



PUBLIC ADVISORY

NO. 43- 2020

ON THE ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO BE OBSERVED RELATIVE TO THE SARS-COV-2 VARIANT DETECTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

29 DECEMBER 2020 – The Embassy wishes to inform the public that, pursuant to the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Resolution No. 91 (s. 2020), the following additional measures will be observed to address the risks posed by the new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.7 or VUI2020/12/01) in the interest of protecting the health and safety of the Filipino people:

- A. The temporary suspension of flights from, and the prohibition of entry on all travelers coming from or transiting through the United Kingdom is extended until 15 January 2021;
- B. All foreign travelers coming from, or transiting through, the countries/jurisdictions listed hereunder or who have been to the same within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, shall likewise be prohibited from entering the country effective 0001(H) of 30 December 2020, until 15 January 2021:**

1. Denmark;
2. Ireland;
3. Japan;
4. Australia;
5. Israel;
6. The Netherlands;
7. Hong Kong SAR;
- 8. Switzerland;**
9. France;
10. Germany;
11. Iceland;
12. Italy;
13. Lebanon;
14. Singapore;
15. Sweden;
16. South Korea;
17. South Africa;
18. Canada; and
19. Spain.

- C. Effective immediately, passengers who are already in transit and arrive before 0001H of 30 December 2020 from the countries/jurisdiction listed in Paragraph B, including those who have been to the same countries/jurisdiction within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, 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 Reverse Transcription – Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) result;**
- D. Likewise, Filipino citizens coming from the countries/jurisdictions mentioned in Paragraphs A and B, or who have been to the same within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, 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;
- E. Restrictions on travelers coming from other countries that report the presence of the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 may be imposed by the Office of the President upon the joint recommendation of the Department of Health and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The concerned public is advised that the Bureau of Immigration will issue the Implementing Guidelines on the latest Resolution in due time, and are invited to regularly check the BI website (<https://www.immigration.gov.ph/>) or BI Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/officialbureauofimmigration/>) for updates.

The Embassy will also endeavor to upload the BI implementing Guidelines on the Embassy's website and official Facebook page once available.

Please be guided, accordingly.