- Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is hereby authorized to issue a negative list of other industries that shall remain prohibited in areas under Alert Level 5.
- 4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).
- 5. The co-equal or independent authority of the legislature (Senate and the House of Representatives), the judiciary (the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Tax Appeals, Sandiganbayan, and the lower courts), the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Constitutional Commissions, to implement any alternative work arrangements, is recognized.
- 6. Officials and employees of foreign diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), whenever performing diplomatic functions and subject to the guidelines issued by the DFA, may operate with an on-site skeleton workforce.
- 7. Gatherings outside of residences shall be prohibited. Gatherings at residences with any person outside of one's immediate household shall likewise be prohibited. However, gatherings that are essential for the provision of health services, government services,



or humanitarian activities authorized by the appropriate government agency or instrumentality shall be allowed.

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. Corollary, immediate family members of the deceased who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of 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.

- 8. Face-to-face or in-person classes at all levels shall be suspended. The education sector shall operate in accordance with the guidelines of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for higher education, Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) for technical vocational education and training, and Department of Education (DepEd) for basic education.
- The road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors of public transportation shall be allowed to operate at such capacity and protocols in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Transportation (DOTr).
- 10. Law enforcement agencies shall recognize any of the following IDs: (i) IATF IDs issued by the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over permitted establishments or persons, (ii) valid IDs or other pertinent documentation issued by accrediting organizations or establishments allowed under Alert Level 5, and, (iii) if required by the LGU, local IDs for availing of essential goods and services. No other IDs or passes specifically exempting persons from alert level shall be required of workers of permitted establishments and/or offices without prejudice to requiring the presentation of other documents establishing the nature of their work.
- 11. The movement of cargo/delivery vehicles, as well as vehicles used by public utility companies, shall be unhampered. Shuttle services of permitted establishments shall not be subject to an ID system but shall maintain compliance with minimum public health standards.
- 12. Private corporations are encouraged to process payrolls online. Payroll managers and such other employees required for the processing of payroll shall be allowed to travel to their respective offices during Alert Level 5.
- 13. Uniform curfew hours may be imposed by LGUs, subject to the guidelines issued by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). Workers, cargo vehicles, public transportation, and operating hours of permitted establishments, however, shall not be restricted by such curfew.



14. (a) The movement of the following authorized persons outside their residences (APOR), by land, sea, or air, within and across areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall be allowed: (1) health and emergency frontline services and uniformed personnel, (2) government officials and employees on official travel, (3) duly-authorized humanitarian assistance actors (HAAs), especially those transporting medical supplies and laboratory specimens related to COVID-19, and other relief and humanitarian assistance, (4) persons traveling for medical or humanitarian reasons, and those leaving their residence to be vaccinated (with proof of schedule), and persons availing of DFA consular services (with confirmed appointments), (5) persons going to and from the airport including Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) carrying Overseas Employment Certificates, (6) any person whose purpose of travel is for a work, business, or activity that is also permitted in areas under Alert Level 5, and (7) public utility vehicle operators. The PNP shall be authorized to promulgate and regularly update the list of APORs. Authorized shuttle services shall be allowed to travel within and across areas placed under Alert Level 5, with priority given to persons rendering health and emergency frontline services.

SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 4. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- Intrazonal and interzonal travel shall be allowed subject to the reasonable regulations of the LGU of destination, except for those (i) below eighteen (18) years of age, and (ii) belonging to the vulnerable population, namely, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age, those with immunodeficiencies, comorbidities, or other health risks, and pregnant women, provided that:
 - a. Those below eighteen (18) years of age, and those belonging to the vulnerable population, shall be allowed access to obtain essential goods and services, or for work in permitted industries and offices in accordance with existing labor laws, rules, and regulations.
 - b. Fully vaccinated individuals belonging to the vulnerable population and those below eighteen (18) years of age shall be allowed to participate in the following activities:
 - Specialized markets of the Department of Tourism such as Point-to-Point Travel subject to the reasonable regulations of the LGU of destination, and Staycations; and
 - Individual outdoor exercises even beyond the general area of their respective residences. Provided that, the minimum public health standards and precautions such as the wearing of face masks and the maintenance of social distancing protocols are observed.



- Fully vaccinated individuals, including those belonging to the vulnerable population, may participate in the permitted activities under this Section.
- 3. The following establishments and/or activities characterized as high-risk for transmission shall not be allowed to operate, or be undertaken in areas classified under Alert Level 4:
 - Face to face or in-person classes for basic education, except those approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - Face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education or for technical, vocational education and training, except those approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - c. All contact sports, whether indoor or outdoor;
 - d. Cinemas and movie houses;
 - Eunfairs/peryas and kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
 - f. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
 - g. Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President; and
 - Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.
- 4. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 10% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 30% outdoor venue capacity provided that they have been issued a Safety Seal Certification. Provided further, that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and minimum public health standards shall be strictly maintained. Provided further still, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place:
 - Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks and theme parks; and



- Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues.
- 5. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 10% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 30% outdoor venue capacity. Provided that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and minimum public health standards shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place:
 - a. In-person religious gatherings. Provided that gatherings shall be limited to the conduct of religious worship and/or service, and processions and other similar mobile religious gatherings shall not be allowed. Provided further, that pastors, priests, rabbis, imams, or other religious ministers and the assistants of these religious congregations have been fully vaccinated;
 - b. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF:
 - Dine-in services in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
 - d. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
 - e. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for non-contact exercise and sports, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols. Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and that no group activities are conducted; and,
 - f. Film, music, and television production, subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the DOH.
- 6. Gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19, and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased, 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.



7. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 40% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.

SECTION [4] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 3. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 3, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed. However, reasonable restrictions may be imposed by the LGUs, which should not be stricter as those prescribed under higher alert levels and subject to the oversight, monitoring, and evaluation of their respective RIATF. Provided, that those below eighteen (18) years of age, and those belonging to the vulnerable population, shall be allowed access to obtain essential goods and services, or for work in permitted industries and offices in accordance with existing labor laws, rules, and regulations. Individual outdoor exercises shall also be allowed for all ages regardless of comorbidities or vaccination status.
- The following establishments and/or activities characterized as high-risk for transmission shall not be allowed to operate, or be undertaken in areas classified under Alert Level 3:
 - a. Face to face or in-person classes for basic education, except those previously approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;
 - Contact sports, except those conducted under a bubble-type setup as provided for under relevant guidelines adopted by the IATF, Games and Amusement Board, and Philippine Sports Commission, and approved by the LGU where such games shall be held;
 - Funfairs/peryas and kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
 - Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
 - e. Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President; and
 - f. Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.



