Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Reproduction No. 40 s. 2022

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ZENIA G. MOSTOLES, EdD, CESO V Schools Division Superintendent



Republic of the Philippines

DepEd - SDO of Bulacan

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REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. ____, s. 2022

IMPLEMENTATION OF LATF RESOLUTION NO. 169, S. 2022

To : Schools Division Superintendents

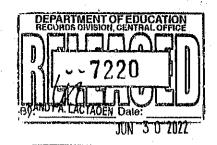
- 1. Please find attached copy of the Memorandum dated June 28, 2022 of Undersecretary Atty. Nepomuceno A. Malaluan, Officer-In-Charge, with the subject, "Concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing of personnel of the Department of Education."
- 2. In the said Memorandum, the Central Office directed Regional Directors to implement IATF Resolution No. 169 dated June 27, 2022 as the latest directive of the IATF on the matter, and accordingly address issues and concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing relative to onsite work with consideration to the said Resolution.
- 3. In this regard, all Schools Division Superintendents are likewise advised to implement the same Resolution and accordingly address issues and concerns that may be raised by teachers and employees within your jurisdiction.
- 4. Attached is a copy of IATF Resolution No. 169, s. 2022 dated June 27, 2022, for ready reference.
- 5. For information, guidance and compliance.

MAY B. ECLAR, PhD, CESO III
Regional Director

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Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO

Regional Directors

All others concerned

FROM

ATTY. NEPOMUCENO A. MALALUAN

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Undersecretary Officer-in-Charge

SUBJECT

Concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing of personnel

of the Department of Education

DATE

June 28, 2022

Various concerns raised by some personnel regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and testing requirements in relation to onsite work under IATF Resolution Nos. 148-B and 149, issued in November 2021, have been brought to the attention of the Central Office.

Acting on these concerns, the Department of Education (DepEd) wrote to the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), referring these concerns emanating from implementation of its Resolutions.

In response, the IATF issued the attached Resolution No. 169, dated June 27, 2022, which was uploaded to the online Official Gazette on June 28, 2022. Other concerns which had been raised by DepEd, but may not be addressed by IATF Resolution No. 169, are recommended for future consideration of the IATF.

Given this development, the Regional Directors are directed to implement IATF Resolution No. 169 as the latest directive of the IATF on the matter, and accordingly address letters and correspondences pertaining to concerns on COVID-19 vaccination and testing relative to onsite work, with consideration of said Resolution. For this purpose, all such letters and correspondences forwarded to the Central Office shall be returned to the respective Regional

Directors for proper action. The Office of the Director, Legal Service, through Atty. Rhoan G.L. Orebia, Director IV, shall facilitate the prompt return of such letters, assisted by the Legal Division, through Atty. Rodel James R. Pulma, Chief.

With respect to face-to-face classes and vaccination, however, Office Order 00-OSEC-2022-003, dated February 2, 2022, entitled "Interim Guidelines on the Expansion of Limited Face-to-Face Classes" remains in force.

For guidance and compliance.



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

RESOLUTION NO. 169

Senies of 2022 June 27, 2022

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that flie Sinte shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and install health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2(c) of Executive Order No. 158 (s.2014) mandates the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to educate the public on emerging infectious diseases and its prevention, control and management to promote positive health behaviors, and address public fear and anxiety through the conduct of a nationwide EID awareness campaign;

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, recognizing that the COVID-19 pandance requires the mobilization of a whole-of-government response. President Rudrigo Roa Duteste declared a State of Public Health Emergency in the entire Philippines through Proclamation No. 922. The declared State of Calamity was extended on 16 September 2021 for one year through Proclamation No. 1021 s.2020, and on September 10, 2021, was further extended until September 12, 2022, unless carlier lifted or extended as chromatances may warrant, through Proclamation No. 1218 (s.2021).

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines that have been granted with Emergency Was Authorization (EUA) by the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (EUA) are considered safe and effective, and, based on current available evidence, have been shown to (I) prevent symptomatic infection (2) prevent severe infection and (3) prevent transmission;

WHEREAS, following the Enhanced Prevent - Detect - Isolate - Freat - Reintografe. - Vaccinate Strategy of the National Task Porce Against COVID-19, its Vaccine Cluster is currently implementing the National COVID-19 immunization Program that sims to provide added protection to all eligible Filipinos from COVID-19:

WHEREAS, the National COVID-19 immunization Program has been opened to the general public nationwide as provided for under IATF Resolution No. 141 (\$2021). Further, the IATF approved the recommended strategy for the Vaccination Rollout for the Rest of the Pedianic Population (ROPP) pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 146 (\$2021);

WHEREAS, according to the National COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard of the Department of Health, as of 26 June 2022, 155,196,264 COVID-19 vaccine doses have already



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

been administered, broken down as follows: 68,057,339 first dose administered, 70,277,898 complete dose administered, 14,861,027 booster doses administered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, upon the recommendation of the IATF Technical Advisory Group and the IATF Technical Working Group, the IATF hereby approves the following:

1. Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 148-B s. 2021 dated 11 November 2021 is hereby amended as follows:

"A. In areas where there are sufficient supplies of COVID-19 vaccines as determined by the National Vaccines Operation Center (NVOC), all establishments and employers in the public and private sector shall require their eligible employees who are tasked to do on-site work to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Eligible employees who remain to be unvaccinated may not be terminated solely by reason thereof. However, they shall be required to undergo RT-PCR tests <u>once every two (2) weeks</u>, or weekly antigen tests for purposes of on-site work.

However, for public sector employees, government agencies, instrumentalities, including local government units may cover the costs of the RT-PCR or antigen tests to be administered, subject to availability of funds, and civil service, accounting and auditing rules and regulations."

- 2. Employees with recent COVID-19 infection within ninety (90) days, and those with alternative working arrangements that do not require on-site reporting may be exempted from the testing requirements under Section 1.
- 3. The testing requirements under Section 1 shall be waived for areas under Alert Level 1 classification, subject to the implementation of clinical-based management, including symptomatic testing. However, the testing requirements under Section 1 shall be reinstated in areas under Alert Level 2 classification or higher.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the provisions of IATF Resolution No. 149 in relation to IATF Resolution No. 148-B, and all other Resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby modified accordingly.



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RESOLVED FINALLY, 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 169th Inter-Agency Task Force Mosting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held this June 27, 2022, at Diamond Hotel Philippines, Marate, Manila.

FRANCISCO T/DUQUE III Secretary, Department of Health

IATF Charperson

DELEIN'N LORENZANA

Secretary, Department of National Defense

NTP Chairperson

JATF Co-Champerson



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

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that:

- 1. I am presently an OIC-Underscoretary of the Department of Health;
- I am the Head of the Secretagiat of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the Management of Emerging Infectious Discases created under Executive Circles No. 168. (s.2014) and chaired by the Department of Health (DOFF);
- 3. The IATF Secretarint holds office in the DOH Main Office, San Lazaro Compound, Tayuman, Sta. Cruz, Manila;
- 4. I am the custodian of the records of the LATF; including the Minutes of Meetings and Resolutions;
- 5. IATF Resolution No. 169 was manimously approved and adopted;
- 6. The foregoing resolution has been signed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and for Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana upon the authority of the IATE 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 2211 day of June 2022, Manile.

ATTY. CHARADE B. NIERCARO GRANDE

Head Secretariat, IAIF