



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

RESOLUTION NO. 36

Series of 2020

May 13, 2020

WHEREAS, on 16 March 16, 2020, to prevent the sharp rise of COVID-19 cases in the country, the President placed the entirety of Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) until April 14, 2020;

WHEREAS, on 30 March, 2020, to develop a science-based approach in determining whether the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon should be totally or partially lifted, extended, or expanded to other areas, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) convened a sub-Technical Working Group tasked to define parameters in assessing recent developments in the Philippine COVID-19 situation;

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

WHEREAS, on 6 April 2020, the IATF issued Resolution No. 20, recommending that the ECQ in Luzon be extended up to April 30, 2020.

WHEREAS, on 30 April 2020, the President issued Executive Order No. 112, Imposing an Enhanced Community Quarantine in High-Risk Geographic Areas of the Philippines and a General Community Quarantine in the Rest of The Country from 01 To 15 May 2020, Adopting The Omnibus Guidelines On The Implementation Thereof, And For Other Purposes;

WHEREAS, on 11 May 2020, the IATF convened to analyze current scientific data and apply the parameters to determine the appropriate community quarantine or social distancing measures that should be implemented in different provinces, highly-urbanized cities (HUCs), and independent component cities (ICCs) in the country.

WHEREAS, as of 13 May 2020, there are eleven thousand six hundred eighteen (11,618) confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Philippines.

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

- A. The Guidelines on the Implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) as presented and amended is hereby approved. In this regard and pursuant to the authority granted to the IATF by Executive Order No. 112 (s.2020), the National Task Force (NTF) for COVID-19, National Incident Command (NIC), and the Inter-Agency



RESOLUTION NO. 36

Series of 2020

May 13, 2020

Task Force (IATF) Secretariats are hereby directed to finalize the amendments to the Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine to be submitted to the IATF for approval;

- B. Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) whether land-based or sea-based shall be allowed to be deployed abroad upon the execution of a *Declaration* signifying their knowledge and understanding of the risks involved as advised by the Philippine Government.

For this purpose, recruitment and placement agencies shall be likewise allowed to operate in areas under General and Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine subject to the observance of minimum health standards. *Further*, government offices and agencies involved in the processing of their deployment are hereby directed to establish “Green Lanes” to enable their prompt processing and deployment. *Further still*, to facilitate the ease of deployment, the OFWs and employees of these recruitment and placement agencies shall be allowed unhampered transit to and from appropriate government offices for the processing of their requirements and facilities such as airports, ferries, bus terminals, etc., notwithstanding any Local Government Unit pronouncement to the contrary. The said free access shall extend to the vehicles carrying the aforementioned individuals in order for them to reach their final destination. No fee or any other requirement shall be imposed by LGUs in this regard;

- C. The proposal of the Anti-Red Tape Authority for the creation of the Rapid Regulatory Impact Assessment and Recommendation Support Group is formally endorsed to the NTF COVID-19 for its consideration;
- D. The IATF supports the recommendation of the NTF COVID-19 Task Group on Food Security to encourage the DSWD and LGUs to directly purchase fresh agri-fishery products and rice from Farmer Cooperatives and Associations (FCAs) for their food packs distributions;
- E. The recommendations of the Commission on Higher Education are hereby adopted, the specifics of which are as follows:
1. The rolling opening of classes will be based on education delivery mode, with compliance with minimum health standards and the situation on the ground:
 - a. HEIs using full online education can open anytime;
 - b. HEIs using flexible learning can open anytime in August 2020;
 - c. HEIs using significant residential (face-to-face/in-person) mode can open not earlier than 01 September 2020 in areas under GCQ;
 - d. No residential (face-to-face/in-person) classes until 31 August 2020;




RESOLUTION NO. 36


Series of 2020

May 13, 2020

2. Private HEIs are encouraged to change their academic calendar and open in August 2020;
 3. The CHED will continue to review conditions and discussions with HEIs;
- F. The IATF hereby clarifies that Local Government Units (LGUs) are authorized to procure and utilize Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved antibody test kits, following Department of Health Circular No. 2020-184 dated 9 April 2020, which states that the public institutions are not prohibited from purchasing and using such antibody test kits;
- G. A Legal Advisory Committee headed by the Deputy Executive Secretary for Legal Affairs (DESLA) is hereby established to provide legal review and recommendations on matters affecting the distribution of the social amelioration of the Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- H. The Department of Science and Technology shall hereby be included in the Joint Memorandum Circular on the Feasibility Analysis of Syndromic Surveillance Using Spatio-Temporal Epidemiological Modeler For Early Detection of Diseases (FASSTER); and
- I. The Information and Communication Technology system for COVID-19 as presented by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) is hereby designated as complete and closed, and any new system that will be introduced hereafter shall have to comply with the prescribed data sharing, data format, and data privacy guidelines.

APPROVED during the 36th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 13th of May, 2020 *via* video conference.


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


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