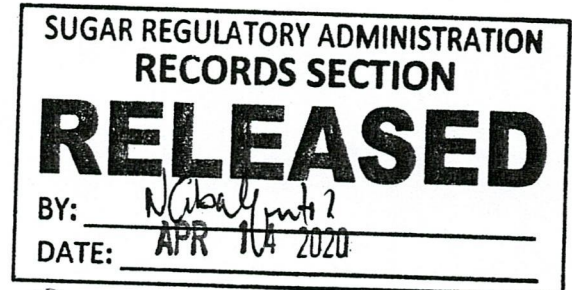




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
Sugar Center Bldg., North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines 1101
TIN 000-784-336

MEMO-ADM-2020-Apr-18

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 20
Series of 2019-2020



TO : ALL STAKEHOLDERS

FROM : HERMENEGILDO R. SERAFICA
Administrator

DATE : 13 April 2020

SUBJECT : UNHAMPERED MOVEMENT OF FOOD
COMMODITIES

Pursuant to the Memorandum issued by the Office of the Executive Secretary dated 07 April 2020 with the subject *“Extension of the Enhanced Community Quarantine until 30 April 2020”*, declaring an *“Extended Enhanced Community Quarantine”* without prejudice to the local chief executives’ prerogative to adopt the said measure within their respective jurisdictions on the various provinces of the country, the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), as an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture (DA), mandated to promote the growth and competitiveness of the sugarcane industry, hereby affirms its commitment to support the “Food Resiliency Protocol” of the DA and conveys & reiterates for the guidance of all concerned stakeholders, the necessity of an “unhampered movement of food commodities” which includes sugar as a basic food commodity.

In this light, please be informed that the **Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF)** has issued numerous Resolutions affirming the necessity of an unhampered movement of food commodities, to wit:

1. Resolution No. 13, Series of 2020 issued on March 17, 2020

“...4. The Philippine National Police is instructed to allow the unimpeded movement of all types of cargoes, subject to its authority to conduct inspection procedures in checkpoints for the purposed of ensuring that protocols on strict home quarantine are observed. For this purpose, Memorandum Circular No. 07, issued on March 17, 2020 by the Department of Agriculture is hereby adopted.

And



Website: <http://www.sra.gov.ph> Email Address: srahead@sra.gov.ph
Tel. No.: (632)929-3633, (632)455-2135, (632)455-3376



“A food-secure Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk”

11. *Delivery services, whether in-house or outsourced, transporting food, medicine, or other basic necessities, shall be allowed to operate during the period of Enhanced Community Quarantine.*”

2. Resolution No. 14, Series of 2020 issued on March 20, 2020

“...C. *To avert any threat of shortage of basic food, essential hygienic products and medical products, the IATF reaffirms its earlier resolution ensure the unimpeded movement of all types of cargo (food and non-food), and allow the passage of personnel of business establishments permitted to operate during the Enhanced Community Quarantine, subject to the presentation of proof of employment, and residence.*

The policy on the unhampered flow of Cargoes is a nationwide policy that must be strictly followed in all LGUs nationwide, following the directive of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on 19 March 2020.”

And

I.1. *Providing exemptions from the implementation of the ECQ to the following persons but with strict compliance to skeleton-workforce arrangement and strict social distancing:*

g. *At most three (3) personnel operating cargo vehicles and delivery service vehicles for food, drinking water, medicine, and other basic necessities, with or without load;*

h. *Employees of:*

1. *Manufacturing and Processing Plants of Basic Food Products, Essential Products, Medicine and Medical Products...*”

3. Resolution No. 16, Series of 2020 issued on March 30, 2020

“...C. *Ang mga negosyong kaugnay sa produksyon, pagproseso at pagdistribute ng mga pagkain ay maaring magpatuloy sa operasyon na may hindi hihigit sa 50% ng kanilang manggagawa, maliban na lang kung ang pangangailanga para sa suplay ng naturang pagkain ay mas mataas, alinsunod sa pahintulot ng DTI at pagpapatupad ng social distancing measures.*

Pinapaalalahanan ang LGU at mga Law Enforcement Agencies na payagan ang mga manggagawa na pumunta sa kani-kanilang mga trabaho.

- i. *Pinapayagan ang pagsasaka at pangingsida*
- ii. *Siguraduhin ang patuloy na suplay ng mga materyales at kagamitan para sa agrikultura; at*
- iii. *Ang Local Prince Coordination Council ay inaatasang magmonitor ng presyo ng mga produktong agricultural”*

For the Sugarcane Industry Sector:

1. Hauling and transporting of raw (brown) and refined sugar, sugarcane and its by-products such as molasses, bagasse, mudpress, mill ash and ethanol.
2. Hauling or delivery of brown, refined and specialty sugar from International and Domestic ports, for as long as they have the required necessary permits from their ports of origin and clearances from SRA.
3. Delivery of essential inputs for sugar manufacturing such as but not limited to lime, sugar bags, caustic soda, etc.
4. Critical workers of sugar mills and refineries such as Engineers and other staffs (farm workers, mill workers & planters' association workers) indispensable to the production, transport and delivery of sugar and its by-products.

Hence, it is evident from the foregoing that the movement of a basic food commodity such as sugar in this case, shall be continuous and unimpeded, subject to such issuances and resolutions that the IATF may provide in the future.

