RESOLUTION NO. 70
Series of 2020
September 10, 2020

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 March 30, 2020, to develop a science-based approach in determining the risk-based classification of areas in the country, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) convened a sub-Technical Working Group tasked to develop the LGU Epidemic Response Framework and to define parameters in assessing recent developments in the Philippine COVID-19 situation;

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2020, the Office of the Executive Secretary issued Executive Order (E.O.) 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 August 27, 2020, the IATF adopted major changes in the COVID-19 risk-classification method for Provinces, Highly Urbanized Cities, and Independent Component Cities, use of new parameters for escalation and de-escalation of community quarantine classification, revised procedure for reporting and recommendations for risk classifications, and standardization of requirements for provinces, HUCs, and ICCs applying for de-escalation from GCQ to MGCQ;

WHEREAS, as of September 10, 2020, there are total of Fifty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Three (58,823) 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 recommendations of the Department of Information and Communications Technology are adopted, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. Pursuant to the reaffirmed policy on maximizing the use of StaySafe.PH as the official social-distancing, health-condition-reporting, and contact-tracing system that will assist in the government’s response to COVID-19, the agreements made in accordance with IATF Resolution No. 45 issued on June 10, 2020 are hereby amended as follows:

i. Upon finalization of the memorandum of agreement or such other deed or agreement entered into by MultiSys Technology Corporation (MultiSys) and the
Department of Health (DOH), the DOH shall be the designated personal information controller (PIC);

ii. The GPS-function for contact tracers shall be allowed to be enabled; and

iii. All other agreements entered into shall remain valid and binding.

For this purpose, the training, integration, and the use of StaySafe.PH and the COVID-19 Data Repository System (CDRS) shall be incorporated in the country’s COVID-19 response, particularly, in the response of local government units.

2. The RapidPass Technical Working Group created pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 16 issued on March 27, 2020, is directed to reconvene and design the policies and procedures of an Enhanced RapidPass System. For this purpose, this Enhanced RapidPass TWG shall be chaired by the DICT with the Department of Science and Technology, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of National Defense, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, and such other agencies as may be necessary, as members.

B. The standardization of reporting and accountabilities for management of COVID-19 cases and reporting in DOH information systems are hereby approved, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. COVID-19 cases shall be reported and managed based on their current address at the time of consult, irrespective of their permanent address;

2. Locally Stranded Individuals shall be tagged, reported, and managed by the receiving LGU, and the sending LGU shall be informed to assist in contact tracing;

3. In instances wherein COVID-19 cases reside in more than one current addresses, cases shall be reported and managed in the address where the case is currently isolated or quarantined;

4. Cases with no full address shall be reported as based on the location of the Disease Reporting Unit (DRUs), and such information shall be updated by the DRU during case management;

5. Cases shall be automatically tagged in official information systems based on the above-mentioned principles. In instances where there is conflict in reporting, the LGU shall coordinate with the Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (RESU) or the Department of Health to resolve official reporting of cases;
6. All DRUs shall ensure timely updating of patient information in DOH information systems, especially the updating of current address, health status (asymptomatic, mild, moderate, severe, or critical) and outcome (active, death, recovery) of cases by health facilities and LGU, and updating of test results and status as confirmed cases by the laboratory; and

7. The DILG shall ensure compliance of LGUs to tagging, reporting, and management of COVID-19 cases consistent with DOH policies.

All responsible offices, persons, or entities are hereby mandated to abide by the foregoing pursuant to Republic Act No. 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and subject to the penalties therein provided, as well as to other administrative issuances promulgated by the DOH in relation thereto.

C. The decisions of the IATF Technical Working Group are hereby ratified, the specifics of which are as follows:

1. The Antigen Screening Protocol for Domestic Air Travel as recommended by the Department of Transportation is provisionally adopted subject to the approval of the use of antigen for travel purposes and subject to the alignment with the final DOH protocols. For this purpose, DOH is hereby directed to incorporate the suppletory use of antigen testing for all domestic travel;

2. The IATF endorses the conduct of the Measles-Rubella and Oral Polio Vaccine Supplemental Immunization Activities of the DOH. For this purpose, health personnel shall be allowed to undertake immunization activities in relation thereto regardless of community quarantine status in the place where the same shall be conducted. Local Government Units are hereby strongly enjoined to fully support the immunization activity to ensure successful interruption of measles and polio transmissions;

3. Paragraph 10, Section [4] Guidelines for Areas Under General Community Quarantine of the Omnibus Guidelines for the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines is amended as follows:

   10. No hotels or accommodation establishments shall be allowed to operate, except those accommodating the following:
a. For guests who have existing booking accommodations for foreigners as of 17 March 2020 for Luzon and 01 May 2020 for other areas;
b. Guests who have existing long-term bookings;
c. Distressed OFWs and stranded Filipinos or foreign nationals;
d. Repatriated OFWs in compliance with approved quarantine protocols;
e. Non-OFWs who may be required to undergo mandatory facility-based quarantine;
f. Healthcare workers and other employees from exempted establishments under these Omnibus Guidelines and applicable Memoranda from the Executive Secretary; and
g. Markets of specialized programs of the Department of Tourism

Provided that accommodation establishments may operate only upon the issuance of a Certificate of Authority to operate by the DOT; Provided further, that in all of the foregoing, hotel operations shall be limited to the provision of basic accommodation services to guests through an in-house skeleton workforce. The operation of ancillary establishments within the premises, such as restaurants, cafes, bars, gyms, spas, and the like, shall be governed by these Omnibus Guidelines and other issuances of the relevant national agencies.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Chairperson and/or the Co-Chairperson shall be duly authorized to sign for and on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force.

APPROVED during the 70th Inter-Agency Task Force Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this 10th of September 2020 via video conference.

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

This is to certify that:

1. I am presently an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Health;

2. I am the designated 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 the Regular Meeting of the IATF held on 10 September 2020 via teleconference during which a quorum was present and acted throughout, IATF Resolution No. 70 was unanimously approved and adopted;

6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles upon 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 10th day of September 2020, Manila.

KENNETH G. RONQUILLO, MD, MPH
Assistant Secretary, Department of Health
Secretariat Head, IATF