

**RTF COVID-19 MIMAROPA Meeting**  
**Video Teleconference via Zoom App**  
**05 August 2021**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**Participants:**

- Dir. Ruben L. Carandang	OCD MIMAROPA, DND Chairperson, RTF MIMAROPA
- Dir. Mario Baquilod	DOH MIMAROPA
- Dir. Cheryl Ortega	DICT LC3
- PBGEN Celso Bale	PRO MIMAROPA
- PMAJ Benigno Sumawang	PRO MIMAROPA
- PMAJ Roanne Marcel Vasco	PRO MIMAROPA
- Myla Panganiban	DILG MIMAROPA
- Kimberly Ann Pilongo	NEDA MIMAROPA
- Rod Paquera	DOST MIMAROPA
- COL Thad Rufino Candelario	AFP WESCOM
- CDR Ferdinand Gato	AFP WESCOM
- MAJ Patrick Timtiman	AFP WESCOM
- CPT Marlou Jay Madrigal	AFP WESCOM
- SSG Jervey Macahilig	203 <sup>rd</sup> IB, PA
- LCDR Melisa Acosta	PCG Palawan
- Christy Andaya	DOH MIMAROPA
- Ramonito Martin	DOH MIMAROPA
- Cheryl Ann Candava	DOH MIMAROPA
- Dr. Matthew Medrano	DOH MIMAROPA
- Paul Fukias	DOLE MIMAROPA
- Gidget Lhey Emm Airylle Castro	PPA Mindoro
- Christine Joy Acorda	PPA Romblon
- John Patrick Hernandez	DICT LC3
- Edd Fernan Gonzales	DICT LC3
- Maria Graciela Bucad	DICT LC3
- Ma. Lourdes Pagtalunan	DOTr
- James Gonzalo	DOTr
- Lay-Ar Dela Peña	DOTr
- Gladys Quesea	DOT MIMAROPA
- Lyndon Plantilla	PIA MIMAROPA
- Jaypee Nardo	PMS MIMAROPA
- Ivy Kristine Basco	PDRMO Oriental Mindoro
- Mario Mulingbayan	PDRMO Occidental Mindoro
- Jose Rino Labay	PDRMO Marinduque
- Sheila Marie Chua	PDRMO Marinduque
- Guilbertee Melano	PDRMO Romblon
- Cruzalde Ablaña	PDRMO Palawan
- Earl Timbancaya	CDRMO Puerto Princesa
- Dennis Escosora	CDRMO Calapan
- ARD Nieves L. Bonifacio	OCD MIMAROPA
- Maria Aiza S. Siason	OCD MIMAROPA
- Marc Rembrandt P. Victore	OCD MIMAROPA
- Georgina G. Opinion	OCD MIMAROPA



- |                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| - Clyde Jewel C. Solis  | OCD MIMAROPA |
| - Sheila Marie S. Reyes | OCD MIMAROPA |
| - Anthony M. Zoleta     | OCD MIMAROPA |
| - Wilmer F. Fabella     | OCD MIMAROPA |

## 1. Proceedings/Highlights of the Meeting

- The meeting started at 10:00 AM with the invocation (AVP) and the welcome remarks of OCD MIMAROPA ARD Nieves Bonifacio, followed by the acknowledgement of the participants and call to order of the meeting. This was followed by the presentation of the proposed agenda, and the actionable items from the previous RTF COVID-19 MIMAROPA Meeting (July 27, 2021) by Ms. Georgina Opinion.