For your information and guidance.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 15

Series of 2020

March 24, 2020

**RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION**

WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the entire Philippines, and prompting a whole-of-government approach in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on 12 March 2020, the President, upon recommendation by the IATF, raised the Code Alert Level for COVID-19 to Code Red Sublevel Two, and directed the imposition of Stringent Social Distancing Measures in the National Capital Region (NCR) for thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, relative to the said order and the subsequent implementation of an Enhanced Community Quarantine over the entire Luzon, the IATF has been continuously meeting so as to improve the implementation of and resolve issues and concerns relative to the same;

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

- A. The proposed National Action Plan for COVID-19 as presented is provisionally approved, the specifics of which are as follows:
 1. To adopt measures that will provide clear, accurate and timely information to support the operations against the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures will include creating a system or platform for regular reporting and updating on COVID-19 related news in the country, giving regular press releases and other measures to provide information to the public.
 2. To adopt measures for containment and mitigation of the spread of the virus to reduce the spread of new cases and to facilitate the detection, identification and isolation of COVID-19 carriers.



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

3. To continuously sustain the conduct of the operations against COVID-19 pandemic in terms of human resource, logistics and finance.
4. To mitigate the consequences and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to the social, economic, and personal security of the Filipino people.
5. To provisionally adopt the proposed NTF COVID-19 organizational structure in the National Action Plan to lessen the burden on the IATF and to streamline and decentralize the operations in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - a. The IATF will serve as the policy-making body of the operations while the NTF COVID-19 shall serve as the operational command to be headed by the Secretary of the National Defense. The National Incident Command (NIC) will take charge of the day to day concerns and operations in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic;
 - b. The NDRRMC shall determine and identify the agencies that will belong to the new units of the proposed NTF COVID-19 organizational structure. Within the proposed organizational structure: (i) the Task Group on Response Operations will be led by the DOH, with support from other national government agencies to address enforcement and security, food security, disaster risk management, and labor issues, among others; (ii) the Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics shall ensure that critical needs of all concerned agencies will be addressed and provided; and (iii) the Task Group on Strategic Communications will be in charge of communications.
 - c. Agencies identified by the NDRRMC shall immediately designate an official with the rank of Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary to their assigned clusters. The aforementioned clusters shall report directly to the IATF to ensure proper coordination.



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

- B. The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) is hereby directed by the IATF to transfer PHP420,585,000.00 to the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC). The said amount shall be utilized to cover COVID-19-related packages of the PHIC. This amount corresponds to fifty percent (50%) of the remainder of the standby fund under Sec.4 of EO No. 201, per Sec. 1 of EO No. 108 (s.2020);
- C. The separate Technical Working Group for Social Amelioration chaired by the Department of Social Welfare and Development is hereby directed to convene for the finalization of the Social Amelioration Program of the Government;
- D. The IATF endorses the proposal of DOLE for the immediate release of the amount of PHP 1.5 billion for financial assistance for overseas workers and repatriated overseas workers to be submitted to the Department of Budget Management, copy-furnished the Office of the Executive Secretary;
- E. The IATF recommends the actions proposed on the handling and disposal of the remains of COVID-19 confirmed cases and PUIs. The proposed actions are as follows:
- a. In handling the remains of COVID-19 cases, general infection precautions must be strictly observed to avoid further spread of the disease.
 - b. LGUs shall designate funeral service facilities to handle the remains of COVID-19 cases and to provide possible financial assistance to cover the logistics, fuel, salary and other expenses that will be incurred in the process.
 - c. LGUs and the DILG shall monitor and penalize funeral homes that refuse to provide logistics and transport of COVID-19 remains, including but not limited to, refusal to pick-up the remains subject to the policies and guidelines of the aforementioned LGUs or DILG.
 - d. The DSWD shall allocate amounts for a funeral support fund allotted to indigent confirmed COVID-19 cases and PUIs regardless whether they are undergoing home quarantine, or admitted in a public or private facility. DSWD shall allot Php25,000.00 per deceased for this purpose.
 - e. The LGU may release issuances or ordinances to put a price cap or impose a price freeze on funeral services located within their jurisdiction.



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

- f. To reiterate, funeral services staff and personnel are granted exemptions from the imposed enhanced community quarantine. The said individuals may freely move and travel to ensure that the remains of deceased individuals will be given proper funeral services.
 - g. Funeral companies are directed to provide transportation and/or housing accommodations for funeral service staff.
- F. Guidelines, rules and regulations of all LGUs declaring their respective community quarantine under paragraph A.2 of IATF Resolution No. 12 must be compliant and consistent with the resolutions issued by the IATF.
- G. IATF Resolution No. 13 dated March 17, 2020, Section B(1) is hereby amended and be read as follows:

x x x

"1. Overseas Filipino Workers, permanent residents of foreign jurisdictions, and stranded foreign nationals leaving for abroad through any of the ports in Luzon shall be allowed to leave the Philippines without any impediment. Provided, that this provision shall not be interpreted to allow outbound travel to jurisdictions where travel restrictions are in place. Provided, further, that departing passengers may only be accompanied by not more than one person when traveling to any international port. Provided, finally, that the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration is hereby directed to provide transportation services to OFWs intending to leave for abroad;

x x x

- H. Stranded passengers, whether Filipino or foreign nationals, are also allowed to book hotels and seek temporary accommodations. For hotel and other forms of accommodations, single occupancy of rooms shall only be required for health workers and repatriated OFWs. Double occupancy of rooms shall be allowed for other individuals not falling within the aforementioned individuals, subject to the guidelines of the DOH.

Outbound and repatriated Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and stranded foreign nationals shall be granted free and unimpeded access to and from national



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

government facilities such as airports, ferries, bus terminals, etc., notwithstanding any LGU 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.