- 3. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate or be undertaken at a maximum of 30% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and 50% outdoor venue capacity. Provided that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, and organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and MPHS shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place.
 - a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks or theme parks;
 - Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues;
 - f. Cinemas and movie houses;
 - Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;
 - h. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased:
 - Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF:
 - Dine-in services in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
 - k. Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
 - Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for non-contact exercise and sports, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols. Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and that no group activities are conducted; and
 - m. Film, music, and television production, subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH.



4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 60% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.

SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 2. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 2, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed. However, reasonable restrictions may be imposed by the LGUs, which should not be stricter as those prescribed under higher alert levels and subject to the oversight, monitoring, and evaluation of their respective RIATF.
- Casinos, horse racing, cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops, and other gaming establishments shall not be allowed to operate, or be undertaken in areas classified under Alert Level 2 except as may be authorized by the IATF or the Office of the President.
- 3. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 50% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals and those below 18 years of age, even if unvaccinated, and 70% outdoor venue capacity. Provided, that all on-site workers/employees of these establishments, or organizers of activities are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and MPHS shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place.
 - a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);
 - Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 - Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;
 - d. Amusement parks or theme parks;
 - e. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues:
 - f. Cinemas and movie houses;



- g. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for basic education subject to prior approval of the Office of the President;
- Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;
- In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased;
- j. Licensure or entrance/qualifying examinations administered by their respective government agency, and specialty examinations authorized by the IATF subject to the health and safety guidelines as approved by the IATF:
- k. Dine-in services of food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;
- Personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options, subject to the sector-specific protocols of the DTI;
- m. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for individual non-contact exercise and sports; Provided that patrons/clients and workers/employees wear face masks at all times and subject to DTI sector-specific protocols.
- Film, music, and television production subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH;
- o. Contact sports approved by the LGU where such games shall be held;
- p. Funfairs/peryas or kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;
- q. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters; and
- Gatherings in residences with individuals not belonging to the same household.
- 4. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least a 80% on-site workforce. Those assigned to work off-site shall be subject to alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Heads of agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services shall operate at a workforce beyond the minimum as may be necessary to deliver their mandates.



SECTION [6] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 1, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

- Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed without regard to age and comorbidities.
- 2. All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.



PART II GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GRANULAR LOCKDOWNS

Section [1] AUTHORITY TO DECLARE. The authority to impose granular lockdown shall be given to the city and municipal mayors with respect to their component barangays subject to the concurrence of the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force (RIATF), and individual houses where one household member has been confirmed, residential buildings, streets, blocks, puroks, subdivisions, and/or villages within their jurisdiction.

SECTION [2] PARAMETERS FOR DECLARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION. The epidemiological parameters in the declaration of a granular lockdown, including specific interventions and activities to be conducted in such areas, shall comply with the National Task Force COVID-19 Memorandum Circular No. 2 dated 15 June 2020 or the Operational Guidelines on the Application of the Zoning Containment Strategy in the Localization of the National Action Plan Against COVID-19 Response.

SECTION [3] **DURATION.** Granular lockdowns shall be for a period of not less than fourteen (14) days.

SECTION [4] EFFECTIVITY.

- Declaration of granular lockdowns by local chief executives shall be provisionally
 effective immediately and shall include due notice to the RIATF. The RIATF shall
 immediately act on the said declaration.
- The IATF retains its mandate to impose and/or lift lockdowns on highly urbanized cities and independent component cities.

SECTION [5] **SECURITY.** The Philippine National Police (PNP) shall ensure peace and order at all times. They shall make sure that security protocols are maintained in lockdown areas.

SECTION [6] **MOVEMENT.** The privilege to enter and exit areas under Alert Level 5, granted to Authorized Persons Outside Residences as provided under Par. 14 Part I Section of these Guidelines, shall not apply in areas under granular lockdowns. Only health care workers (HCWs) and non-health personnel working in hospitals, laboratories, dialysis facilities, and community healthcare workers if their institutions are unable to provide accommodation for their personnel, and uniformed personnel tasked to enforce the granular lockdown, shall be allowed to move within, into, and out of the area under granular lockdown.

The following shall be allowed to enter and/or exit granular lockdown areas for specific purposes:



- Overseas Filipino Workers bound for international travel, and those returning to their respective residences after having completed facility-based quarantine upon arrival;
- Individuals whose home or residence are located within an area under granular lockdown may enter the said area for the sole purpose of returning to their respective homes or residences but must thereafter remain therein for the duration of the granular lockdown;
- Individuals under exceptional circumstances such as, but not limited to, those seeking urgent medical attention as validated by the municipal/city health officer; and
- 4. Food and essential items provided that they can only be picked up and/or unloaded at border collection points designated by the LGU.

SECTION [7] **ASSISTANCE TO AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS.** Households within areas under granular lockdown shall be provided assistance by their respective LGUs and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in accordance with their relevant guidelines.

SECTION [8] REPORTING.

- LGUs shall report details of their granular lockdowns to the Department of the Interior and Local Government following a prescribed format which shall thereafter be submitted to their respective NTF Regional Task Force.
- 2. RTFs shall monitor all areas under granular lockdowns in the region, and shall provide monitoring reports to the National Task Force Against COVID-19.

SECTION [9] **INCORPORATION.** Succeeding issuances of the Department of the Interior and Local Government relative to the imposition of granular lockdowns, if any, shall form an integral part of these Guidelines.

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Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19 MEMORANDUM No. 575 7 December 2021

For:

Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES

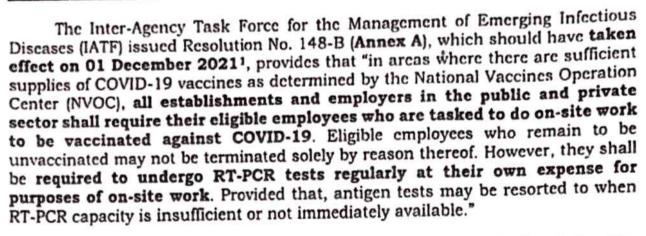
Subject:

IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR PERSONNEL REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING 01 DECEMBER 2021

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TUTUL

OFFICE OF THE ST CRETARY



The following guidelines are further provided through IATF Resolution No. 149 (Annex B):

- In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s. 2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work are frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.

After publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette





In this regard, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) recommends the following guidelines, for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned, upon approval of the Secretary:

1. All effices and schools shall ensure compliance with the minimum/required percentage of the workforce that needs to be present on-site, based on the latest guidelines of the IATF accessible at https://iatf.doh.gov.ph/?page_id-77. To date, the latest Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for Covid-19 Response are as of 18 November 2021, and provide the following:

Alert Level	Provision on Work in Government
Alert Level 5	Areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall observe the guidelines applicable to Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) as provided for under the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended. The benefits applicable to ECQ shall be applicable in Alert Level 5.2
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

- Offices and schools shall continue to consider the health status of the personnel (e.g., comorbidities) in determining who will be required to report on-site to comply with the minimum/required percentage of onsite personnel.
- Consistent with IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, s. 2021, the following shall be observed in DepEd:
 - a. Offices and schools shall coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, as determined by the NVOC.

² Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of September 23, 2021: Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). (As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution no. 106-B, March 28, 2021)

- The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in this section, applies only to such areas.
- The DTFC is coordinating with the NVOC for a centralized reference list of areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines and which are covered by the IATF resolutions.
- b. Only personnel who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to work on-site. They shall be required to present their vaccination cards as proof of vaccination before they are included in the list of personnel allowed to report on-site. Those who have not been vaccinated shall remain under a work-from-home arrangement.
- c. Personnel who have not been vaccinated, but are eligible, shall continue to be encouraged to be vaccinated, especially if they will soon be required to report on-site.
- d. If unvaccinated personnel will be required to report on-site, they shall be required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test and extraken at most 48 hours before the day of reporting, and which shall be valid for up to two weeks from the day of testing³, unless the personnel develop symptoms, for which they shall stop reporting on-site and proceed to established health protocols.
 - When RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available, antigen tests may be resorted to.
 - The RT-PCR or antigen test of unvaccinated personnel who have refused to be vaccinated despite being eligible for vaccination shall be charged at the personnel's expense.
 - iii. Partially vaccinated personnel required to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose.
 - iv. Concerned offices and schools are requested to facilitate/cover the costs of the testing of personnel who are required to report on-site but cannot be vaccinated because their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose or because of valid medical reasons.

IATF Resolution No. 149 provides: To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.

- v. Personnel who have valid medical reasons for not being vaccinated shall present a medical certificate from their attending physician, for validation by the nearest DepEd medical officer. The DepEd medical officer shall monitor the personnel's condition and request the regular updating of their medical certificate, as may be applicable, and ensure that the personnel will be vaccinated when already eligible or cleared.
- e. For consistency, the same requirement—that they are either fully vaccinated or RT-PCR/antigen-negative, as described above—shall be imposed on:
 - personnel required to travel or attend a work-related face-to-face gathering (e.g., seminar, training, monitoring, workshop, forum, meeting);
 - visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions;
 - iii. guests who need to join work-related face-to-face gatherings.
- f. The Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development (BHROD) is requested to provide guidance on how to handle the attendance records of personnel who cannot be accommodated in office premises, despite being required to report onsite, due to failure to present proof of vaccination or valid negative RT-PCR/antigen test result.
- g. It is reiterated that vaccination remains not mandatory, and no personnel who remain to be unvaccinated may be terminated solely by reason thereof.

This is consistent with Republic Act No. 11525 titled An Act Establishing the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program, Expediting the Vaccine Procurement and Administration Process, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes, as cited in DepEd Memorandum No. 28, s. 2021 titled Comprehensive Guidance on the Participation of the Department of Education in the Implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines.

4. All concerned units at the Central Office and the field offices, including the BHROD, the Central Office Task Force COVID-19, and the Composite Team in charge of the pilot implementation of face-to-face classes, are requested to provide necessary guidance or update existing guidelines as may be needed to comply with this memorandum and the cited national issuances.

In case the SDO does not have a medical officer, the medical officer from the Regional Office (RO) may validate the medical certificate. In case both the SDO and the RO do not have a medical officer, the medical officer from nearby SDO may validate the medical certificate.







Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19 MEMORANDUM No. 575 7 December 2021

For:

Secretary LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES

Subject:

IATF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR PERSONNEL REPORTING ON-SITE BEGINNING 01 DECEMBER 2021

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) issued Resolution No. 148-B (Annex A), which should have taken effect on 01 December 20211, provides that "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 regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work. Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR cap city is insufficient or not immediately available."

The following guidelines are further provided through IATF Resolution No. 149 (Annex B):

- In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s. 2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.

After publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette







APPROVED during the 149th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 18, 2021, via video conference.

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

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



RESOLUTION NO. 148-B

Series of 2021 November 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(e) of Executive Order No. 168 (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);



Moreover, all issuances of the national government agencies inconsistent with the Memorandum of the Executive Secretary dated 15 November 2021, on Protocols on the Use of Face Shields, shall be considered as amended and/or modified accordingly.

- 5. In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s.2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.
- C. In support of the whole-of-nation and whole-of-society approach to COVID-19 vaccination, the IATF fully supports the National Vaccination Days or the "Bayanihan, Bakunahan" from November 29 to December 1, 2021. All member agencies are directed to extend full support for this simultaneous vaccination rollout. In furtherance thereto, all government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, and local government units are encouraged to assign and/or allow all of their respective healthcare workers to participate in this event.
- D. In support of the thrust of the Department of Tourism to boost Philippine tourism, fully vaccinated individuals coming from Green List countries/territories/jurisdictions shall be allowed entry in the country subject to the guidelines as may be finalized and approved by the IATF.

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.



- B. The recommendations of the Technical Working Group are ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:
 - The conduct of the Philippine Motorcycle Tourism Program Kick-Off Ride and Hybrid Pre-Ride Webinar of the Department of Tourism and its Tourism Promotions Board are approved as the same are within the agency's mandate and is compliant with the IATF Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response.
 - 2. Upon the recommendation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the national COVID-19 vaccination certificate of the following countries, namely Austria, Kazakhstan, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates shall be accepted/recognized for purposes of arrival quarantine protocols as well as for interzonal/intrazonal movement, in addition to such other countries/territories/jurisdictions whose proofs of vaccination the IATF already approved for recognition in the Philippines, and without prejudice to such other proofs of vaccination approved by IATF for all inbound travelers.

The Bureau of Quarantine, the Department of Transportation - One-Stop-Shop, and the Bureau of Immigration are directed to recognize only the proofs of vaccination thus approved by the IATF.

- 3. The on-site capacities for agencies and instrumentalities of the government under the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response shall be increased as the Guidelines shall be amended as follows:
 - a. SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 4. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

7. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least



CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

- 1. I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
- 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);
- The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
- I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
- In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 11 November 2021 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 148-B was unanimously approved and adopted;
- The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
- The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect:
- 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 November 2021, Manila.

