




Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ISABELA
City of Ilagan

Office of the Governor

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVINCIAL COVID-19 TASK FORCE

MEMORANDUM NO. 69
Series of 2020

DATE : August 10, 2020
FOR : All CITY/MUNICIPAL MAYORS/COPs

FROM : 
: Hon. RODOLFO T. ALBANO III
Governor

RE : Reminders re: PROTOCOLS
CC : PD-PNP
: PD-DILG
: Provincial COVID-19 Task Force members

This is to reiterate to ALL Mayors the existing protocols on the declaration of community quarantine in your respective jurisdictions.

Please be reminded that Executive Order No. 112 issued by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on April 30, 2020 and in relation thereto IATF Resolution No. 29 and 30 provide that:

"Beginning 16, May 2020, all decisions to IMPOSE, LIFT or EXTEND a community quarantine in Provinces, HUC and ICCs shall rest with the IATF.

*This notwithstanding, Provincial **GOVERNORS** shall be **authorized to IMPOSE, LIFT or EXTEND ECQ in component Cities(CC) and Municipalities** upon the **CONCURRENCE** of the relevant **regional counterpart body of the IATF.***

***Local Chief Executives of Cities and Municipalities** are authorized to IMPOSE, LIFT OR extend **ECQ in BARANGAYS**, upon the **CONCURRENCE** of the relevant regional counterpart body of the IATF. This is without prejudice to the authority of the IATF to directly impose, lift or extend ECQ in these areas should circumstances call for it.*

No LGU shall declare its own community quarantine, regardless of nomenclature, without observing the foregoing procedure"

Nagkaisa para sa Isabela

It behoves all Mayors to also look very clearly into the provisions of IATF Resolution 35 item 1.b and par. B.; as well as Resolution 46-A allowing LGUs “to declare the classification of **barangays** based on **risk threshold** and requires **confirmation by the RIATF**”. Clearly a localized community quarantine declaration is predicated upon the existence of a “**community transmission**” and the concurrence by the RIATF.

While we laud and appreciate the Mayors’ intent to impose ECQ to facilitate contact tracing, it cannot be declared unless it is predicated upon the Zoning Containment Strategy pursuant to the National Task Force Memorandum Circular No. 2. S.2020 which provides that areas must first be identified, **according to risk threshold**, as Critical Zone, Containment Zone or Buffer Zone before it be assigned an appropriate community quarantine status. A Critical Zone is an area where the initial number of cases or several clustering of cases are identified within the past seven (7) days and therefore must be under ECQ. **The absence of any Covid-19 case in a particular barangay**, however, **does not merit an ECQ declaration much more a localized lockdown**, which fundamentally are declared to arrest community transmission rather than for contact tracing purposes. **You are therefore requested to make the necessary adjustment in your declarations and ensure that the provincial government is informed prior to any declaration to be subsequently made.**

Mayors are also requested not to close the City and Municipal Hall operations in view of confirmed cases in their offices. Instead, disinfection must immediately be done and thereafter a resumption of public service must be ordered even with skeleton workforce structure only or in the alternative personnel shall take office in some safer places/offices or other public infrastructure. At this point in time, **we cannot afford the denial of services to the people or worst the absence of government especially during this time of worldwide Pandemic.**

As a matter of protocol also, you and your Chief of Police are enjoined to advise all your constituents to wear a face shield in addition to a face mask when in a public place, in a public utility vehicle or in any place where people physically converge or where there is mass gathering. It has been proven that the wearing of a face shield increases to 100% our protection or reduces to zero the chance of getting infected with the virus. The PNP is ordered to monitor compliance. While no sanction is to be imposed for not wearing a face shield, unless covered by an appropriate local ordinance, I will be constrained to request from the Director the transfer of Chiefs of Police who will not heed the call to monitor and advise our constituents of the necessity to wear face shields.

For your guidance and appropriate action.