- I. The OCD is hereby designated as the main coordinating body for all domestic donations relative to the management of COVID-19. The OCD is authorized to receive all domestic financial donations which shall thereafter deposit the same to the Bureau of Treasury. The intended beneficiary agency shall then submit a request to the Department of Budget Management to access such funds. Government agencies who likewise receive donations in kind are hereby directed to report the same to OCD. The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) is hereby tasked to make the necessary communications to this effect.

International financial donations shall be evaluated and decided on by a technical working group comprising the DFA, OCD, DILG, DBM, and DOF.

- J. The IATF approves the following recommendations of the DA, subject to implementation of skeletal workforce and social distancing measures:

1. Allow all farming and fishing activities to continue;
2. Exempt all healthy farmers and farm workers, fishers, and agri-business personnel;
3. Allow agricultural supply stores/outlets and veterinary clinics to operate;
4. Reiterate unhampered movement of all supplies used for agriculture, including food packaging and manufacturing materials;
5. Reactivation of the Local Price Coordination Council (LPCC) to strengthen the price monitoring and enforcement (MC77);
6. Upscaling KADIWA ni Ani at Kita in support for food availability, accessibility and price stability; and
7. Support the DA program - Ahon Lahat, Pagkain, Sapat (ALPAS) kontra COVID-19.

- K. The IATF endorses the recommendation of the DTI in allowing the full operation of those engaged in the manufacture of medicines, medical supplies, devices, and



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

equipment, including but not limited to suppliers of inputs, packaging, and distribution, to address the country's clear and present need for medical supplies and equipment.

- L. The DTI shall enjoin concerned export enterprises that manufacture medicines, medical supplies and equipment to supply at least eighty percent (80%) of their daily production for local or domestic use. As such, the IATF recommends to the Office of the President that export requirements imposed under different relevant laws be suspended; and local sales be deemed and treated as export sales for availment of duties and taxes, exemptions and other incentives.

If so approved, the Department of Trade and Industry shall issue the appropriate guidelines for the effective implementation hereof.

- M. The IATF strongly encourages companies to process payrolls online. However, for those who cannot, one payroll manager for each company is allowed to travel on March 26 and 27, for the purpose of processing their company payrolls covering the period until April 15, 2020.

APPROVED during the 15th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, this 25th of March 2020 at the Tejeros Hall Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club House, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.



EDUARDO M. AÑO

Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government

BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Secretary, Department of Tourism



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

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020
March 17, 2020

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION**

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the entire Philippines, and prompting a whole-of-government approach in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the President, upon recommendation by the IATF, raised the Code Alert Level for COVID-19 to Code Red Sublevel Two, and directed the imposition of Stringent Social Distancing Measures in the National Capital Region (NCR) for thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 to halt the further spread of COVID-19 to other regions of the country, the President placed all regions in Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine;

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2020, the Department of Health has confirmed a total of one hundred eighty-seven (187) positive COVID-19 cases in the country;

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

- A. The following operational guidelines are hereby approved, in affirmation of and in strict accordance with the March 16, 2020 Memorandum from the Executive Secretary concerning the implementation of Enhanced Community Quarantine over the entirety of Luzon (Memorandum):
 1. All government agencies in the executive branch are hereby directed to issue accreditation orders to identify their respective skeletal workforces for critical services operating during the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon. *Bona fide* IDs issued by the respective agencies shall be sufficient for movement around the contained area until such time that such accreditation orders have been issued by the agency concerned. Skeletal workforces may use official agency vehicles;

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

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020
March 17, 2020

2. Agencies with jurisdiction over those exempted from the strict home quarantine requirement are likewise tasked to issue official Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) accreditation IDs. The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) shall be tasked to design the official seal and template of IATF accreditation IDs issued by government. The period for the issuance of IATF accreditation IDs shall be until March 21, 2020. *Bona fide* IDs issued by establishments exempted from the strict home quarantine requirements shall be honored by law enforcement agencies until March 21, 2020;
3. The following, among others, shall be considered health and emergency frontline workers:
 - a. Public health workers (all employees of the Department of Health, DOH Hospitals, Hospitals of Local Government Units, and Provincial, City, and Rural Health Units);
 - b. Private health workers, such as but not limited to medical professionals, hospital administrative staff and aides from private health facilities, as well as their service providers; and
 - c. Health workers and volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross and the World Health Organization.

The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with Local Government Units, and upon consultation with the Department of Health, shall develop a system of point-to-point transport services for all the aforementioned health workers;

4. The Philippine National Police is instructed to allow the unimpeded movement of all types of cargoes, subject to its authority to conduct inspection procedures in checkpoints for the purpose of ensuring that protocols on strict home quarantine are observed. For this purpose, Memorandum Circular No. 07, issued on March 17, 2020 by the Department of Agriculture is hereby adopted;
5. 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, shall be allowed to operate effective March 18,

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

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020

March 17, 2020

2020, subject to the qualification of establishing skeletal workforces in their respective establishments;

