

**Office of the President
of the Philippines
Malacañang**

MEMORANDUM FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FOR : THE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS
Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging
Infectious Diseases

SUBJECT : ADDITIONAL MEASURES RELATIVE TO THE SARS-COV-2
VARIANT DETECTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

DATE : 31 December 2020

Taking into consideration the joint recommendation of the DOH and DFA dated 31 December 2020, submitted pursuant to the Memorandum from the Executive Secretary dated 29 December 2020, relative to the SARS-CoV-2 variant (B.1.1.7 or VUI 2020/12/01) first detected in the United Kingdom, and upon consultation with other agencies regarding existing measures, this Office hereby **directs** all relevant agencies to implement the following:

- I. Inclusion of the United States of America (US) among the countries subject to travel restrictions**
 - A. Foreign passengers coming from the US, or who have been to the US within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, shall be prohibited from entering the country effective 0001H of 03 January 2021, Manila time, until 15 January 2021;
 - B. Effective immediately, foreign passengers coming from the US, or who have been to the US within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, arriving before 0001H of 03 January 2021, Manila time, shall not be prohibited from entering the Philippines, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) result; and
 - C. Likewise effective immediately, Filipino citizens coming from the US, or who have been to the US within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, including those arriving after 0001H of 03 January 2021, Manila time, shall not be prohibited from entering the country, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative RT-PCR result.
- II. Rules applicable to Filipino and foreign passengers merely transiting through a country covered by the travel restrictions**
 - A. All passengers, whether Filipinos or foreigners, merely transiting through any of the countries covered by the Memorandum from the Executive Secretary dated 29 December 2020 and subsequent inclusions thereto ("covered country"), shall


not be deemed as having come from or having been to such covered country, provided they stayed in the airport the whole time and were not cleared for entry into the covered country by its immigration authorities;

- B. Upon arrival in the Philippines, passengers covered by the immediately preceding paragraph need not complete a full 14-day facility-based quarantine, and may be allowed home quarantine upon testing negative on RT-PCR at point of entry, pursuant to existing protocols of the national government;
- C. Transiting foreign passengers who left the airport or were cleared for entry into the covered country by its immigration authorities shall be prohibited from entering the Philippines;
- D. Transiting Filipino citizens who left the airport or were cleared for entry into the covered country by its immigration authorities shall not be prohibited from entering the Philippines, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative RT-PCR result.

This directive is without prejudice to existing prohibitions and procedures on entry pursuant to rules and protocols generally applicable to arriving passengers.

For strict compliance.

By authority of the President:


SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA

