



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

RESOLUTION NO. 105

Series of 2021

March 25, 2021

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2(b) of Executive Order No. 168 mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s.2020) extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 21, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health received reports regarding a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) spreading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and another variant identified in South Africa (501.V2);

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

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

WHEREAS, as of March 25, 2021, there are Ninety-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-One (99,891) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the IATF approves the following:



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

1. To approve the request of the Professional Regulation Commission to conduct and administer the licensure examinations for professionals scheduled for May and June 2021, with observance of the strict health protocols as approved by the Department of Health. Agencies are directed to render full assistance for the safe and successful conduct of the examinations. To prevent transmission of COVID-19 to low-risk areas, examinees from areas under General Community Quarantine are strongly discouraged from travelling to areas under Modified General Community Quarantine.
2. As an exception to the prohibition on mass gatherings in the Subject Areas pursuant to the Memorandum of the Executive Secretary dated 21 March 2021, religious denominations may hold religious gatherings once-a-day for the celebration of their respective worship/service from April 1, 2021 to April 4, 2021. For this purpose, religious denominations shall implement the following engineering and administrative controls in addition to such controls that are currently being implemented to reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission during their religious worship/service:
 - i. A maximum indoor seating capacity of ten percent (10%) shall be observed at all times. For this purpose, entrance to churches/venues are encouraged *via* reservation to ensure that the ten percent (10%) capacity limitation is complied with.
 - ii. No gatherings and conduct of religious activities shall be allowed outside the church and/or venue.
 - iii. To avoid aggregation of individuals outside the venues, the use of audio-video screens or public address systems outside the church/venue while the mass/worship service is being celebrated shall be prohibited.
 - iv. Live singing, if any, shall be strictly limited. Recorded singing is encouraged; and
 - v. Attendance through various online platforms is encouraged.



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Local barangay units and local units of the Philippine National Police (PNP) are directed to facilitate the implementation of the aforementioned engineering and administrative protocols.

3. IATF Resolution No. 103 series of 2021, dated March 18, 2021, is hereby amended to read as follows:

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1. *Memorandum Circular No. 5, s.2021 issued by the National Task Force Against COVID-19 is adopted with modifications, as follows:*

a. **All Filipino citizens shall be allowed** to return to the Philippines;

b. *Effective 0001H March 22, 2021 to 2359H April 21, 2021, the entry of foreign nationals shall be temporarily suspended, except for the following:*

i. *Diplomats and members of international organizations, and their dependents provided they hold a valid 9(e) visa or 47(a)(2) visa, as the case may be, at the time of entry;*

ii. *Foreign nationals involved in medical repatriation duly endorsed by Department of Foreign Affairs - Office of Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration provided they have a valid visa at the time of entry;*

iii. *Foreign seafarers **arriving through seaports** under the “Green Lanes” program for crew change provided that they hold a 9(c) crew list visa at the time of entry;*

iv. *Foreign **parent/s**, spouses and children of Filipino citizens travelling with them, provided they have valid visas at the time of entry; and*

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- B. To finalize the donation of the StaySafe.ph which is considered as the official social-distancing, health-condition-reporting, and contact-tracing system that will assist in the government's response to COVID-19, the Department of Information and Communications Technology shall issue the necessary certifications and facilitate the turnover of rights to the Republic of the Philippines, as donee, to be represented by the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

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 105th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 25th of March 2021 *via* video conference.


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


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