6. The Department of Labor and Employment is hereby authorized to accredit a skeletal staff for the purpose of facilitating the conduct of the *Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD)* program;
 7. The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration shall provide transportation services for returning Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), for the purpose of ferrying them from international ports to their respective destinations in Luzon;
 8. A separate IATF Technical Working Group composed of the Department of Social Welfare and Development acting as Chair, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Finance, Department of Labor and Employment, and the Office of the President is hereby directed to meet for the purpose of operationalizing the social amelioration program of government.
 9. The provisional period of seventy-two (72) hours granted to media personnel to continue operating in Luzon is hereby extended until March 21, 2020. Thereafter, only those who bear the IATF accreditation ID as issued by the PCOO may be exempted from the strict home quarantine requirement;
 10. Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) establishments, and export-oriented businesses are hereby granted a period of twenty-four (24) hours from the issuance of this Resolution to facilitate their work from home arrangements; and
 11. Delivery services, whether in-house or outsourced, transporting food, medicine, or other basic necessities, shall be allowed to operate during the period of Enhanced Community Quarantine.
- B. The following amendments and/or modifications to the March 16, 2020 Memorandum from the Executive Secretary are hereby recommended to the Office of the President:
1. OFWs, *balikbayans*, and foreign nationals leaving for abroad through any of the ports in Luzon shall be allowed to leave the Philippines at

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

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020

March 17, 2020

any time for the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine. *Provided*, that proof of international travel itinerary scheduled within twenty-four (24) hours must be presented. *Provided, further*, that non-essential travel by Filipinos from any port of Luzon shall be suspended. *Provided, further*, that this provision shall not be interpreted to allow outbound travel by Filipinos to jurisdictions where travel restrictions are in place. *Provided, further*, that departing passengers may only be accompanied by not more than one (1) person when traveling to any international port. *Provided, further*, that OWWA may provide transportation services to OFWs intending to leave for abroad. *Provided, finally*, that all of the foregoing shall be subject to joint guidelines to be issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor and Employment, and the Department of Tourism;

2. Heads of mission or their designated foreign mission representatives, including limited foreign mission personnel and staff may be exempted from the strict home quarantine requirement whenever performing diplomatic functions, subject to guidelines to be issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs. *Provided*, that protocols on the establishment of skeletal workforces shall be observed;
3. No hotels or similar establishments shall be allowed to operate, except those accommodating:
 - a. Guests who have existing booking accommodations for foreigners as of March 17, 2020;
 - b. Guests who have existing long-term leases; and
 - c. Employees from exempted establishments under the provisions of the March 16, 2020 Memorandum from the Executive Secretary, and subsequent modifications and clarifications.

Provided, that in subparagraphs (3)(a) and (3)(b), no new booking accommodations shall be permitted. *Provided, further*, that in all of the foregoing, hotel operations shall be limited to the provision of basic lodging to guests; and

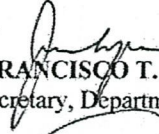
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

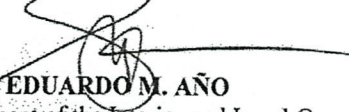
RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020
March 17, 2020

4. Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators shall not be included among those establishments allowed to operate for the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine.
- C. The Metro Manila Development Authority and the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process shall be considered *ex officio* members of the IATF. A recommendation to the Office of the President is hereby submitted for the purpose of including said agencies to the expanded membership of the IATF;
- D. The Response Clusters of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) for COVID-19 at the national, regional, and local levels shall be convened. All councils are directed to implement preventive, preparatory, responsive, and early recovery measures in anticipation of the worst-case scenario insofar as the COVID-19 health event is concerned. The Rehabilitation and Recovery Cluster of the NDRRMC is likewise directed to develop a resiliency and recovery plan; and
- E. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Philippines shall establish and operate an Emergency Operations Center at the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council Operations Center, at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

APPROVED at the 14th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting as reflected in the minutes of the meeting this 17th of March, 2020, at the NDRRMC Conference Room, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary, Department of Health

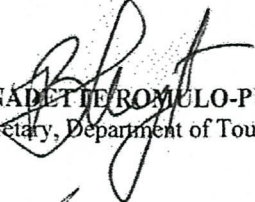

EDUARDO M. AÑO
Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government

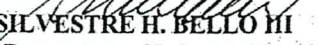
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE**


RESOLUTION NO. 13

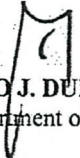
Series of 2020

March 17, 2020


BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Secretary, Department of Tourism


SILVESTRE H. BELLO III
Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment



MENARDO I. GUEVARRA
Secretary, Department of Justice


BRIGIDO J. DULAY
Undersecretary, Department of Foreign Affairs

ARTEMIO U. TUAZON, JR.
Undersecretary, Department of Transportation

ALAN A. SILOR
Assistant Secretary, Department of Information and Communications Technology

With the concurrence of:

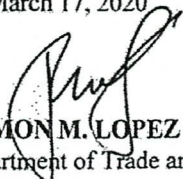

KARLO B. NOGRALES
Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat of the Philippines

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

RESOLUTION NO. 13

Series of 2020

March 17, 2020



RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry



ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA
Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development



WILLIAM D. DAR
Secretary, Department of Agriculture

ROY A. CIMATU

Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

DELFIN N. LORENZANA

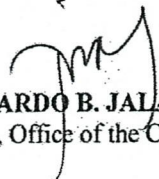
Secretary, Department of National Defense



MARTIN M. ANDANAR
Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office



MICHAEL P. ONG
Senior Deputy Executive Secretary, Office of the Executive Secretary



RICARDO B. JALAD
Administrator, Office of the Civil Defense

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


RESOLUTION NO. 13

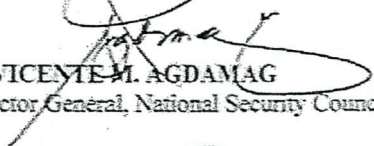
Series of 2020

March 17, 2020


ARCHIE F. GAMBOA
Chief, Philippine National Police


FELIMON T. SANTOS, JR.
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines


RONNIE G. GAVAN
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Philippine Coast Guard


