

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
http://www.dlg.gov.ph

MAR 20 2020

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO :

ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY MEMBERS AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRPERSONS, DII

SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRPERSONS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, BARMM MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CHIEF, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE,

AND OTHER CONCERNED

SUBJECT

STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE GUIDELINES ON THE STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE

PHILIPPINES AND THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY

QUARANTINE IN LUZON

Relative to the ongoing threat of COVID-19, the Office of the President has issued Proclamation No. 922 Series of 2020 declaring a state of public health emergency throughout the Philippines, and Memorandum from the Executive Secretary dated March 16, 2020 providing for the implementation of the enhanced community quarantine in Luzon.

Provided these issuances, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), this Department, and other National Government Agencies (NGAs) issued various advisories and guidelines on the implementation of the precepts of the proclamation and the memorandum. However, despite the various directives, the efforts of the local government units (LGUs) need to be harmonized with the general intent of the directives.

Hence, all LGUs are strictly enjoined to use the guidelines and advisories as pillars in implementing local programs and activities relative to the quarantine. The LGUs, in close coordination with the Philippine National Police (PNP), are advised to adhere to the guidelines and to not overextend its implementation, nor deliberately leave out its explicit provisions.

Both are reminded to respect the exemptions of the provided in the guidelines, especially considering that these were provided for in order to supply the community and serve as its life blood during these trying times.

Emphasis shall be made on allowing an unhampered or unimpeded passage of the following in the designated control or check points:

- Health and service personnel in LGU health facilities; medical professionals, hospital and administrative staff and aides from public and private facilities; and those medical frontliners previously authorized by the Department of Health (DOH);
- All types of cargoes (food and non-food) within, to, and from the entire Luzon, per Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Memorandum Circular No. 20-06, series of 2020;
- Staff or employees, and the skeletal workforce of covered enterprises, per the same above-cited DTI issuance, to wit:
  - Manufacturing of food, essential and hygiene products, medicines and vitamins, and medical products, to include the Distribution and Logistics to support manufacturing activities, including cargo handling, warehousing, trucking, and port operations;
  - b. Retail establishments (groceries, supermarkets, hypermarkets, convenience stores, pharmacies, and drug stores); and
  - Export and business process outsourcing (BPO) companies (subject to pertinent guidelines).

The PNP is directed to be vigilant in protecting and preserving peace and order, the LGUs o maintain health and the general welfare of its constituents, and both to work together to achieve the general intent of the enhanced community quarantine.

As a matter of clarification, for now, enhanced community quarantine is in effect only in Luzon, while Visayas and Mindanao shall still adhere to the state of public health emergency under the Presidential Proclamation.

The DILG Regional Directors and BARMM Minister for Local Government are directed to monitor LGUs within their jurisdictions and call upon LGUs who shall either fail to implement the directives on COVID-19, or to overextend the application of its provisions to the detriment of the public good.

For the immediate compliance of all concerned.

EDUARDO MI AÑO Secretary