



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

RESOLUTION NO. 155

Series of 2021

December 31, 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 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), P.1 (Gamma), and B.1.617 (Delta) variants of SARS-CoV-2 in the Philippines.

WHEREAS, with a new B.1.1.529 variant designated as Variant of Concern and named Omicron, proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that upon the recommendations of the Department of Health and its Technical Advisory Group and Task Force on COVID-19 Variants, the IATF approves the following:

- A.** The alert level classification of the National Capital Region shall be escalated to Alert Level 3 effective 0001H of 3 January 2022 and until 15 January 2022. Particular to the NCR, the pertinent provisions of the Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response shall be reiterated and implemented, as follows:

- 1. Intrazonal and interzonal movement shall be allowed. However, reasonable restrictions may be imposed by the LGUs, which should not*



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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.

2. *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:*
 - i. *Face to face or in-person classes for basic education, except those previously approved by the IATF and/or the Office of the President;*
 - ii. *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;*
 - iii. *Funfairs/peryas and kid amusement industries such as playgrounds, playroom, and kiddie rides;*
 - iv. *Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;*
 - v. *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*
 - vi. *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.*



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- i. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions (MICE);*
- ii. 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;*
- iii. Visitor or tourist attractions such as libraries, archives, museums, galleries, exhibits, parks, plazas, public gardens, scenic viewpoints or overlooks, and the like;*
- iv. Amusement parks or theme parks;*
- v. Recreational venues such as internet cafes, billiard halls, amusement arcades, bowling alleys, skating rinks, archery halls, swimming pools, and similar venues;*
- vi. Cinemas and movie houses;*
- vii. Limited face-to-face or in-person classes for higher education and for technical-vocational education and training;*
- viii. 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;*
- ix. 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;*
- x. Dine-in services in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries, subject to DTI sector-specific protocols;*
- xi. 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;*
- xii. 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*



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- times and that no group activities are conducted; and*
- xiii. Film, music, and television production, subject to the joint guidelines as may be issued by the DTI, DOLE, and the DOH.*

The Technical Working Group headed by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority and the National Vaccination Operations Center shall formulate guidelines for stricter measures for unvaccinated individuals against COVID-19.

B. The current local quarantine and isolation periods and protocols as embodied under Department of Health Administrative Order No. 2021-0043 or the Omnibus Guidelines on the Minimum Public Health Standards for the Safe Reopening of Institutions are hereby reiterated for strict compliance of all stakeholders, as follows:

1. Ten day isolation of positive cases for asymptomatic, mild, and moderate cases;
2. Twenty-one days isolation of positive cases for severe and critical cases;
3. Seven days quarantine for close contacts who are fully vaccinated; and
4. Fourteen days quarantine of close contacts and travelers for unvaccinated and partially vaccinated individuals.

C. The Response Cluster of the National Task Force Against COVID-19 is directed to prepare the country's pediatric healthcare capacity in anticipation of an increase in COVID-19 cases among the pediatric population and hospital admissions given their unvaccinated status.

D. All implementing agencies are directed to ensure that minimum public health standards, particularly in closed and crowded spaces, and close-contact activities are strictly observed and complied with.

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.



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APPROVED during the 155th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this December 31, 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



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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Undersecretary 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;
1. In the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on **31 December 2021** via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. **155** was unanimously approved and adopted;
5. 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;
6. I am executing this Certification for whatever legitimate purpose this may serve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this **31st** day of December 2021, Manila.


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Head Secretariat, IATF