VICENTE M. AGDAMAG
Deputy Director General, National Security Council


JESUS L. R. MATEO
Undersecretary, Department of Education


BAYANI H. AGABIN
Undersecretary, Department of Finance


ADORACION M. NAVARRO
Undersecretary, National Economic and Development Authority

DARREN L. SALIPSIP
Assistant Secretary, Office of the Chief Presidential Legal Counsel



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DOH - DFA - DILG - DOJ - DOLE - DOT - DOTr - DICT
**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

RESOLUTION NO. 14

Series of 2020

March 20, 2020

**RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION**

WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922 s. 2020, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the entire Philippines, and prompting a whole-of-government approach in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on 12 March 2020, the President, upon recommendation by the IATF, raised the Code Alert Level for COVID-19 to Code Red Sublevel Two, and directed the imposition of Stringent Social Distancing Measures in the National Capital Region (NCR) for thirty (30) days;

WHEREAS, on 16 March 2020, to halt the spread of COVID-19 to other regions of the country, the President placed all regions in Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine;

WHEREAS, on the same date, to further capacitate Local Government Units in their preparation and response efforts, the President issued Proclamation No. 929 s. 2020, declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines for a period of six (6) months;

WHEREAS, on 19 March 2020, an IATF Technical Working Group was convened to streamline existing guidelines of the IATF in implementing the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon.

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

- A. Paragraph B (3) of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease Resolution No. 13 s. 2020 is hereby amended to include the accommodation of distressed Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW), to wit:

“d. Distressed OFWs, subject to guidelines issued by the Overseas Welfare Workers Administration (OWWA) in coordination with the

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Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Tourism (DOT) and the Department of Health (DOH).”

For this purpose, OWWA is hereby authorized to issue the certifications it may deem appropriate to the concerned OFWs.

B. Paragraph D of IATF Resolution No. 12 s. 2020 is hereby repealed. The guidelines relative to inbound travelers and the issuance of visas shall be as follows:

1. Visa issuance to all foreign nationals is suspended with immediate effect;
2. Visa-free privileges based on Visa Waiver Agreements, those under Executive Order 408, s.1960, holders of Hong Kong and Macau SAR passports, Macau-Portuguese passports and British National Overseas passports are also suspended effective 22 March 2020;
3. Foreign spouses and children of Filipinos are exempted from the above suspension; and
4. Foreign nationals with visas previously issued by Foreign Service Posts (FSPs) will not be allowed entry into the country starting 22 March 2020, except:
 - a. Accredited Foreign Government and International Organization officials and their dependents; and
 - b. Foreign spouses and children of Filipino nationals whose visas will remain valid and will be honored when entering the country even after said date.

Accordingly, the DFA shall issue the necessary implementing circular relative to the foregoing.

C. To avert any threat of shortage of basic food, essential hygienic products and medical products, the IATF reaffirms its earlier resolution to ensure the unimpeded movement of all types of cargo (food and non-food), and allow the passage of personnel of business establishments permitted to operate during the Enhanced Community Quarantine, subject to the presentation of proof of employment, and residence.

The policy on the unhampered flow of Cargoes is a nationwide policy that must be strictly followed in all LGUs nationwide, following the directive of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on 19 March 2020.

D. The deadline given to BPOs and export oriented establishments (including those inside economic zones), to prepare for their respective alternative work arrangements, such as the setting of the temporary accommodations for their workers, the need to shuttle

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employees, the transfer of necessary equipment to facilitate work from home arrangements, shall be extended until 11:59 PM of 22 March.

E. The period for the issuance of the IATF Accredited IDs is hereby extended until 26 March 2020. Accordingly, holders of *bona fide* IDs issued by exempted establishments or offices shall continue to be honored by law enforcement agencies so as to exempt the bearers thereof from the strict home quarantine requirements.

F. Exemptions to the implementation of Enhanced Community Quarantine previously granted to employees of media establishments are hereby extended until 26 March 2020; *Provided*, that the number of exempted employees shall be limited to fifty (50%) percent of their total permanent staff complement as registered under the Department of Labor and Employment; *Provided further*, that such maximum limit includes reporters and other field employees as may be accredited by the PCOO; *Provided further*, that such maximum will be subject to regular assessment and review by the IATF.

G. Paragraph D of Resolution No. 13 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“D. The IATF hereby organizes the Response Cluster and Incident Management Team (IMT) at the National, Regional and Local levels. The Department of Health (DOH) shall be the overall lead for the Response Clusters while the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) will be the overall lead for the IMTs. The National IATF, Response Cluster and IMT will locate their headquarters at the AFP Commissioned Officers Clubhouse (AFP-COC), Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Moreover, the regional Inter-Agency Task Groups for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATG-MEID) are hereby organized in all regions headed by the Regional Directors of the DOH.”

H. All LGUs must first coordinate with DOH prior to acquiring, purchasing or utilizing testing kits within their respective territorial jurisdictions;

I. Further, pursuant to the authority granted to the IATF under the Memorandum dated 16 March 2020 issued by the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES), the following amendments or modifications to the existing guidelines on Enhanced Community Quarantine are hereby adopted:

1. **Providing exemptions from the implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine to the following persons but with strict compliance to skeleton-workforce arrangement and strict social distancing:**

- a. Members of Congress and their Chiefs of Staff;
- b. Secretaries, Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries, and Bureau Directors of the different government agencies under the Executive Branch;
- c. Ombudsman and their Deputy Ombudsmen;



- d. Justices of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Tax Appeals and the Sandiganbayan, as well as their respective skeleton-workforce;
- e. Judges of Regional, Metropolitan, and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts and Prosecutors, as well as their respective skeleton-workforce;
- f. Local Chief Executives;

The close-in staff necessary to or connected to the movement of the above-enumerated are likewise granted the exemption.

