



Republic of the Philippines
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OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR
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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 30

Series of 2022

"AN ORDER PLACING THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1 EFFECTIVE MAY 16 TO 31, 2022"

WHEREAS, compelled by the mandate of Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Constitution to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them, the Provincial Government of Sultan Kudarat considers the issuance of guidelines to prevent and/or minimize the spread of COVID-19 into the province of Sultan Kudarat;

WHEREAS, several provincial proactive measures to minimize the surge of contagion in the province have been issued since the time the President issued Proclamation No. 1021 (s. 2020), extending the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, for several months, the case transmission/case output in the province of Sultan Kudarat has continuously zeroed for several weeks;

WHEREAS, there is still a need to be vigilant over the health and safety of our people to manage and minimize the risk of this dreaded COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D., Provincial Governor of Sultan Kudarat, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby **ORDER** the following:

SECTION 1. PLACING THE PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT UNDER ALERT LEVEL 1. The Province of Sultan Kudarat is hereby placed under Alert Level 1 status effective May 16 until May 31, 2022.

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES. The following protocols shall be observed in the Province of Sultan Kudarat:

I. PREVENT

A. All health facilities shall implement the necessary and appropriate engineering and administrative controls and use appropriate personal protective equipment in accordance with the latest Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) guidelines for health facilities.

B. All public and private establishments, organizers of events, and local governments shall implement the following protocols:

1. ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS.

a. All private offices and workplaces, including public and private construction sites, may operate at full 100% capacity (consistent with national issuances on vaccination requirements for on-site work). However, they may continue to provide flexible and alternative work arrangements as deemed appropriate based on function or individual risk.

b. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government shall adhere to 100% on-site workforce. Off-site work shall be under such work arrangements subject to relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission and the Office of the President.

c. Public transportation shall be at full seating capacity. The use of acrylic and/or plastic dividers shall not be required. The Safe, Swift, and Smart Passage (S-PaSS) travel management system shall likewise not be required.

d. Designate a Safety and Health Officer/s who shall ensure, monitor, and evaluate the proper implementation and strict observance of the minimum public health standards.

e. Prepare a contingency plan for the establishment which shall include coordination with the local government and health care provider networks, management of staff and visitors with COVID-19 symptoms, processes for establishment lockdown and disinfection, and alternative processes in case of escalation of Alert Level status.

f. Regularly disinfect high-risk areas, such as but not limited to areas for gatherings, highly touched surfaces, and frequently visited areas such as entrance and exit points, restrooms, hallways, and elevators using Food and Drug Administration (FDA)- approved disinfectants.

g. National government agencies with offices in the Province of Sultan Kudarat and local government units within the province endeavor to include health and safety in routine assessments to be conducted regularly.

2. ENGINEERING CONTROLS.

a. Ensure adequate air exchange and ventilation, consistent with Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Department Order No. 224-21 Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19, viz: i. Ensure adequate air quality and ventilation, to wit:

1. If possible, windows shall be open;

- Ensure that nearby spaces of open windows are free from toxic gases and pollutants; Whether windows may or may not be opened, supply-only ventilation fans (i.e., floor, tabletop, pedestal fans) are provided and should be placed where airflow from these fans shall not be from person to person;

2. Exhaust fans should be continuously operating while there are occupants in the area;

3. Additional exhaust fans may be added to improve air exchange to achieve at least six air changes per hour; increasing the number of exhaust fans can increase the number of air changes per hour;

4. If possible, establishments are highly encouraged to conduct the following air quality measurements: Air Change per hour -recommend at least six air changes per hour; and/or

5. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Levels: recommend less than 1000 parts per million or ppm.

6. Air ducts of HVAC systems should be maintained and cleaned regularly as determined by the safety officer or technical expert.

b. All land-based transport terminals are to ensure the compliance with sanitary standards, among others, that are set in accordance with Republic Act No. 11311, otherwise known as An Act to Improve Land Transportation Terminals, Stations, Stops, Rest Areas, and Roll-On/Roll-Off Terminals, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

c. Install structures enabling active transportation (e.g., bike racks).

d. Maintain a smoke-free and vape-free environment.

e. Support mental, and psychosocial needs, especially of vulnerable groups.

f. Make available context-specific and localized health and safety education materials.

g. Set up a mechanism for the provision of care and referral for patients with symptoms or other emergency health conditions.

h. Install/maintain hand hygiene and sanitation facilities with the following:

- i. Adequate and safe water supply
- ii. Handwashing station or sink
- iii. Soap and water or 70% Isopropyl (or Ethyl) Alcohol
- iv. Hands-free trash receptacles

i. Install visual cues or signages on mask-wearing, hand hygiene, DOH hotlines, and other health and safety reminders (resources downloadable from www.healthypilipinas.ph).

j. Promote and incentivize the use of interventions that ensure health and safety in all establishments, such as:

- i. Using outdoor spaces or having outdoor options
- ii. Ensure adequate air quality and ventilation, as specified under Par. B(2)(a)(i) above.

k. The use of foot baths, disinfection tents, misting chambers, or sanitation booths for preventing and controlling COVID-19 transmission is not recommended. Temperature checking prior to the entry into any establishment may be dispensed with.

l. The use of plastic/acrylic barriers/dividers are optional, as appropriate.

m. The Safety Seal Certification Program of the national government to mark their compliance with minimum public health standards is optional, but all establishments are encouraged to use it as a marketing tool.

3. WEARING OF FACE MASKS

a. At all times, well-fitted masks shall be worn properly, whether outdoors or in indoor private or public establishments, including in public transportation by land, air, or sea, except for the following instances:

- i. Eating and drinking;
- ii. Participating in team and individual sports in venues where ventilation standards can be maintained;
- iii. Practicing outdoor sports/exercise activities where physical distance can be maintained.

b. All establishments shall ensure implementation of national protocols on the proper use, handling, and disposing of appropriate personal protective equipment.

II. DETECT

A. Contact Tracing

1. Individuals, who have tested positive for COVID-19, shall inform their close contacts to trigger quarantine for unvaccinated close contacts and symptom monitoring for vaccinated close contacts.

2. Use of health declaration forms / paper-based contact tracing shall not be required for all the agencies and establishments.

3. Use of digital contact tracing such as the StaySafe.PH application is optional for all agencies and establishments.

4. Establishments/employers will not have to provide a separate report to DOLE for COVID-19. Establishments/Employers should include COVID-19 cases report as part of the work accident illness report form.

5. COVID-19 reporting to the Local Epidemiology and Surveillance Units will continue until the establishment of a sentinel surveillance system for workplaces. Guidelines for this system shall follow.

B. Testing Prioritization

1. Implement testing protocols consistent with national guidelines, which may be stricter for individuals who are unvaccinated or have a higher exposure risk pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 148-B and No. 149, s. 2021.

2. Testing using RT-PCR shall be recommended and prioritized for:

a. Priority Groups A2 (persons above 60 years old) and A3 (persons with comorbidities) who are at risk for developing severe disease, especially for instances where the result of testing will affect the clinical management and use of COVID-19 therapeutics.

b. Priority Group A1 or healthcare workers for groups at highest risk for infection such as deemed necessary.

3. Testing shall be optional for other groups not stated above, including community-level actions wherein case management of probable and confirmed cases remains the same. Specifically:

a. Testing shall NOT be recommended for asymptomatic close contacts unless symptoms develop and should immediately isolate regardless of test results. Instead, symptom monitoring is recommended. Should testing still be used, testing should be done at least five days from the day of last exposure.

b. Testing shall NOT be recommended for screening asymptomatic individuals.

4. Testing using antigen tests shall be recommended only for symptomatic individuals and in instances wherein RT-PCR is not available, consistent with previously issued guidelines.

5. Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Committees (HIPCC) may implement testing protocols in health facilities for health workers and patients based on their assessment of risk and benefit.

III. ISOLATE AND QUARANTINE

- A. Updated quarantine protocols for incoming international travelers shall be consistent with IATF Resolution No. 160 A/B (Summary in Annex A)
- B. Updated isolation and quarantine protocols for general public & healthcare workers and authorized sectors shall be consistent with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2022-0013.
- C. Establishments are no longer required to set up isolation facilities within the workplace.

