



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

**RESOLUTION NO. 98**

Series of 2021  
February 04, 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**, Memorandums 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 February 03, 2021, there are a total of Thirty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Five (31,455) active COVID-19 cases in the Philippines;

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

- A. The IATF adopts the Resolution of the Interim National Immunization Technical Advisory Group (iNITAG) and DOH Technical Advisory Group (DOH-TAG), with the following key points:



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1. The prioritization framework for national, local, and private distribution;
2. The prioritization criteria for Priority Group A1;
3. The recommendations on the criteria for allocation of the first batch of Pfizer BioNTech vaccines;
4. The recommendations on health profiling, screening, and informed consent in the patient pathway; and
5. Recommendations on vaccination cards.

Anent this, the National Task Force Against COVID-19, through its Vaccine Cluster Task Group on COVID-19 Immunization Program is hereby directed to issue appropriate guidelines based on the INITAG and the TAG resolution.

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

1. Beginning February 16, 2021, the following shall be included/added to the list of foreign nationals allowed to enter the Philippines:

- a. Those with visas issued as of March 20, 2020, and still valid and existing at the time of entry, and who were not permitted to enter the country under previous IATF resolutions; and
- b. Holders of valid and existing Special Resident and Retirees Visa (SRRV) and Section 9(A) visas, provided they present an entry exemption document to the Bureau of Immigration upon arrival.

The foregoing is without prejudice to immigration laws, rules, and regulations such that the Commissioner of Immigration shall have the exclusive prerogative to decide on waiver or recall of exclusion orders for all foreign nationals authorized entry under relevant IATF resolutions, subject to regular reporting to the IATF Secretariat at the end of each calendar month.

2. The entry of all persons allowed to enter the Philippines under relevant IATF resolutions shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - a. With pre-booked accommodation for at least six (6) nights in an accredited quarantine hotel/facility;



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- b. Subject to COVID-19 testing at the quarantine hotel/facility on the 6th day from date of arrival; and
- c. Subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry.

For this purpose, the protocol requiring COVID-19 testing on the sixth day shall be reckoned from the date of arrival as the first day.

- 3. The request of Baguio City for its hotels and other accommodation establishments to accommodate travelers for leisure purposes while under a General Community Quarantine Classification, subject to its continued strict observance of health and safety protocols and contact tracing measures is granted;

**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 98th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 4th of February 2020 *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 Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;
2. I am the interim OIC-Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases created under Executive Order No. 168, series of 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 a regular meeting of the IATF, the IATF Resolution No. 98 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 4th day of February 2021, Manila.

  
**ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE**  
*OIC-Head of the Secretariat, IATF*  
Assistant Secretary of Health