- g. At most three (3) personnel operating cargo vehicles and delivery service vehicles for food, drinking water, medicine, and other basic necessities, with or without load;
- h. Employees of:
 - 1. Manufacturing and Processing Plants of Basic Food Products, Essential Products, Medicine and Medical Supplies:
 - a. All Food
 - b. Essential and Hygiene Products
 - i. Soap and detergents
 - ii. Diapers, feminine hygiene products, tissue, wipes/and toilet papers
 - iii. Disinfectants
 - c. Medicines and Vitamins
 - d. Medical Products, such as:
 - i. PPEs
 - ii. Masks, gloves
 - iii. Others
 - 2. Retail Establishments (Groceries, Supermarkets, Hypermarkets, Convenience Stores, Public Markets, Pharmacies and Drug Stores)
 - 3. Logistics Service Providers (Cargo Handling, Warehousing, Trucking, Freight Forwarding, and Shipping Line)
 - 4. Hospitals and Medical Clinics
 - 5. Food Preparations and Water Refilling Stations only for take-away and delivery consistent with Paragraph D (11) of IATF Resolution No. 13, s.2020

6. Delivery Services, whether in-house or outsourced, Transporting only Food, Water, Medicine or other Basic Necessities
7. Banks and Capital Markets, per Section 5 of IATF Resolution No. 13 dated March 17, 2020
8. Power, Energy, Water, IT and Telecommunications Supplies and Facilities, Waste Disposal Services
9. Export and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Companies pursuant to section D hereof.
10. Airline and aircraft maintenance employees, including pilot and crew, and ship captain and crew.
11. Media establishments; *Provided*, that the number of exempted employees be limited to but fifty (50%) percent of their total permanent staff complement as registered under the DOLE; *Provided further*, that such maximum limit includes reporters and other field employees as may be accredited by the PCOO;
12. Hotels that have bookings as of 17 March 2020;
13. Energy companies and their third-party contractors, including such employees involved in electric transmission and distribution, electric power plant and line maintenance, as well as those involved in exploration, operations, trading and delivery of coal, oil or any kind of fuel used to produce electricity; and
14. Under "Telecommunication utilities", the Telecommunications-related work force, *i.e.*, Telecommunications companies (TelCos), Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Cable TV Providers (CATV), including those who perform indirect services such as the security, technical, sales and other support personnel, as well as employees of their third-party contractors doing sales, installation, maintenance and repair works.
 - i. Pastors, priests, imams or such other religious ministers whose movement shall be related to the conduct of necrological or funeral rites; and
 - j. Heads of Mission or designated Foreign Mission Representatives, including a limited number of their personnel or staff.

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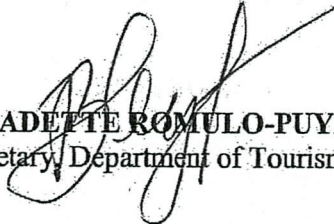
2. No further exemptions shall be granted by 23 March 2020.

APPROVED during the **15th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting**, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, this **20th of March 2020** at the Tejeros Hall Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club House, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.



EDUARDO M. AÑO

Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government



BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Secretary, Department of Tourism



SILVESTRE H. BELLO III

Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment



GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

Secretary, Department of Information and Communications Technology

GERARDO V. BAYUGO

Undersecretary, Department of Health



DEO I. MARCO

Undersecretary, Department of Justice



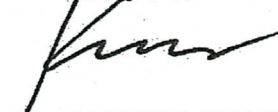
BRIGIDO D. DULAY

Undersecretary, Department of Foreign Affairs

ARTEMIO U. TUAZON, JR.

Undersecretary, Department of Transportation

Conforme:




KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES
Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat of the Philippines

DELFIN N. LORENZANA
Secretary, Department of National Defense

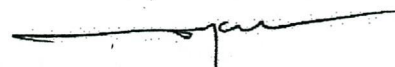


RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry

ROLANDO D. BAUTISTA
Secretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development

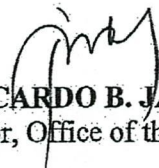


WILLIAM D. DAR
Secretary, Department of Agriculture



ROY A. CIMATU
Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

JOSE RUPERTINO MARTIN M. ANDANAR
Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office



RICARDO B. JALAD
Administrator, Office of the Civil Defense

ARCHIE FRANCISCO F. GAMBOA
Chief, Philippine National Police

FELIMON T. SANTOS, JR.
Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines

WILLIAM U. ISAGA
Chief of Coast Guard Staff, Philippine Coast Guard

JESUS R. MATEO
Undersecretary, Department of Education

BAYANI H. AGABIN
Undersecretary, Department of Finance

MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA
Undersecretary, National Economic and Development Authority

ANTONIO JOSELITO G. LAMBINO II
Assistant Secretary, Department of Finance

DARREN L. SALIPSIP
Assistant Secretary, Office of the Chief Presidential Legal Counsel

Inter-Agency Task Force for COVID-19

Additional Guidelines for the Enhanced Community Quarantine

March 30, 2020

Resolution No. 16

- A. Ayon sa direktiba ng DILG, inaatasan ang lahat ng mga LGU, kasama ang Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), at mga GOCC na tukuyin and mga pasilidad na maaring pansamantalang gamitin bilang isolation o quarantine facilities.

