ADVISORY TO THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to Proclamation Nos. 929 and 922 (s. 2020) and Republic Act No. 11332, following the sharp increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases throughout the country, Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea issued a Memorandum directing the Bureau of Immigration among other agencies to adopt, coordinate and implement guidelines on the imposition of an Enhanced Community Quarantine and the Stringent Social Distancing Measures over the entire Luzon, including the National Capital Region (NCR), effective 00:00 (12a.m.) of 17 March 2020 and expiring on 00:00 (12a.m.) of 13 April 2020.

In this regard and in compliance to the foregoing directives, the following transactions at the BI offices in Luzon, including NCR are hereby temporarily suspended except for outbound passengers intending to depart the Philippines from any of the international airports in Luzon during the effectivity of the Enhanced Community Quarantine:

1. Filing of applications for extension of/conversion to non-immigrant/immigrant visa including hearing/interview;
2. Filing of applications regarding Filipino citizenship including RA 9225 including hearing/interview;
3. Filing for downgrading of visa status;
4. Filing for Extension of tourist visa;
5. Filing of applications for Special Work Permits/Provisional Work Permits;
6. Filing for the renewal of ACR I-Cards; and
7. Implementation of BOC approved visa applications for extension of/conversion to non-immigrant/immigrant visas.

All aliens whose visas will expire during the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine shall be allowed to file their applications for extension provided they file their applications within thirty (30) days from the lifting of the Enhanced Community Quarantine.

The Bureau shall maintain its skeletal workforce to cater outbound passengers who intend to depart the Philippines during the Enhanced Community Quarantine period. Outbound passengers will be required to present their outbound tickets prior to entry at BI offices.

Kindly check the official website for further Advisories/Announcements.

19 March 2020.

JAIME H. MORENTE
Commissioner
MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 922

DECLARING A STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Under Section 15, Article II of the Philippine Constitution, it is the State’s Policy to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, Section 23, Article VI of the Philippine Constitution provides that in times of national emergency, the Congress may, by law, authorize the President, for a limited period and subject to such restrictions as it may prescribe, to exercise powers necessary and proper to carry out a declared national policy;

WHEREAS, Section 7 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11332 provides that the President of the Republic of the Philippines shall declare a State of Public Health Emergency in the event of an epidemic of national and/or international concern which threatens national security in order to mobilize governmental and nongovernmental agencies to respond to the threat;

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Health has confirmed the local transmission of Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19) in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the outbreak of Covid-19 constitutes an emergency that threatens national security which requires a whole-of-government response aligned with the Four-Door Framework for Covid-19 of the Department of Health (DOH) and the efforts of all concerned government agencies and local government units (LGUs);

WHEREAS, such declaration would facilitate the implementation of the relevant provisions of RA No. 11332 to address the Covid-19 threat, including but not limited to mandatory reporting, intensifying government response and measures, and enforce quarantine and disease control prevention measures; and

WHEREAS, the declaration of a State of Public Health Emergency would capacitate government agencies and LGUs to immediately act to prevent loss of life, utilize appropriate resources 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and law, do hereby proclaim as follows:

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
Section 1. There is hereby declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Covid-19.

Section 2. All government agencies and LGUs are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the Covid-19 threat.

Section 3. The Secretary of Health may call upon the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies to provide assistance in addressing the Covid-19 threat.

Section 4. All citizens, residents, tourists and establishment owners are urged to act within the bounds of the law and to comply with the lawful directives and advisories to be issued by appropriate government agencies to prevent further transmission of the Covid-19 and ensure the safety and well-being of all.

Section 5. The State of Public Health Emergency shall remain in force and effect until lifted or withdrawn by the President.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the city of Manila, this 8th day of March in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.

By the President:

SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA
Executive Secretary
MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 929

DECLARING A STATE OF CALAMITY THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES
DUE TO CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019

WHEREAS, Under Section 15, Article II of the Philippine Constitution, it is the
State’s Policy to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 922, s. 2020, was issued declaring a State of
Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Corona Virus Disease
2019 (Covid-19), enjoining all government agencies and local government units
(LGUs) to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary
resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate response and measures in a
timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of Covid-19;

WHEREAS, the Code Alert System for COVID-19 was raised to Code Red
Sublevel Two (2) in accordance with the recommendation of the Department of Health
(DOH) and the Inter-Agency Task Force for Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF);

WHEREAS, despite government interventions, the number of confirmed cases
of Covid-19 continues to rise;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10121, or the "Philippine Disaster
Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010," the National Disaster Risk Reduction
and Management Council has recommended the declaration of a State of Calamity
throughout the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, such declaration will, among others, afford the National
Government, as well as LGUs, ample latitude to utilize appropriate funds, including
the Quick Response Fund, in their disaster preparedness and response efforts to
contain the spread of Covid-19 and to continue to provide basic services to the affected
population;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the
Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws,
do hereby proclaim as follows:

SECTION 1: There is hereby declared a State of Calamity throughout the
Philippines for a period of six (6) months, unless earlier lifted or extended as
circumstances may warrant.
SECTION 2: There is hereby imposed an Enhanced Community Quarantine throughout Luzon beginning 12 midnight tonight until 12 April 2020, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant.

SECTION 3: All government agencies and LGUs are enjoined to render full assistance to and cooperation with each other and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate disaster response aid and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of Covid-19.

SECTION 4: All law enforcement agencies, with the support from the Armed Forces of the Philippines, are hereby directed to undertake all necessary measures to ensure peace and order in affected areas, as may be necessary.

SECTION 5: The Executive Secretary, the Secretary of Health, and all other concerned heads of departments, are directed to issue guidelines governing the implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine throughout Luzon.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the city of Manila, this 16th day of March in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.

By the President:

[Signature]

SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA
Executive Secretary

[Stamp]