



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

22 March 2022

RAUL L. DEL ROSARIO

Undersecretary, Department of Transportation
Head, One-Stop-Shop for the Management of Returning Filipinos
Administrator, Office of Transport Security
Apo Court, Sergio Osmeña Sr. Zone,
Clark Freeport, Mabalacat, Pampanga

Dear Undersecretary Del Rosario:

This refers to your letter dated 16 March 2022, that was endorsed to this office by the office of Secretary Francisco T. Duque III of the Department of Health regarding your request for clarification on the amendments of international travel protocols brought about by the issuance of Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID) Resolution No. 164-A.

In your letter, you mentioned one of the key amendments introduced by IATF-MEID Resolution No. 164-A which is the utilization of a negative laboratory-based Antigen Test taken within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of departure to be used alternatively with the RT-PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours prior to departure. Further, your request specified whether the use of a negative laboratory-based Antigen Test also applies to the following travelers:

1. For Fully-Recovered Filipino/Foreign Nationals from COVID-19; and
2. Foreign Nationals with visas such as 9(b), 9(c), 9(d), 9(g), 13(a), 47(a)(2), SRRV and others.

To address your request for clarification, please be informed that the intent of IATF-MEID Resolution 164-A is to adopt the alternate use of a negative laboratory-based Antigen Test taken within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of departure for all incoming travelers to the Philippines. Accordingly, the alternate use of a negative laboratory-based Antigen Test taken within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of departure shall likewise be applicable to fully-recovered Filipino/Foreign Nationals from COVID-19, as well as to foreign nationals with visas such as 9(b), 9(c), 9(d), 9(g), 13(a), 47(a)(2), SRRV and others.

Thank you.

For your reference and guidance.



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For the IATF Chairperson,


ATTY. CHARADE V. MERCADO-GRANDE
IATF Head Secretariat
OIC-Undersecretary of Health

Copy furnished:

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