Inaatasan and DOT at ibang mga ahensya na makipagtulungan sa mga awtoridad sa pagtukoy ng mga pasilidad na pwedeng gamitin bilang isolation o quarantine centers.

Ang mga natukoy na pasilidad ay dapat ipagbigay-alam sa NTF ng COVID-19 at Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics. Ang mga pasilidad na ito ay gagamitin para sa mga PUI at mga nag-positibo sa COVID-19 na may mild na sintomas.

Inaatasan ang DPWH na magsagawa ng mga site inspections sa mga naturang pasilidad. Kaugnay nito, magbibigay ang DPWH ng accreditation sa mga manggagawa para sa konstruksyon. Ang mga accredited na manggagawa ay exempted sa strict home quarantine.

- B. Ang Joint Memorandum Circular ng DILG, DBM, DOLE, DSWD, DA, DTI at DOF para sa Special Guidelines sa pagbibigay ng Social Amelioration Measures ay inaprubahan ng IATF. Ang iba't ibang ahensya at mga LGU ay inaatasang magbigay ng kani-kanilang beneficiary databases sa DSWD at DOF. Ang DSWD ang mangangasiwa sa database ng COVID-19 Social Amelioration Program ng Gobyerno.

- C. Ang mga negosyong kaugnay sa produksyon, pagproseso, at pag-distribute ng mga pagkain ay maaring magpatuloy sa operasyon na may hindi hihigit sa 50% ng kanilang manggagawa, maliban na lang kung ang pangangailangan para sa suplay ng naturang pagkain ay mas mataas, alinsunod sa pahintulot ng DTI at pagpapatupad ng social distancing measures.

Alinsunod sa direktibang ito, pinapaalalanan ang LGU at mga Law Enforcement Agencies na payagan ang mga manggagawa na pumunta sa kani-kanilang mga trabaho. Kaugnay din dito, hinihikayat ang mga negosyo na magbigay ng mga on-site accommodation para sa kanilang mga manggagawa.

- D. Upang masiguro ang suplay ng pangunahing pangangailangan, inaatasan ng IATF ang importers, consignees, truckers, shipping lines at ibang regulators (Bureau of Customs, Philippine Ports Authority, DTI at DA) na agad aksyunan at tanggalin ang mga hadlang o sagabal sa daloy ng suplay ng pagkain.
- E. Inaprubahan ang Rapid Pass System (RPS) at ginawa ang Technical Working Group na papamunuan ng DICT at kinabibilangan ng DOST at iba pang ahensya, para maglunsad ng mga patnubay sa implementasyon ng nasabing RPS.
- F. Nararapat na hingan ng consent o pahintulot ang mga pasyente kaugnay sa pagbibigay ng kanilang identidad o pagkakakilanlan.
- G. Inaprubahan ang mga pagbabago sa NTF organizational structure kung saan:
- a. Pamumunuan ng Chief Implementer ng National Policy para sa COVID-19 na si Carlito Galvez, Jr. ang National Incident Command.
 - b. Ang DICT ay kabilang na sa Task Group on Strategic Communications.
 - c. Ang DA, Philippine Coast Guard, at Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources ay kabilang na sa Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics.
 - d. Ang mga Pinuno ng mga sumusunod na Opisina ang inatasang mamuno sa mga Task Groups ng NTF:
 - i. Department of Health para sa Task Group on Response Operations;
 - ii. Department of Social Welfare and Development para sa Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics; at
 - iii. Office of the Cabinet Secretary para sa Task Group on Strategic Communications.
- Kaugnay nito, inaprubahan at pinagtibay ang Regional Task Force COVID-19 at ang Local Task Force COVID-19 organizational structures.
- H. Binuo ang IATF Technical Working Group for Anticipatory and Forward Planning. Ito ay pamumunuan ng National Economic Development Authority, at kinabibilangan ng DA, DTI, DOH, at DedEd.
- I. Inaprubahan ang mga sumusunod na rekomendasyon ng DA:
- a. Ang DA, DOF, at DTI ay makikipagtulungan sa Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) at hihikayatin ito na huwag magpataw ng trade restrictive measures upang bigyang prayoridad ang mga umiiral na supply contracts.
 - b. Kung kinakailangan, mag-iimport ng 300,000 metric tons na bigas mula sa mga ASEAN trading partners ng bansa.
 - c. Muling pinapalalalahanan ang mga LGU sa mga sumusunod na direktibang nakasaad sa Resolution No. 15 ng IATF

- i. Pinapayagan ang pagsasaka at pangingisda;
- ii. Siguraduhin ang patuloy na suplay ng mga materyales at kagamitan para sa agrikultura; at
- iii. Ang Local Price Coordination Council ay inaatasang magmonitor ng presyo ng mga produktong agricultural.

d. Kinakailangan ang Php 31 Billion na pondo para sa mga programang Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat (ALPAS) Contra sa COVID-19 o Plant, Plant, Plant Program (4Ps) upang siguraduhin ang suplay ng pagkain sa bansa.

J. Muling binago ang IATF Resolution No. 13 Section B(1):

“Ang mga OFW at mga stranded na dayuhan ay papayagan umalis sa kahit anong port sa Luzon” Gayunpaman,

- i. Ang mga batas at travel restrictions ng mga bansa sa sinasakupan nito ang mananaig.
- ii. Isa lang ang maaring sumama sa mga pasahero na paalis ng bansa.
- iii. Ang Overseas Workers Welfare Administration ay inaatasang magbigay ng tulong pang-transportasyon para sa mga OFW na papaalis ng bansa.

