



Republic of the Philippines
City Government of Meycauayan
Province of Bulacan

Office of the City Mayor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 004 Series of 2022

AN ORDER IMPLEMENTING ALERT LEVEL 1 IN THE CITY OF MEYCAUAYAN, ADOPTING THE IATF GUIDELINES ON THE NATIONWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALERT LEVEL SYSTEM FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE AND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 07, SERIES OF 2022 OF THE GOVERNOR OF BULACAN.

(EFFECTIVE 01 MARCH 2022 UNTIL LIFTED)

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is still under the State of Public Health Emergency and Calamity, and all the Local Government Units (LGUs) are enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to implement urgent and critical measures to contain or prevent the spread of COVID-19, mitigate its effects and impact to the community, and prevent serious disruption of the functioning of the government and the community;

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province of Bulacan has been placed under different quarantine classifications, and on 27 February 2022, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) issued Resolution No. 163-A, Series of 2022, placing the whole province of Bulacan, together with the National Capital Region and other nearby provinces, under Alert Level 1 starting 01 March 2022;

WHEREAS, Governor Daniel R. Fernando issued E.O. No. 07, Series of 2022 on 28 February 2022, ordering the adoption and implementation of the IATF guidelines for Alert Level 1 within the whole Province of Bulacan;

WHEREAS, in furtherance of order in the community, the guidelines and protocols under the Provincial Executive Order No. 07, Series of 2022, and the *IATF Guidelines on the Nationwide Implementation of Alert Level System for Covid-19 Response as of February 27, 2022* be adopted and supplemented during the effectivity and implementation of the Alert Level 1 in the City of Meycauayan;

WHEREAS, R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and R.A. 9356, also known as the Charter of the City of Meycauayan, authorize the City Mayor to carry out such emergency measures as may be necessary during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me by law, I, **LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA**, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. APPLICATION. The protocols outlined in this Order shall be applicable during the implementation of Alert Level 1 in the City.

SECTION 2. IMPLEMENTING THE IATF RESOLUTION NO. 163-A SERIES OF 2022. In accordance with the applicable provisions of IATF Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Level System for COVID-19 Response as of February 27, 2022 and IATF Resolution No. 163-A, Series of 2022 for the enforcement of Alert Level 1, all industries, establishments, and public transportation in areas classified under Alert Level 1 are allowed to conduct their businesses in full operating/seating/venue capacity, provided that the “Prevent-Detect-Isolate-Treat-Reintegrate-Vaccinate Strategy” of the National Government shall be observed, without prejudice to the minimum public health standards and health and safety protocols issued by national government agencies specific to their sector:

I. PREVENT

- A. All health facilities shall implement the necessary and appropriate engineering and administrative controls, and use appropriate personal protective equipment in accordance with the latest Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) guidelines for health facilities.
- B. All public and private establishments, organizers of events, the City Government of Meycauayan, and all the Barangays within the city shall implement the following protocols:

1. Administrative controls.

- a. All private offices and workplaces, including public and private construction sites, may operate at **full 100% capacity** (consistent with national issuances on vaccination requirements for on-site work). However, they may continue to provide flexible and alternative work arrangements as deemed appropriate based on function or individual risk.
- b. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall adhere to 100% on-site workforce. Off-site work shall be under such work arrangements subject to relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission and the Office of the President.
- c. Public transportation in areas under Alert Level 1 shall be at **full seating capacity**. For intrazonal and interzonal travels involving public land

transportation between an area with a higher alert level classification and an area under Alert Level 1, the passenger capacity shall be that which has the lower passenger capacity rate between the point of origin and point of destination. The use of acrylic and/or plastic dividers shall not be required. The use of the Safe, Swift and Smart Passage (S-PaSS) travel management system shall likewise not be required for interzonal travel to areas under Alert Level 1.

