

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

### **RESOLUTION NO. 128-B**

Series of 2021 July 22, 2021

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

**WHEREAS,** Section 2 (b) of Executive Order No. 168 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to prevent and/or minimize the entry of suspected or confirmed patients with emerging infectious diseases into the country;

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

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Health (DOH), the University of the Philippines-Philippine Genome Center (UP-PGC), and the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health (UP-NIH) biosurveillance have detected B.1.1.7 (Alpha), B.1.351 (Beta), and P.1 (Gamma) variants of SARS-CoV-2 in the Philippines. The DOH, UP-PGH, and UP-NIH have likewise confirmed the presence of the B.1.617 (Delta) variant that was first detected in India;

**WHEREAS,** the continued implementation of proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread of variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** as it is hereby resolved, that upon the recommendations of its Technical Working Group, the IATF approves the following protocols upon return to the country of Philippine officials and their delegations on official travel abroad, and Philippine officials and their dependents returning to the Philippines at the end of their tour of duty abroad:

A. Fully vaccinated Philippine officials and their delegation/dependents coming from Green List countries/jurisdictions/territories shall be allowed home quarantine for seven (7) days with Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing on the fifth (5th) day.



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- B. Philippine officials and their delegation/dependents who:
  - 1. Are coming from non-Green List countries/jurisdictions/territories;
  - 2. Stayed outside a Green List country/jurisdiction/territory at any time in the last fourteen (14) days before their arrival in the Philippines;
  - 3. Have not been fully vaccinated; or
  - 4. Even if fully vaccinated, their vaccination status cannot be independently verified/confirmed by Philippine authorities as valid or authentic upon their arrival in the country

shall be allowed home quarantine for fourteen (14) days with RT-PCR testing on the seventh (7th) day.

- C. Should the official require outbound international travel within the period of quarantine, they shall be required to remain under strict home quarantine until departure. The testing and quarantine protocols of the country of destination shall be observed.
- D. Philippine officials on official travel abroad shall be exempt from the inbound travel arrival quota. The Department of Transportation (DOTr) shall notify the airlines of this exemption.
- E. Philippine officials covered by the foregoing shall transmit official notice prior to departure from the country of origin to the DOTr for proper coordination with the airlines and DOTr-One Stop Shop.

**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 128th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this July 22, 2021, via video conference.

Secretary, Department of Health

IATF Chairperson

KARLO/ALEXEI B. NOGRALES

Secretary, Office of the Cabinet Secretariat IATF Co-Chairperson



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

#### **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that:

- 1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
- 2. I am the Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOH);
- 3. The IATF Secretariat holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
- 4. I am the custodian of the records of the IATF, including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
- 5. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on <u>22 July 2021</u> via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. <u>128-B</u> was unanimously approved and adopted;
- 6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon the authority of the IATF Members;
- 7. The aforesaid resolution has not been altered, modified nor revoked and the same is now in full force and effect:
- 8. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto affixed my signature this **22nd** day of July 2021, Manila.

ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE

Assistant Secretary of Health Head Secretariat, IATF