



## **BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO ADVISORY FOR CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)**

Pursuant to the agreements during the first meeting of the Bangsamoro Inter-Agency Task Force on COVID-19 and following Proclamation 922 of President Rodrigo Duterte on March 8, 2020 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency, and the issuance of Code Red Sub-level 2 for COVID-19 by the Department of Health, the Bangsamoro Government is issuing the following guidelines for strict compliance.

### **FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

1. Do not panic;
2. Avoid crowded places;
3. Avoid any unnecessary travels;
4. If you are unwell or experiencing flu-like symptoms such as sneezing, colds, coughing, fever, throat discomfort, and diarrhea, **DO NOT GO TO WORK, DO NOT TRAVEL**. Seek medical attention immediately. Provide accurate medical history to your doctors;
5. Avoid close contact with people who are showing flu-like symptoms;
6. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
7. Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze with your forearm or a tissue. Properly dispose of your used tissue;
8. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe;
9. Follow recommendations for using a facemask;
10. Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the virus to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility);
11. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing;

12. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 70% solution. If hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water;

### **WORKPLACE GUIDELINES**

13. Conduct of flag ceremony and flag retreat is suspended until after the Public Health Emergency is lifted or withdrawn;

14. Employees are directed to observe proper hygiene by cleaning and disinfecting their offices, individual personal spaces, and areas that are frequently used by the public. Heads of offices must ensure that regular disinfection of frequently touched surfaces inside their offices is observed. As an alternative to spray disinfectants, DOH suggests the formulation of  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of bleach for every 1 gallon of water;

15. Personal visits inside offices are discouraged until further notice. Only individuals with urgent transactions and scheduled appointments are allowed in the offices;

16. Offices must ensure that hand sanitizers or alcohol be made available to the public before entering and leaving the offices. Employees must practice regular hand-washing using soap and water;

17. All individuals shall be subjected to mandatory thermal scanning when entering the premises of the Bangsamoro Government Center (BGC). In consideration of the traffic flow, employees and visitors entering BGC on motored vehicles need not be scanned at the gates. They are however, required to undergo thermal scanning upon entering the offices;

18. Employees who have shortness of breath, fever, cough, cold and flu-like symptoms shall stay home and have themselves checked by a doctor. They should bring a doctor's medical certificate that they are cleared to report back to work;

19. All employees are required to bring their own re-usable dining wares and are advised against sharing of food and utensils with others during meals in their offices;

20. All activities involving mass gatherings shall be cancelled or postponed until after the Public Health Emergency is lifted or withdrawn. However, there shall be no disruption in the delivery of basic government services. The decision to hold plenary sessions and committee hearings shall be at the hands of the leadership of the BTA Parliament. Should the exigency of service necessitate the conduct of these sessions and hearings, the Secretary General shall closely coordinate with the Bangsamoro Inter-Agency Task Force for the institution of precautionary measures that would guarantee the protection of public health and safety of the Members of Parliament, other officers and employees of the BTA, and the general public;

21. Personal follow-ups of transactions/ requests of clients are discouraged. Instead, clients are requested to make phone or email follow-ups. Offices should ensure that clients are promptly attended to in this mode of follow-up;

22. Heads of offices should allow online and email submissions for simple documents, which include but is not limited to invitations, simple requests, and non-essential documents;

23. Heads of offices are allowed to adopt working arrangements within the parameters of the Civil Service Commission Memorandum No. 7 series of 2020, provided that there shall be no disruption in the delivery of basic services.

24. All foreign travels of officials and employees are hereby cancelled until after the Public Health Emergency is lifted or withdrawn. Anyone caught in violation shall be dismissed or shall be charged administratively;

### **FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

25. Private Organizations, business establishments, and other offices are strongly encouraged to postpone non-essential mass gatherings until after the Public Health Emergency is lifted or withdrawn;

26. All restaurants, hotels and other event centers are strongly encouraged to allow their clients to reschedule or rebook events without additional charges and penalties;

27. Banks, hotels, resorts, restaurants, hospitals, places of worship, buses, jeepneys, taxis, ride-sharing vehicles, government offices, schools, malls, theaters, airports, taxi and van terminals, ports, fitness gyms, recreational centers, funeral parlors, internet cafes, bars, coffee shops, public markets, and all other places where people frequently gather should have their DAILY DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS for frequently touched surfaces;

28. Restaurant and other food vendors are mandated to use hairnets, masks, and gloves in food handling. Proper food handling protocols should at all times be observed;

29. Subject to the guidelines from the Ministry of Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, schools are mandated to implement distance learning and provide home assignments and worksheets, accelerate their school calendar to shorten the school year and postpone recognition and graduation activities until after the Public Health Emergency is lifted or withdrawn;

30. The Bangsamoro Mufti, thru the Regional Darul Ifta, and other religious authorities shall issue guidelines in the conduct of religious practices and ceremonies, particularly those involving mass gatherings and close contacts;

## **MINISTRY OF TRADE, INVESTMENTS, AND TOURISM**

31. MTIT is mandated to ensure that the price freeze is implemented and that those guilty of profiteering shall be reported for cancellation of business permit and padlocked for indefinite closure;

32. MTIT is mandated to enforce Section 6 of RA 7581 otherwise known as The Price Act and all other provisions therein. Information on the prices and supply of basic commodities during this emergency must be made available to the public everyday through all information channels;

33. MTIT must ensure that illegal acts of price manipulation shall be reported for cancellation of business permit and padlocked for indefinite closure;

34. Anyone caught hoarding medical and food supplies shall be charged criminally.

35. To ensure the availability of supplies, all retailers are encouraged to strictly implement a “TWO (2) BOTTLES PER TRANSACTION POLICY” for items such as alcohol, hand sanitizers, hand gels, and other basic disinfectants;

## **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

36. MOH and MILG are mandated to instruct all the LGU Health Officers of BARMM with a common protocol in the implementation of the State of Public Health Emergency and RA 11332;

37. The Ministry of Health shall ensure that Sec. 8 of RA 11332 per Proclamation 922 shall be strictly followed. All Barangay Health Workers shall form part of the CESU and shall be provided by the MOH a list of their tasks during this health emergency;

38. All barangays are mandated to activate their Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams to support the MOH in implementing RA 11332;

39. Everyone is enjoined to review and abide by the DOH advisory pertinent to their organization:

For workplace — DOLE Labor Advisory #4 Series 2020 and DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0056

For Hospitals — DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0035

For Airports and seaports — DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0063

For residential communities — DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0059

For schools — DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0055 and DepEd Memo 15 s. 2020

For hotels and other similar establishments — DOH Dept. Memo 24. 2020-0057;

## **COMMUNITY QUARANTINE GUIDELINE**

40. A municipality/city-wide quarantine is advised when there are at least two positive COVID-19 cases belonging to different barangays in the same municipality;

41. A province-wide quarantine is advised when there are at least two positive COVID-19 cases belonging to different municipalities, component cities or independent cities in the same province,

42. LGUs which have imposed community quarantine in their respective jurisdiction, upon the declaration of a State of Calamity, shall be allowed to access their Quick Response Fund; and

43. MILG shall be responsible for monitoring and imposing sanctions to LGUs who shall fail to comply to these guidelines.

All Ministries, Offices, Agencies and LGUs are directed to ensure the widest dissemination of this advisory. All are enjoined to ensure that this advisory is translated to major local languages in the Bangsamoro region.

For strict compliance.

By Authority of the Chief Minister:  
**AHOD BALAWAG EBRAHIM**

**ABDULRAOF A. MACACUA**  
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Co-Chair, Bangsamoro Inter-Agency Task Force on COVID-19