HARADE D. MERCADO-G Undersecretary of Health

Head Secretariat, IATF

In this regard, the DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC) recommends the following guidelines, for compliance by the offices and personnel concerned, upon approval of the Secretary:

1. All offices and schools shall ensure compliance with the minimum/required percentage of the workforce that needs to be present on-site, based on the latest guidelines of the IATF accessible at https://intf.doh.gov.ph/?page_id-77. To date, the latest Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for Covid-19 Response are as of 18 November 2021, and provide the following:

Alert Level	Provision on Work in Government
Alert Level 5	Areas placed under Alert Level 5 shall observe the guidelines applicable to Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) as provided for under the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended. The benefits applicable to ECQ shall be applicable in Alert Level 5.2
Alert Level 4	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alen Level 3	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 2	Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 80% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.
Alert Level 1	All establishments, persons, or activities, are allowed to operate, work, or be undertaken at full on-site or venue/seating capacity provided it is consistent with minimum public health standards; provided further, that face to face classes for basic education shall be subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

- Offices and schools shall continue to consider the health status of the personnel (e.g., comorbidities) in determining who will be required to report on-site to comply with the minimum/required percentage of onsite personnel.
- Consistent with IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, s. 2021, the following shall be observed in DepEd:
 - a. Offices and schools shall coordinate with their respective Regional VOCs and/or Local VOCs to inquire whether there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines in their respective areas, as determined by the NVOC.

Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines with Amendments as of September 23, 2021: Agencies and Instrumentalities of the government shall be fully operational, with a skeleton workforce on-site and the remainder under alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a greater on-site or parties required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, laboratory and testing services, border control, or other critical services, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). (As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution no. 106-B, March 28, 2021)

- The IATF vaccination/RT-PCR/antigen requirement for onsite personnel, as stipulated in IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149 and as elaborated in this section, applies only to such areas.
- The DTFC is coordinating with the NVOC for a centralized reference list of areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines and which are covered by the IATF resolutions.
- b. Only personnel who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to work on-site. They shall be required to present their vaccination cards as proof of vaccination before they are included in the list of personnel allowed to report on-site. Those who have not been vaccinated shall remain under a work-from-home arrangement.
- c. Personnel who have not been vaccinated, but are eligible, shall continue to be encouraged to be vaccinated, especially if they will soon be required to report on-site.
- d. If unvaccinated personnel will be required to report on-site, they shall be required to present a negative result of RT-PCR test undertaken at most 48 hours before the day of reporting, and which shall be valid for up to two weeks from the day of testing³, unless the personnel develop symptoms, for which they shall stop reporting on-site and proceed to established health protocols.
 - When RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available, antigen tests may be resorted to.
 - The RT-PCR or antigen test of unvaccinated personnel who have refused to be vaccinated despite being eligible for vaccination shall be charged at the personnel's expense.
 - iii. Partially vaccinated personnel required to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose.
 - iv. Concerned offices and schools are requested to facilitate/cover the costs of the testing of personnel who are required to report on-site but cannot be vaccinated because their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine they received as first dose or because of valid medical reasons.

IATF Resolution No. 149 provides: "To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks."

- v. Personnel who have valid medical reasons for not being vaccinated shall present a medical certificate from their attending physician, for validation by the nearest DepEd medical officer⁴. The DepEd medical officer shall monitor the personnel's condition and request the regular updating of their medical certificate, as may be applicable, and ensure that the personnel will be vaccinated when already eligible or cleared.
- e. For consistency, the same requirement—that they are either fully vaccinated or RT-PCR/antigen-negative, as described above—shall be imposed on:
 - personnel required to travel or attend a work-related face-to-face gathering (e.g., seminar, training, monitoring, workshop, forum, meeting);
 - visitors who need to enter officer premises for necessary transactions;
 - iii. guests who need to join work-related face-to-face gatherings.
- f. The Bureau of Human Resource and Organizational Development (BHROD) is requested to provide guidance on how to handle the attendance records of personnel who cannot be accommodated in office premises, despite being required to report onsite, due to failure to present proof of vaccination or valid negative RT-PCR/antigen test result.
- g. it is reiterated that vaccination remains not mandatory, and no personnel who remain to be unvaccinated may be terminated solely by reason thereof.
 - This is consistent with Republic Act No. 11525 titled An Act Establishing the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program, Expediting the Vaccine Procurement and Administration Process, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes, as cited in DepEd Memorandum No. 28, s. 2021 titled Comprehensive Guidance on the Participation of the Department of Education in the Implementation of the Philippine National Deployment and Vaccination Plan for COVID-19 Vaccines.
- 4. All concerned units at the Central Office and the field offices, including the BHROD, the Central Office Task Force COVID-19, and the Composite Team in charge of the pilot implementation of face-to-face classes, are requested to provide necessary guidance or update existing guidelines as may be needed to comply with this memorandum and the cited national issuances.

In case the SDO does not have a medical officer, the medical officer from the Regional Office (RO) may validate the medical certificate. In case both the SDO and the RO do not have a medical officer, the medical officer from nearby SDO may validate the medical certificate.

In case of changes to national issuances which became the bases for this memorandum, such changes will be automatically honored.

For queries regarding this concern, please contact the DTFC Secretariat, BLSS-SHD, through (02) 8632 9935 or email at medical nursing@deped.gov.ph.

For the consideration and approval of the Secretary.

ALAIN DE B. PASCO

Under ecretary Chairperson, DepEn Task Force COVID-19

Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister

Schools Division Superintendents School Heads



December 10, 2021

To: SDO Officials and Personnel

Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads and Teachers All Others Concerned

Please take note that this Memorandum is self-explanatory.

For compliance.

WILLIAM E GANDO, CESO VI Schools Division Superintendent

SORBOGON CITY DIVISION RELEASED

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RESOLUTION NO. 148-B

Series of 2021 November 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(e) of Executive Order No. 168 (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, as of 04 November 2021, the country already received a total of 108.9 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines with additional shipments until the end of the year. These doses of vaccines shall cover the target of vaccinating 54 million Filipinos with one dose by the end of November 2021 and 54 million Filipinos fully vaccinated by the end of December 2021;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has given new directives for a whole-of-government solution to increase the demand for COVID-19 vaccination, regardless of brand, for a healthier and resilient Philippines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, in compliance with the directives of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, the IATF approves the following measures to the extent applicable under existing laws, rules, and regulations:

- 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 regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work. Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available.
- B. As a condition for continuing their operations, public transportation services in the road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors shall require all their eligible workers to be fully vaccinated.
- C. Public and private establishments, even if not required by the Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response in Pilot Areas to accommodate only fully vaccinated individuals, may nonetheless validly refuse entry and/or deny service to individuals who remain to be unvaccinated, or are merely partially vaccinated, despite being eligible for vaccination. Provided that frontline and emergency services shall continue to render assistance to all persons regardless of vaccination status.
- D. Local Government Units (LGUs) are strongly enjoined to issue orders or ordinances to ramp up demand for vaccination by, among others, providing incentives for fully vaccinated individuals, and for business establishments which



institute measures that promote vaccination among their employees and clients, and to the extent allowed by law, requiring proof of vaccination before individuals and/or entities may undertake or qualify for certain activities.