Kaugnay nito, pinagtibay ng IATF ang mga direktiba ng Department of Transportation para sa mabilis at maayos na proseso ng pag-alis ng mga natitirang dayuhan sa bansa hanggang sa ika-27 ng Marso 2020.

K. Ang OWWA ay makikipagtulungan sa DOTr, PNP, at NDRRMC sa pangangasiwa para sa mga papaalis na OFW.

L. Ang DBM ay kabilang na sa IATF.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 18

Series of 2020

April 1, 2020

**RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION**

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;

WHEREAS, on 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 until April 14, 2020;

WHEREAS, on the same date, to provide the necessary flexibility for government agencies and Local Government Units (LGUs) to utilize appropriate emergency funds for disaster response, the President declared a country-wide State of Calamity through Proclamation No. 929;

WHEREAS, 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 Technical Working Group tasked to define parameters in assessing recent developments in the the Philippine COVID-19 situation;

WHEREAS, as of April 1, 2020, there are two thousand three hundred and eleven (2,311) confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines.

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

- A. Pursuant to the policy of allowing the unhampered movement of all cargoes, LGUs and local health units (LHUs) are hereby enjoined not to issue orders that run counter to said directive, such as, but not limited to, requiring asymptomatic drivers and crews of cargo or service delivery vehicles to undergo mandatory fourteen (14)-day home quarantine. For this purpose, Paragraph I(g) of IATF Resolution No. 14, series of 2020, exempting such vehicles, with or without load, with not more than three (3) personnel onboard, is reaffirmed. *Provided*, that strict social distancing measures must be strictly observed, which may include, if necessary, the putting up of additional safe and humane seats or space in the vehicles;



RESOLUTION NO. 18

Series of 2020

April 1, 2020

- B. In accordance with initial directive of the IATF under Paragraph (G) of Resolution No. 17, series of 2020, the sub-technical working group (TWG) chaired by the Department of Health (DOH) is hereby directed to finalize the analytical model for deciding on the eventual total or partial lifting, or the possible extension or expansion of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon. Its membership shall consist of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), including technical experts, the academe, and such other representatives from the health, economic, and security sectors as may be determined by the DOH. *Provided*, that recommendations by the sub-TWG shall be subject to approval, amendment, or modification by the IATF;
- C. The Interim Guidelines on the Repatriation of Overseas Filipinos Working in Cruise Ships as proposed by the DOH is hereby approved;
- D. Without prejudice to the subsequent approval, amendment, or modification by the IATF, the Bureau of Quarantine is likewise directed to update the existing algorithm for the triage of patients with possible COVID-19 infection in ports of entry, which shall apply to land-based Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who may be repatriated through the efforts of the national government;
- E. A sub-TWG composed of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the DOH is directed to convene to formulate guidelines to manage and ensure the welfare of repatriated Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs);
- F. LGUs are hereby strongly enjoined to allow the unhampered transit of OFWs who have been issued DOH or LGU certificate of completion of 14-day facility-based quarantine, or those who may be required by the DOH or LGUs to undergo a mandatory 14-day home quarantine;
- G. The New Clark City Athlete's Village shall continue to be designated as a temporary quarantine facility;
- H. Pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 11469 providing for a minimum of thirty (30)-day grace period on residential rents, a thirty (30)-day grace period is likewise hereby extended to commercial rents falling due upon micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) within the period of the ECQ, without



RESOLUTION NO. 18

Series of 2020

April 1, 2020

incurring interests, penalties, fees, and other charges. The Department of Trade and Industry is hereby authorized to issue the necessary guidelines to implement this directive;

- I. Supermarkets, public and private wet markets, grocery stores, agri-fishery supply stores, pharmacies, drug stores, and other retail establishments engaged in the business of selling basic necessities are strongly encouraged to extend their store operations to a maximum of twelve (12) hours. LGUs are directed to allow such establishments to operate pursuant to the foregoing. *Provided that in the operation of wet markets, LGUs are encouraged to adopt reasonable schemes to ensure compliance with strict social distancing measures, such as, but not limited to, providing for specific daily schedules per sector, barangay, or purok, as the case may be.*
- J. For areas placed under ECQ, the IATF hereby adopts the policy of mandatory wearing by all residents of face masks, earloop masks, indigenous, reusable or do-it-yourself masks, face shields, handkerchiefs, or such other protective equipment that can effectively lessen the transmission of COVID-19, whenever allowed to go out of their residences pursuant to existing guidelines issued by the national government. Concerned LGUs are hereby enjoined to issue the necessary executive order or ordinance to that effect, and impose such penalties as may be appropriate.
- K. The Emergency Subsidy Program as recommended by the IATF TWG on Social Amelioration headed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is hereby approved. Such program shall provide outright cash benefits for an estimated eighteen (18) million beneficiary households, ranging from P5,000 to P8,000 based on regional thresholds as promulgated by the DSWD, DOLE, DILG, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and the Department of Finance (DOF) through Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2020; and
- L. The implementation plan of the National Task Force COVID-19 Task Group on Resource Management and Logistics as presented and revised is hereby approved. Said Task Group is directed to include the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC), the Procurement Service of the DBM, the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB), the National Food Authority (NFA), and the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) in its membership, as well as in such sub-task groups as may be appropriate;