IV. TREAT

A. The management of COVID-19 shall be consistent with the latest recommendation from the Philippine COVID-19 Living Recommendations, which can be accessed through this link: <https://www.psmid.org/philippine-covid-19-living-recommendations/>

B. Close contacts, asymptomatic confirmed cases, and mild to moderate confirmed cases shall be managed at the primary care level (e.g., health centers, private clinics through face-to-face or teleconsultation). Health facilities are encouraged to adopt / scale-up telemedicine to facilitate the delivery of appropriate health services.

C. Confirmed cases with severe and critical symptoms shall be managed in the appropriate health care facility.

V. REINTEGRATE

A. Isolation can be discontinued upon completion of the recommended isolation period, provided that they do not have fever for at least 24 hours without the use of any antipyretic medications and shall have improvement of respiratory signs and symptoms.

B. Repeat tests shall not be required for the safe reintegration into the community.

C. For the purpose of claiming sick leave, health benefits, or other relevant processes wherein the proofs of COVID-19 management are necessary, medical certification may suffice, provided it should include the following minimum information: name of the patient, the severity of symptoms, diagnosis as probable or confirmed COVID-19, and date of the end of quarantine and/or isolation period.

D. To ensure the promotion of their psychosocial well-being, individuals in quarantine and isolation are recommended to maintain and continue lines of communication with family and friends. They may also download the DOH Lusog-Isip Mobile Application for free (available in both the Apple and Google play store) or access the National Center for Mental Health (NCMH) Crisis Hotline or the DOH Regional Helplines for mental health and psychosocial support concerns.

VI. VACCINATE

A. Individuals eighteen (18) years old and above will be required to present proof of full vaccination before participating in mass gatherings or entry into indoor establishments, such as but not limited to:

1. In-person religious gatherings; gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurnment, and funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID-19 and for the remains of the COVID-19 deceased;
2. All indoor dine-in services of food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants, and eateries. For outdoor or alfresco dining and take out channels, no proof of full vaccination is required;
3. All indoor personal care establishments such as barbershops, hair spas, hair salons, and nail spas, and those offering aesthetic/cosmetic services or procedures, make-up services, salons, spas, reflexology, and other similar procedures, including home service options;
4. Fitness studios, gyms, and venues for exercise and sports;
5. All indoor cinemas or movie houses operating at full capacity;
6. Meetings, incentives, conferences, exhibition events, and permitted venues for social events such as parties, wedding receptions, engagement parties, wedding anniversaries, debut and birthday parties, family reunions, and bridal or baby showers ;
7. Venues with live voice or wind-instrument performers and audiences, such as in karaoke bars, clubs, concert halls, and theaters;
8. Indoor ancillary establishments in hotels and other accommodation establishments; and
9. Venues for election-related events. Proof of full vaccination shall be required before entry into the list of establishments identified under the principles of 3C's (Closed, Crowded, and Close Contact) strategy against COVID-19. Children ages seventeen (17) and below shall not be required to present proof of full vaccination status.

VII. COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

Face to face graduation, commencement exercises, or moving up rites in all schools within the Province of Sultan Kudarat, duly approved to conduct such ceremonies by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) or Department of Education (DepEd), as the case may be, is allowed subject, however, to the strict observance of health protocols.

VIII. REIMPLEMENTATION OF CURFEW HOUR.

The Curfew hour from 10 P.M. to 4 A.M. is hereby reimplemented in the entire Province of Sultan Kudarat.

IX. AUTHORITY OF LCEs TO DECLARE GRANULAR LOCKDOWN.

The LCEs in the Province of Sultan Kudarat shall enjoy the discretion to declare a barangay or sitio/purok, as the case may be, within their area of responsibility under Granular Lockdown to prevent and impede the spread of contamination thereat.

SECTION 3. PENAL CLAUSE. Those found resisting and seriously disobeying any person while engaged in the performance of his duty in enforcing this Order will be penalized in accordance with Article 151 of the Revised Penal Code.