- E. Upon sufficient proof of a confirmed vaccination schedule, all workers to be nated during work hours shall not be considered as absent during that period.
- F. In all of the foregoing, only the presentation of a medical clearance issued by a Municipal Health Office, City Health Office, and/or Provincial Health Office or birth certificate, as the case may be, shall serve as sufficient and valid proof of ineligibility for vaccination.
- G. All Government Agencies are hereby enjoined to implement measures prioritizing fully vaccinated individuals availing of government programs and services.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that this Resolution shall take effect on 01 December 2021, after publication in a newspaper of general circulation and/or the Official Gazette. Let three (3) copies of this Resolution be furnished to the University of the Philippines Office of the National Administrative Register.

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 148th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 11, 2021, via video conference.

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:

- I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
- 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);
- The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
- I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
- In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on <u>18 November 2021</u> via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. <u>149</u> was unanimously approved and adopted;
- The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
- The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect:
- 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 November 2021, Manila.

ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE

Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF



RESOLUTION NO. 149

Series of 2021 November 18, 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 crustical.

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2021, the President issued Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021) further extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 12, 2022, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

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, that the IATF approves the following:

A. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases designates Cabinet Secretary and concurrent Acting Presidential Spokesperson Karlo Alexei B. Nograles as the spokesperson for the IATF. The IATF expresses its utmost gratitude to Secretary Herminio L. Roque and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.



- B. The recommendations of the Technical Working Group are ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:
 - The conduct of the Philippine Motorcycle Tourism Program Kick-Off
 Ride and Hybrid Pre-Ride Webinar of the Department of Tourism and its
 Tourism Promotions Board are approved as the same are within the
 agency's mandate and is compliant with the IATF Guidelines on the
 Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19
 Response.
 - 2. Upon the recommendation of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the national COVID-19 vaccination certificate of the following countries, namely Austria, Kazakhstan, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates shall be accepted/recognized for purposes of arrival quarantine protocols as well as for interzonal/intrazonal movement, in addition to such other countries/territories/jurisdictions whose proofs of vaccination the IATF already approved for recognition in the Philippines, and without prejudice to such other proofs of vaccination approved by IATF for all inbound travelers.

The Bureau of Quarantine, the Department of Transportation - One-Stop-Shop, and the Bureau of Immigration are directed to recognize only the proofs of vaccination thus approved by the IATF.

- 3. The on-site capacities for agencies and instrumentalities of the government under the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response shall be increased as the Guidelines shall be amended as follows:
 - a. SECTION [3] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 4. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 4, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

 Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least



40% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements

b. SECTION [4] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 3. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 3, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

xxx

 Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 60% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

c. SECTION [5] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 2. The following protocols shall be observed in areas placed under Alert Level 2, except for portions thereof under granular lockdown:

rrr

 Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least <u>80%</u> on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

xxx

To provide sufficient modes of transportation for such an increase, the Department of Transportation may proportionally increase the public transport capacity.

4. With regard to the voluntary use of face shields for areas under Alert Levels 3 to 1, it is hereby clarified that the same is without prejudice to employers still requiring their use for their employees/workers and/or customers in their respective premises.



Moreover, all issuances of the national government agencies inconsistent with the Memorandum of the Executive Secretary dated 15 November 2021, on Protocols on the Use of Face Shields, shall be considered as amended and/or modified accordingly.

- 5. In furtherance of IATF Resolution No. 148-B (s.2021) providing for the implementation of measures to increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations but except when all the onsite employees/workers of an establishment are required under the Alert Level System Guidelines to be fully vaccinated, all partially vaccinated employees in the public and private sector tasked to do onsite work need not undergo regular RT-PCR test at their own expense, as long as their second dose is not yet due pursuant to the interval prescribed for the brand of vaccine received as first dose.
- To clarify the requirement of regular RT-PCR tests for purposes of onsite work, its frequency shall be construed as that determined by the employer but which should be at least once every two weeks.
- C. In support of the whole-of-nation and whole-of-society approach to COVID-19 vaccination, the IATF fully supports the National Vaccination Days or the "Bayanihan, Bakunahan" from November 29 to December 1, 2021. All member agencies are directed to extend full support for this simultaneous vaccination rollout. In furtherance thereto, all government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, and local government units are encouraged to assign and/or allow all of their respective healthcare workers to participate in this event.
- D. In support of the thrust of the Department of Tourism to boost Philippine tourism, fully vaccinated individuals coming from Green List countries/territories/jurisdictions shall be allowed entry in the country subject to the guidelines as may be finalized and approved by the IATF.

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 149th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this November 18, 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:

- I am presently an Undersecretary of the Department of Health;
- 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);
- The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
- I had the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
- In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on <u>18 November 2021</u> via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. <u>149</u> was unanimously approved and adopted;
- The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and/or Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
- The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect:
- 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 November 2021, Manila.

ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE

Undersecretary of Health Head Secretariat, IATF



Republic of the Philippines PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR 2nd Floor Provincial Capitol Building, Estaka, Dipolog City Zamboanga del Norte

HELE ASED
BU LA API 3
DATE: 01/14/2000

JAN 17 2022

Executive Order No. 22 - 04 Series of 2022

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER PLACING THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE UNDER ALERT LEVEL 2 AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

WHEREAS, on November 11 2021, President Rodrigo R. Duterte issued Executive Order No. 151, Approving the Implementation of the Alert Level System for Covid-19 Response;

WHEREAS, Zamboanga del Norte will be placed under Alert Level 2 of the Alert Level System for Covid-19 Response for the period January 16-2022:

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the Guidelines on the National Implementation of Alert Level System for Covid-19 Response as of November 18, 2021, provides a set of guidelines for areas placed under Alert Level 2;

WHEREAS, under the General Welfare Clause of the Local Government Code of 1991, local government units shall ensure and support the promotion of health and safety which is consistent with the state policy for the promotion of health under the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines:

WHEREAS, Section 4 (p) of Republic Act No. 11494, otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Recover as One Act" ensures, as part of the Covid-19 Response and Recovery rules, regulations and directives issued by the national government pursuant to this Act; and implementing standards of CQ consistent with what the national government has laid down for the subject area, while allowing LGUs to continue exercising their autonomy in matters undefined by the national government or are within the parameters it has set; and are fully address COVID-19: Provided, That pursuant to the constitutional right of freedom of movement concerns, including, but not limited to, Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs), OFWs, domestic travellers and residents, while the LGUs shall determine the policies and regulations within their respective jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, with the detection of the Covid-19 Omicron variant in the country and its high transmissibility forcing affected areas to be placed under a stricter alert level, the FIATF recommends the implementation of proactive measures so as to prevent the entry and spread of the Omicron variant in the province:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERTO Y. UY, Governor of the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Local Government Code and such other laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. Implementation of Alert Level System. The entire Province of Zamboanga del Norte shall be placed under Alert Level 2 for the period January 16-31, 2022.

Section 2. Compliance of Minimum Public Health Standards. Public Health protocols such as the wearing of face mask and the observance of social distancing measures of at least one (1) meter/3-feet radius between people shall be complied with at all times when in public places. The use of full-face shields shall be voluntary.

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Moreover, the new customary gesture of goodwill, praise and respect which is the simple act of gracefully laying the palm of the right hand over the center of the chest with a simultaneous slight head nod shall be adopted as an alternative gesture to the traditional handshake in order to reduce the chances of COVID-19 transmission.

Section 3. **Interzonal and Intrazonal Movement.** *Interzonal movement* refers to the movement of people, goods and services across areas under different community quarantine classifications while *Intrazonal movement* refers to the movement of people, goods and services between localities under the same quarantine community quarantine classifications, without transiting through an area placed under a different classification.

3.1 Persons Allowed to Enter the Province. The following persons shall be permitted entry into the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, *provided,* that the following requirements are complied with and shall pass symptoms screening at the point of entry/exit, *viz*:

PERSONNEL OF DELIVERY VEHICLES FOR GOODS, CARGO, TRUCKING, AND COURIER SERVICES

NOTE: (Maximum of five (5) personnel shall be allowed .)

- 1. Valid Identification Card with picture
- 2. Proof of employment
- 3. Cargo manifest or delivery receipt indicating the destination, nature and quantity of loaded goods/cargoes
- 4. Good's pass (whenever applicable)

Quarantine: NONE

Authorized Persons Outside of Residence (APORs) and Individuals with Indispensable Travels

(For travels not exceeding 48 hours only)

VACCINATED PARTIALLY VACCINATED/ UNVACCINATED 1. Vaccination Card 1. Negative Antigen test result (dated 2. Identification Card with picture at most 5 days prior to travel) 3. Trave Order or Proof 2. Identification Card with picture Trave Proof indispensable transaction Order or of 4. Approved Travel Coordination indispensable transaction 4. Approved Travel Coordination Permit (S-pass) or Notice of (S-pass) or Notice of Permit Coordination from the City/Municipal LGU of destination Coordination from the City/Municipal LGU of destination Quarantine: None Quarantine: None

PASSING THROUGH INDIVIDUALS

- Negative Antigen test result (dated at most 5 days prior to travel)
- 2. Identification Card with picture
- Approved Travel Coordination Permit (S-pass) or Notice of Coordination from the City/Municipal LGU of destination

Quarantine: None

OTHER INDIVIDUALS

VACCINATED

PARTIALLY VACCINATED/ UNVACCINATED

- 1. Vaccination Card
- 2. Identification Card with picture
- Negative Antigen Test Result (dated at most 5 days prior to travel)
- Approved Travel Coordination Permit (S-pass) or Notice of Coordination from the City/Municipal LGU of destination
- Negative RT-PCR/Antigen test result (dated at most 5 days prior to travel)
- 2. Identification Card with picture
- Approved Travel Coordination Permit (S-pass) or Notice of Coordinationfrom the City/Municipal LGU of destination

Quarantine:

- a. Complete requirements: 5 days
- Negative Antigen Test Result on the follow day upon arrival: shall be discharged after release of result.

Quarantine:

- With Negative RT-PCR result: 5 days
- 5. With Antigen test result: 7 days
- Uncoordinated and/or without test results: 10 days

NOTE:

- An individual shall be considered as fully vaccinated for Covid-19:
 - More than or equal to 2 weeks after having received the second dose in a 2-dose vaccine, or
 - ii. More than or equal to 2 weeks after having received the single-dose vaccine (Johnson & Johnson vaccine only).
- The negative RT-PCR/Antigen test result requirement for unvaccinated/partially vaccinated individuals or individuals coming from Alert Level 4 and % areas shall not be required to children 11 years old and below. Provided, that the companion/s of the said children are fully vaccinated or presents a negative RT-PCR/Antigen test results. Provided, further, that quarantine period of children aged 11 and below shall be the same as to the quarantine period of their adult companion/s. Children 12 to 17 years old shall comply with the requirements for Other Individuals under Section 3.1. of this Order
- All persons manifesting symptoms of COVID-19 and persons with a body temperature above 37.5 degree Celsius upon screening at any QCPs shall be DENIED ENTRY. However, if the person manifesting symptoms at the QCP is a resident of the province he/she may be permitted entry but shall be subjected to a mandatory quarantine under 3.6 hereof.
- Personnel of delivery vehicles for goods, cargo, trucking and courier servicesfrom an ECQ and MECQ areas or areas placed under Alert Level 4 and 5 shall be permitted entry into the province.
- 3.2 Movement of Persons within the Province. Movement of all persons shall be allowed within the province.

Provided, that <u>unvaccinated individuals shall be required to remain at home.</u>However,<u>unvaccinated individuals</u>shallbe allowed access to obtain <u>essential g</u>oods and



services, or for work in permitted industries and offices subject to the guidelines provided under Section 18 hereof.

Individual outdoor exercises shall also be allowed, however, for <u>unvaccinated</u> individuals, it shall only be allowed within the general area of residence, e.g., within the barangay, purok, subdivision, or village.

3.3 **Passage of Goods.** The passage of goods, especially food, medicines, fuel and other materials needed in agriculture and manufacturing, in and out of the Province of Zamboanga del Norte shall not be hampered. This shall include the passage of vehicles that are passing through or in-transit to pick-up and deliver goods.

All vehicles transporting goods into the Province of Zamboanga del Norte are subject to thorough inspection and disinfection protocols at the provincial checkpoints. A Declaration of Goods, Cargoes and Supplies shall be filled up upon entry. After undergoing inspection, disinfection and other checkpoint protocols the aforesaid declaration shall be marked "cleared" by an authorized member of the PNP manning the provincial checkpoint.