- d. **Designate a Safety and Health Officer/s** who shall ensure, monitor, and evaluate proper implementation and strict observance of the minimum public health standards.
- e. Prepare a contingency plan for the establishment which shall include coordination with the City Government of Meycauyan, the concerned barangay, and health care provider networks, management of staff and visitors with COVID-19 symptoms, processes for establishment lockdown and disinfection, and alternative processes in case of escalation of Alert Level status.
- f. Regularly disinfect high-risk areas such as but not limited to areas for gatherings, highly touched surfaces, and frequently visited areas such as entrance and exit points, restrooms, hallways, elevators using Food and Drug Administration (FDA)- approved disinfectants.
- g. The City Government of Meycauyan shall endeavor to include health and safety in routine assessments to be conducted regularly.

2. Engineering controls.

- a. Ensure adequate air exchange and ventilation, consistent with Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Department Order No. 224-21 *Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19*, viz:
 - i. Ensure adequate air quality and ventilation, to wit:
 1. If possible, windows shall be open;
 - Ensure that nearby spaces of open windows are free from toxic gases and pollutants;
 - Whether windows may or may not be opened, supply-only ventilation fans (i.e, floor, table top, pedestal fans) are provided and should be placed where air flow from these fans shall not be from person to person;
 2. Exhaust fans should be continuously operating while there are occupants in the area;
 3. Additional exhaust fans may be added to improve air exchange to achieve at least 6 air changes per hour; increasing the number of exhaust fans can increase the number of air changes per hour;

4. If possible, establishments are highly encouraged to conduct the following air quality measurements: Air Change per hour -recommend at least 6 air changes per hour; and/or
 5. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Levels: recommend less than 1000 parts per million or ppm.
 6. Air ducts of HVAC systems should be maintained and cleaned regularly as determined by the safety officer or technical expert.
- b. All land-based transport terminals are to ensure the compliance to sanitary standards, among others, that are set in accordance with Republic Act No. 11311 otherwise known as *An Act to Improve Land Transportation Terminals, Stations, Stops, Rest Areas and Roll-On/Roll-Off Terminals, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations*.
 - c. Install structures enabling active transportation (e.g. bike racks).
 - d. Maintain smoke-free and vape-free environment.
 - e. Support mental, and psychosocial needs, especially of vulnerable groups.
 - f. Make available context-specific and localized health and safety education materials.
 - g. Set up a mechanism for provision of care and referral for patients with symptoms or other emergency health conditions.
 - h. Install/maintain hand hygiene and sanitation facilities with the following:
 - i. Adequate and safe water supply
 - ii. Hand washing station or sink
 - iii. Soap and water or 70% Isopropyl (or Ethyl) Alcohol
 - iv. Hands-free trash receptacles
 - i. Install visual cues or signages on mask wearing, hand hygiene, DOH hotlines, and other health and safety reminders (resources downloadable from www.healthphilippines.ph).
 - j. Promote and incentivize use of interventions that ensure health and safety in all establishments, such as:
 - i. Using outdoor spaces or having outdoor options
 - ii. Ensure adequate air quality and ventilation, as specified for under Par. B(2)(a)(i) above.
 - k. The use of foot baths, disinfection tents, misting chambers, or sanitation booths for preventing and controlling COVID-19 transmission are **not recommended**. Temperature checking prior to the entry in any establishment may be dispensed with.
 - l. The use of plastic/acrylic barriers/dividers are **optional**, as appropriate.

- m. The Safety Seal Certification Program of the national government to mark their compliance with minimum public health standards is optional but all establishments are encouraged to use it as a marketing tool.

3. Wearing of Face Masks

- a. At all times, well-fitted masks shall be worn properly, whether outdoors or in indoor private or public establishments, including in public transportation, except for the following instances:
 - i. Eating and drinking;
 - ii. Participating in team and individual sports in venues where ventilation standards can be maintained;
 - iii. Practicing outdoor sports/exercise activities where physical distance can be maintained.
- b. All establishments shall ensure implementation of national protocols on the proper use, handling, and disposing of appropriate personal protective equipment.

II. DETECT

A. Contact Tracing

1. Individuals, who have tested positive for COVID-19, shall inform their close contacts to trigger quarantine for unvaccinated close contacts and symptom monitoring for vaccinated close contacts.
2. Use of health declaration forms or paper-based contact tracing shall not be required for all the agencies and establishments.
3. Use of digital contact tracing such as the StaySafe.PH application is optional for all the agencies and establishments.
4. Establishments/employers will not have to provide a separate report to DOLE for COVID-19. Establishments/Employers should include COVID-19 cases report as part of work accident illness report form.
5. COVID-19 reporting to the local epidemiology and surveillance units and the Epidemiology Bureau of the DOH will continue until 31 March 2022. After said period, COVID-19 reporting shall transition to surveillance for selected workplaces which will become sentinel sites.

B. Testing Prioritization

1. Implement testing protocols consistent with national guidelines, which may be stricter for individuals who are unvaccinated or have higher exposure risk pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 148-B and No. 149, s. 2021.
2. Testing using RT-PCR shall be recommended and prioritized for:

- a. Priority Groups A2 (persons above 60 years old) and A3 (persons with comorbidities) who are at risk for developing severe disease, especially for instances where the result of testing will affect the clinical management and use of COVID-19 therapeutics.
 - b. Priority Group A1 or healthcare workers for groups at highest risk for infection such as deemed necessary.
3. Testing shall be optional for other groups not stated above, including for community level actions wherein case management of probable and confirmed cases remain the same. Specifically:
- a. Testing shall NOT be recommended for asymptomatic close contacts unless symptoms will develop, and should immediately isolate regardless of test results. Instead, symptom monitoring is recommended. Should testing still be used, testing should be done at least 5 days from the day of last exposure.
 - b. Testing shall NOT be recommended for screening asymptomatic individuals.
4. Testing using antigen tests shall be recommended only for symptomatic individuals and in instances wherein RT-PCR is not available, consistent with previously issued guidelines.
5. Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Committees (HIPCC) may implement testing protocols in health facilities for health workers and patients based on their assessment of risk and benefit.

III. ISOLATE AND QUARANTINE

- A. Updated quarantine protocols for incoming international travelers shall be consistent with IATF Resolution No. 160 A/B:

	Filipino Nationals	Foreign Nationals authorized to enter the Philippines
Fully vaccinated adult	No mandatory facility-based quarantine. Wear masks and self-monitor for any sign or symptom for seven (7) days	No mandatory facility-based quarantine. Wear masks and self-monitor for any sign or symptom for seven (7) days
Unvaccinated, partially vaccinated adult	Facility-based quarantine until the release of their negative RT-PCR test taken on the fifth (5th) day from date of arrival. Home quarantine until their fourteenth (14th) day from date of arrival.	Not applicable since they are not allowed to enter the Philippines.

Unvaccinated minor children ¹	Follow the quarantine protocols of their parent/s or an accompanying adult/guardian traveling with them	Follow the quarantine protocols of their parent/s or an accompanying adult/guardian traveling with them
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- B. Updated isolation and quarantine protocols for general public & healthcare workers and authorized sectors shall be consistent with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2022-0013.
- C. Establishments are no longer required to set-up isolation facilities within the workplace.

IV. TREAT

- A. The management of COVID-19 shall be consistent with the latest recommendation from the Philippine COVID-19 Living Recommendations, which can be accessed through this link: <https://www.psmid.org/philippine-covid-19-living-recommendations/>
- B. Close contacts, asymptomatic confirmed cases, and mild to moderate confirmed cases shall be managed at the primary care level (e.g. health centers, private clinics thru face to face or teleconsultation). Health facilities are encouraged to adopt / scale-up telemedicine to facilitate delivery of appropriate health services.
- C. Confirmed cases with severe and critical symptoms shall be managed in the appropriate health care facility.