Any person who attacks, employs, forces, or seriously intimidates or seriously resists any person in authority or his agent while engaged in the performance of his duty in enforcing this Order, knowing them to be such, shall be liable for direct assault under Article 148 of the Revised Penal Code.

Any person found violating any provision of this Order shall be fined in accordance with Provincial Ordinance No. 36 dated August 10, 2020, as amended.

Any close contact person of confirmed COVID-19 persons who violates the mandatory 14-day quarantine shall be penalized in accordance with Provincial Ordinance No. 59 dated September 13, 2021, passed by the 15th Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Sultan Kudarat

Nevertheless, the business permit of establishment or business transport of any form found violating any provision of this Order shall be revoked by the issuing LGUs.

Any public officer or employee who violates any of the provisions of this Executive Order may be meted administrative disciplinary action without prejudice to the filing of the appropriate civil or criminal action.

Non-cooperation of person or entities identified as having the notifiable COVID-19 and refusing to undergo RT-PCR shall be penalized according to this Section.

Other penalties for violation of the provision of this Executive Order may be imposed in accordance with Ordinances passed by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Sultan Kudarat, Sangguniang Panlungsod of Tacurong, or Sangguniang Bayan within the Province of Sultan Kudarat.

For this purpose, the Provincial Prosecution Office is requested to assist Legal Officers of Municipalities and the City of Tacurong to initiate appropriate charge(s), as may be warranted.

SECTION 4. LOCAL ISSUANCES. To provide consistency, clarity, and uniformity of action to the general public, all local chief executives and local sanggunian in the province are enjoined to immediately issue/modify and pass local orders or ordinances to adopt and implement the guidelines in the Order. None, whatsoever, shall be passed or issued which will or might in any way conflict with any provisions of this Executive Order or which will or might in any way interfere with or impede its achievement.

Copies of Executive Orders issued by the Local Chief Executive within the province of Sultan Kudarat shall be forwarded to the Provincial Governor within three (3) days from their issuance to ensure that such Executive Orders are within the powers granted by law and in conformity with provincial issuances. This is in consonance with Section 30 of RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, which empowers the Provincial Governor to review executive orders promulgated by the component city or municipal mayor within his jurisdiction.

Copies of City/Municipal Ordinances passed by the sanggunian within the province of Sultan Kudarat shall be forwarded to the Sangguniang panlalawigan of Sultan Kudarat for review within three (3) days after its passage.

SECTION 5. ASSISTANCE FROM AFP/PNP IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ORDER. All law enforcement agencies, especially the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Army in the province, are directed to provide necessary assistance in implementing the Order. As such, uniformed personnel shall be assigned at the Quarantine Check Points to strictly enforce travelers' adherence to the requirements in entering the Province of Sultan Kudarat as provided in Section 2 (a,b,c,d,e,f, and i) and relevant provisions on health protocols.

SECTION 6. DEPUTIZATION BY MAYORS OF OTHER SAFETY AND SECURITY GROUPS OR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MINIMUM HEALTH PROTOCOL. All Mayors in the Province of Sultan Kudarat shall deputize other safety and security groups or civil society organizations to assist in the strict implementation of the minimum health protocols by every constituent in their locality.

SECTION 7. RELAYING OF INQUIRIES AND INFORMATION. Any inquiries and information relative to COVID-19 may be coursed through the following hotline nos.:

1. 09273620970 Globe
2. 09269230331 TM
3. 09215674423 Smart
4. 09513327041 TNT
5. 09352998593 for critical incident stress debriefing

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any of the provisions of this Order is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be void or unenforceable, in whole or in part, such provision shall be deemed deleted from this Order, but the remaining provisions thereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. All Orders and issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked, repealed, revised, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect on May 16, 2022, and shall remain effective until midnight of May 31, 2022, unless sooner revoked, modified, or repealed accordingly.

Done on the 16th day of May 2022 at Provincial Governor's Office, Kalawag II, Isulan, Sultan Kudarat.


SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU, Ph.D.
Provincial Governor