All vehicles transporting goods into the Province are <u>prohibited from carrying passengers</u>. Likewise, all goods, cargoes and supplies shall be allowed into the Province, <u>EXCEPT prohibited goods and contrabands</u>.

3.4 **Mandatory Quarantine.** A mandatory 5-day quarantine at a designated isolation facility of the concerned LGU or at home if qualified under DOH guidelines shall be imposed upon fully vaccinated individuals with complete requirements and partially vaccinated/unvaccinated individuals with negative RT-PCR test results and approved travel coordination permit (TCP).

However, fully vaccinated individuals who opt to have a negative antigen test the following day upon arrival, at their own expense, yielding a negative result shall be discharged 24 hours after release of result.

Authorized Persons Outside of Residence (APORs) under official business and individuals with indispensable travels: 1) if full vaccinated shall not be required to under mandatory quarantine provided that travel does not exceed 48 hours, 2) if partially vaccinated/unvaccinated shall not be required to under mandatory quarantine provided that travel does not exceed 48 hours and present a Negative Antigen test result upon arrival at any QCPs of the province.

For partially vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals which opt to present a negative antigen test result for his/her coordinated travel, in which case, quarantine period shall be for **7** days at a designated isolation facility of the concerned LGU or at home if qualified under DOH guidelines.

Provided, that partially vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals without compliance to the negative RT-PCR/antigen test result requirement shall be subjected to a **10-days mandatory quarantine** at a designated isolation facility of the concerned LGU, thus, home quarantine shall not be allowed in this circumstance. As such, LGUs shall be responsible to fetch them in the border QCPs of this province and directly isolate them.

Provided, further, that uncoordinated travel of vaccinated and partially vaccinated/unvaccinated individuals despite having complied to such other requirements shall be subjected to a **7-days or 10-days mandatory quarantine**, respectively, at a designated isolation facility of the concerned LGU or at home if qualified under DOH guidelines.

In view of the imposition of mandatory quarantine, local government units are responsible in ensuring that residents of their respective cities/municipalities who are permitted entry into the province are fetched in the ports, airports or in the holding facility of the province, and are directly isolated.



DOH protocols shall strictly be observed and followed in every Temporary Treatment Monitoring Facility (TTMF) of cities/municipalities. LGUs shall be responsible for any breach of protocols in their respective TTMFs.

3.4.1 Mandatory Quarantine for Exposed individuals, Covid Suspect, and Covid19 patients. Fully vaccinated individuals who are close contacts of probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases may undergo a 7-day quarantine period, provided that the individual remains asymptomatic for the duration of the seven-day period with the first day being the date immediately after the last exposure.

In the event that (RT-PCR) Test needs to be performed on the asymptomatic individual, it may be tested not earlier than the fifth day after the date of the last exposure.

For close contacts who may have been traced beyond the seventh day from last exposure and who have remained asymptomatic, no testing and quarantine shall be required.

Should the RT-PCR Test yield a positive result, or he/she becomes symptomatic, he/she shall follow the prescribed testing and isolation protocols.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals who are close contacts of probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases shall undergo a 14-day quarantine period pursuant to DOH guidelines.

3.4.2 **Affidavit of Undertaking.** All individuals required to undergo a mandatory quarantine shall execute an Affidavit of Undertaking attesting his/her consent to the same.

Section 4. Quarantine Control Points and other Border Control. There shall be a Quarantine Control Point (QCP) established at every point of entry into the Province. All QCPs shall conduct health checks of every inbound passengers. Personnel manning the QCPs shall be responsible to collect, review and assess all Declaration Forms and submit the same to the PIATF.

A. Land Travel - All established provincial checkpoints shall remain operational. It shall be the responsibility of the Philippine National Police and Army Reservists to secure all major entry and exit points of the Province.

QCP personnel shall ensure that all individuals requesting entry complies with the requirements provided under Section 3.1 of this Order before permitted entry into the Province.

B. Seaports – The members of the Philippine Ports Authority, Philippine Coastguard, the PNP Maritime Group and MARINA in coordination with the concerned local government units shall be responsible to secure every entry and exit points for sea transport of the Province.

The Philippine Coastguard shall ensure that all passengers of vessels travelling to the Province of Zamboanga del Norte complies with all the requirements provided under Section 3 of this Order.

The Philippine Ports Authority shall see to it that crew members of docking vessels are only allowed to disembark within the wharves of the sea ports with strict compliance to the minimum public health standards.

C. Airports – The officers and members of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippine in coordination with the PNP Aviation Security Unit and the concerned local government units (LGU) shall be responsible to secure every entry and exit points for air transport of the Province. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippine shall make sure that crew members of every aircraft are only allowed to disembark within tarmacs of the airports with strict compliance to the minimum public health standards.

D. Secondary Entry and Exit Points. All secondary entry and exit points in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte shall be secured by the concerned local government unit. The establishment of checkpoints for this purpose shall be allowed. Further, concerned LGUs are urged to pass a resolution for the temporary closure of roads, identified as secondary entry/exit points of the province for a 30-day period.

All local chief executives (LCEs) of the eighteen (18) coastal cities and municipalities of the Province of Zamboanga del Norte are reminded to secure their coastal borders from unpermitted entry. Coastal communities are encouraged to report any violations of this Order to their respective BHERTs, for appropriate action.

E. CITY/MUNICIPAL CHECKPOINTS – Cities/municipalities with high/rising number of Covid-19 cases may, under the supervision of the PNP, establish their own checkpoints to restrict the movements of persons as may be necessary.

Section 5. Public and Private Transportation. The road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors of public transportation shall be allowed to operate at such capacity and protocols in accordance with guidelines issued by the DOTr. **The use of active transportation such as biking is encouraged.**

As a condition for continuing their operations, public transportation services in the road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors shall require all their eligible workers to be fully vaccinated

The airline, bus line, and shipping line companies shall be responsible in ensuring that all passengers on-board airplanes, busses, and vessels complies with the requirements provided in Section 3.1 of this Order. Hence, no passenger shall be allowed to board absent any requirements under the said section.

5.1 **Passenger Manifest for Buses.** For every trip, buses are required to provide a passenger manifest along with the names of its driver and conductors, and the time and date of their departure and arrival. This document shall be submitted to the Provincial Tourism Office, Capitol, Estaka, Zamboanga del Norte every after trip.

Section 6. Province Wide Curfew. There shall be a province wide curfew hour to be adopted by all LGUs in the province which shall be from 12:00 MN to 4:00 AM for adults, while from 10PM to 6:00 AM for minors.