V. REINTEGRATE

- A. Isolation can be discontinued upon completion of the recommended isolation period, provided that they do not have fever for at least 24 hours without the use of any antipyretic medications, and shall have improvement of respiratory signs and symptoms.
- B. Repeat tests shall not be required for the safe reintegration into the community.
- C. For the purpose of claiming sick leave, health benefits, or other relevant processes wherein the proofs of COVID-19 management are necessary, a medical certification may suffice provided it should include the following minimum information: name of patient, severity of symptoms, diagnosis as probable or confirmed COVID-19, and date of end of quarantine and/or isolation period.
- D. To ensure promotion of their psychosocial well-being, individuals in quarantine and isolation are recommended to maintain and continue lines of communication to family and friends. They may also download the DOH Lusog-Isip Mobile Application for free (available in both Apple store or Google play store) or access

¹ * All children in facility quarantine or isolation shall be accompanied by a guardian in the quarantine or isolation facility. Parents or guardians that are not confirmed COVID-19 cases may accompany the COVID-19 confirmed child provided risks and benefits are explained, informed consent is provided, and the adult has no comorbidity putting them at risk for severe disease and death.

the National Center for Mental Health (NCMH) Crisis Hotline or the DOH Regional Helplines for mental health and psychosocial support concerns.

VI. VACCINATE

- A. Individuals eighteen (18) years old and above will be required to present proof of full vaccination before participating in mass gatherings or entry into indoor establishments, such as but not limited to:
1. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the cremains of the COVID-19 deceased;
 2. All indoor dine-in services of food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries. For outdoor or al fresco dining and take out channels, no proof of full vaccination is required;
 3. All indoor personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures including home service options;
 4. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for exercise and sports;
 5. All indoor cinemas or movie houses operating at full capacity;
 6. Meetings, incentives, conferences, exhibition events, and permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers;
 7. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
 8. Indoor ancillary establishments in hotels and other accommodation establishments; and
 9. Venues for election-related events.
- B. Children ages seventeen (17) and below shall not be required to present proof of full vaccination status.

SECTION 3. CURFEW HOURS AND MODIFIED LIQUOR BAN. The curfew hours and the modified liquor ban are lifted.

SECTION 4. STORE OPERATING HOURS - Stores and other business establishments may operate at their normal operating hours.

SECTION 5. DECLARATION OF GRANULAR LOCKDOWNS. Upon determination of the need for the imposition of granular lockdowns, the City Mayor of Meycauayan shall declare the same with respect to barangays, individual houses where one household member has been confirmed, residential buildings, streets, blocks, *puroks*, subdivisions, and/or villages within the City of Meycauayan. Such declaration shall be provisionally effective immediately and the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force (RIATF) and the Provincial Inter-Agency Task Force (PIATF) must be notified within twenty-four (24) hours from its declaration.

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT. The Philippine National Police assigned in the City of Meycauayan, Barangay Officials and Tanods, and the Business Permits and Licenses Office shall strictly implement the provisions of this Executive Order, as well as the relevant issuances by the national government for the effective implementation of Alert Level 1 in the City. They shall ensure that the security protocols are maintained in lockdown areas.

SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this Order be declared unconstitutional or inconsistent with law, the other remaining parts thereof shall remain valid in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE. All executive orders, related rules and regulations, and other issuances of parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby replaced or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. INCORPORATION CLAUSE. All of the issuances of the National Government, IATF-MEID, Bulacan Provincial Government, including the *IATF-MEID Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines*, and their Amendments, the *IATF Guidelines on the Implementation of Alert Levels System for COVID-19 Response in Pilot Areas* and such other pertinent laws, rules, and regulations that have been issued and/or will be issued by the authorized officials and agencies of the national government in relation to COVID-19 and the current alert level status of the province and the city, are hereby adopted and incorporated, and shall form integral parts hereof.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY. This *Executive Order* shall take effect IMMEDIATELY. Any previous order inconsistent herewith shall be deemed repealed.

Done this MAR - 1 2022 , at the City of Meycauayan, Bulacan.



LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA
City Mayor