The PNP shall conduct regular monitoring during the curfew hours and ensure increased police visibility in the communities in order to ensure that no individual violates the curfew hours, except frontliners and employees of establishments allowed to operate beyond the curfew hours.

Section 7. REGULATIONS OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES. The operation of establishments shall be undertaken in accordance with the following guidelines, to wit:

REGULATED ESTABLISHMENTS. The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a maximum of 50% indoor venue capacity, and 70% outdoor venuecapacity. Provided, that all workers/employees of these establishments are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and MPHS shall be strictly maintained. Provided further, that there is no objection from the LGU where these activities may take place. Provided finally, that accommodation of customers/guests shall be in accordance with Section 3.2 of this Order.

a. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);

b. Permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;

PERMITS FOR THE CONDUCT OF GATHERINGS. Prior permission from the concerned city/municipal LGU must be secured for the conduct of any gatherings. The issuance of permits must adhere to the maximum venue capacity allowed under this section. Further, in addition to the permits form the concerned city/municipal LGU, activities and gatherings which involve two or more cities/municipalities in the province shall require prior permit from the Provincial IATF.

Section 8. Wok in Government Offices. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall remain to be fully operational and shall adhere to at least 50% on-site capacity while applying work-from-home and other flexible work arrangements.

Section 9. Persons Deprived of Liberty. In pursuance to DILG Memorandum dated May 13, 2020 relative to the subject "COVID-19 Testing for Persons Deprived of Liberty before Commitment to Jails and prior to Release", all Persons Deprived of Liberty must undergo Covid-19 testing before commitment to a jail facility and prior to release therefrom.

Section 10. Regulation on the Use of Rapid Antigen Test Kits. The collection and processing of specimens shall only be conducted in a health facility accredited by the DOH. The use of Rapid Antigen Test Kits shall be in accordance with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020-0468. "Supplemental Guidance on the Use of Rapid Antigen Test Kits."

Section 11. Handling of the Dead. The management of human remains for suspected or confirmed COVID 19 cases shall strictly comply with the DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2020 - 063 dated March 27, 2020 and DOH recommended guidelines and procedures and consistent with the guidelines provided under DILG Advisory dated October 25, 2021, Burial Option for Decedents who succumbed to Dangerous Communicable Diseases, such as Covid-19. Shipment of human remains or cremains of foreign nationals and locals shall strictly adhere to the guidelines of the Bureau of Quarantine.

Private funeral parlors are directed not to take any cadavers without a death certificate indicating the cause of death as not covid related. As such, if the same is found to be covid related, funeral parlors are advised to call the proper authorities to handle the dead body.

Section 12. Implementation of Granular Lockdowns. In the event that COVID-19 cases in the province becomes overwhelming, the Provincial Governor and/or concerned local chief executive may impose granular lockdowns as may deemed necessary in the affected component cities, municipalities and barangays of the Province, with due notice to the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force. Zoning Containment Strategies shall be adopted for this matter.

Section 13. Conformity to Various Issuances of the IATF-EID, Government Agencies and Instrumentalities. Subsequent issuances and directives from the IATF-EID, government agencies and instrumentalities during the effectivity of this Executive Order shall be deemed incorporated hereto in so far as it may be applicable.

Section 14. Adherence by the City/Municipal Local Government Units. All Chief Executives of City/Municipal local government units in the Province shall adhere to the provisions of this Order and shall refrain from executing any other rules and regulations which are outside its parameters unless the same are with prior approval from the RIATF.

Section 15. Vaccination of Individuals below 18 years of age. Parents are encouraged to have their children age 17 years old and below vaccinated against Covid-19 and children 11 years old and below vaccinated against flu and pneumonia. Further, local chief executives are encouraged to procure flu and pneumonia vaccines for indigent individuals age 11 years old and below, whenever funds are available.

Section 16. Contingency Measures during Surge. All local government units are mandated to prepare contingency measures during surge, such as to create a scheme for referral of patients, increase of number of beds in the hospitals, procurements of medicines, medical supplies and equipment, augmentation of personnel in the frontline service, ensure availability of transport vehicles, and such other measures necessary to address a surge of cases.



Moreover, local chief executives are mandated to procure medical oxygens in preparation of possible shortage of supplies due to the increasing number of Covid19 cases in Region IX and to ensure availability of oxygen units in every emergency transport vehicles and prevent mortalities.

Section 17. Covid-19 Vaccination Incentive Program. Local chief executives are urge to formulate a vaccination incentive program providing rewards/incentives to business establishments giving out discounts, freebies, promos to fully vaccinated individuals or such other schemes employed that will encourage individuals to be vaccinated. This is to address the need to fully implement Covid-19 vaccination roll-out and reached the vaccination goal percentage of the province.

Section 18. Vaccination of Individuals in Public and Private Establishments. Per IATF Resolution No. 148-B, Series of 2021, dated November 11, 2021, 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 regularly at their own expense for purposes of on-site work. Provided that, antigen tests may be resorted to when RT-PCR capacity is insufficient or not immediately available.

Public and private establishments, even if not required by the Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response in Pilot Areas to accommodate only fully vaccinated individuals, may nonetheless validly refuse entry and/or deny service to individuals who remain to be unvaccinated, or are merely partially vaccinated, despite being eligible for vaccination. Provided that frontline and emergency services shall continue to render assistance to all persons regardless of vaccination status.

Section 19. Acts of Discrimination. Acts of discrimination inflicted upon healthcare workers, repatriated OFWs and non-OFWs, COVID-19 cases, whether confirmed, recovered or undergoing treatment, as well as suspect and probable cases, and Persons under Monitoring are denounced in the strongest of terms. Acts in furtherance of discrimination, such as, but not limited to, coercion, libel, slander, physical injuries and the dishonor of contractual obligations such as contracts of lease or employment, shall be dealt with criminally, civilly, and/or administratively. All Chief Executives of City/Municipal local government units in the Province are enjoined to enact ordinances prohibiting and penalizing these discriminatory acts.

Section 20. Sanctions and Penalties. Violations to any of the provisions of this guidelines which includes falsification of vaccination card and such other documents shall be subjected to appropriate criminal, civil, and administrative liability in accordance with existing laws.

Section 21. Repealing Clause. All previous issuances inconsistent herewith are deemed amended and/or repealed.

Section 22. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall be effective on January 16, 2022 until January 31, 2022.

Let copies of this order be furnished to all local chief executives, other concerned public and private agencies and institutions, and the mass media for guidance, information, and widest dissemination.

Done this 14th day of January 2022, in Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte, Philippines.

For and in the absence of the Provincial Governor:

SENEN O. ANGELES

Vice Governor