### Actionable Items from Previous RTF Meeting

- Mr. Ramonito Martin of DOH MIMAROPA presented the guidelines for the development of Contingency Plans for COVID-19 Delta Variant, based on the Interim Guidelines on COVID-19 Surge Response Plan for Health Facilities under DOH Department Memorandum 2021-0327. The said memorandum shall apply to all DOH Bureaus, Units, attached agencies, CHDs, and DOH Hospitals, including BARMM. The surge response shall be activated in 2 levels regardless of community quarantine status (community-level surge response and facility-level surge response). The surge response shall focus on 5 major areas: (1) increasing COVID-19 dedicated beds, (2) increasing ICU beds for COVID-19, (3) increasing TTMF beds and implementation of home care during surge, (4) Human Resource for Health augmentation, and (5) HRH support in the form of transportation and accommodation. The Surge Response shall be implemented in 3 stages: (1) Preparedness Stage – there is no surge in the area, (2) Response Stage – period right before there is a surge in the facility or there is anticipated surge in the area, and (3) Surge Response Stage – the period in which there is a surge in the health facility or community transmission in the area.
- In the preparedness stage, the CHDs and LGUs shall ensure that health facilities have contingency plans in the 5 major areas and shall utilize the telemedicine as an alternative to face-to-face consultations. At this stage, hospitals may utilize their previously dedicated COVID-19 beds for non-COVID 19 cases, provided that the hospitals maintain their bed occupancy rates below 50%, provided further that they are able to revert these beds once thresholds for the response stages have been reached.
- During response stage, CHDs shall strictly monitor the 30% COVID-19 dedicated beds in government hospitals and 20% for private hospitals.
- During Surge Response Stage, CHDs shall issue a Regional Order instructing a region or province-wide increase of dedicated beds to 50% for government hospitals and 30% for private hospitals. For levels 2 and 3 hospitals, 15% of their total dedicated beds inside the ICU, which are converted regular beds that can be used for critical cases.



- The roles and responsibilities of the DOH offices, bureaus and attached agencies are also indicated in the said Department Memorandum. LGUs are also to ensure that contingency plans for their catchment areas are in place.
- Dir. Baquilod raised the concerns of the hospitals of MIMAROPA, one of which is the lack of supplier for oxygen tanks in the region. Most of the hospitals in the region are relying on the suppliers outside the region (Batangas Province). This will be discussed in the next RTF Meeting with the selected representatives of the hospitals.

#### **COVID-19 Weekly Update**

- Dr. Cheryl Candava of DOH MIMAROPA presented the latest COVID-19 updates/situation as of 03 August 2021. There are 16,459 total cases in the region, 1,101 of which are active cases (6.7%). There are now 14,737 recoveries (89.5%) and 426 deaths (2.6%) reported in the region. Oriental Mindoro has the highest no. of new active cases (240) and the highest total cases (5,806) in the region. 99% of the active cases in the region are from local transmission. MIMAROPA has 24.4% positivity rate with Puerto Princesa City having the highest at 38.0%, followed by Palawan with 34.5%. Romblon have a medium 2-week growth rate, with the whole region having an average of low 2-week growth rate.
- The total reported number of confirmed COVID-19 cases (RT-PCR) in MIMAROPA is slowly but continuously decreasing. However, there are areas of concern based on the latest Average Daily Attack Rate (ADAR), 2WGR and high number of cases. The clustering of cases is high in Oriental Mindoro, especially in Calapan City, and Odiongan, Romblon. About 1 in every 4 cases are quarantined at home wherein 4 in every 10 of them are asymptomatic. In terms of health care utilization, occupancy is generally low, all below the 80% danger zone. Half of all active cases admitted in hospitals are asymptomatic and mild cases that are competing with resources and attention that are best reserved for moderate, severe and critical COVID-19 cases.

#### **COVID-19 Vaccination Program Update**

- Dr. Matthew Medrano of DOH MIMAROPA (RVOC) presented the updates on the COVID-19 Vaccination Program in the region as of 04 August 2021. For the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of the vaccines, MIMAROPA has a consumption rate of 72% of allocated Sinovac vaccines in the region. For AstraZeneca, MIMAROPA has a consumption rate of 105%. The doses for AstraZeneca is being maximized at more than 10 doses per vial, therefore exceeding the 100% allocation of the said vaccines. 94% of Gamaleya vaccines have also been consumed. For Janssen vaccine, MIMAROPA has a total of 35% consumption out of the 104,550 doses allocated in the region. A total of 188,866 persons have been vaccinated with the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of the vaccine, while 146,358 (77%) of them have received their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. There were reported 4,985 deferrals for Group A while there are 1,090 refusals reported.
- Dr. Medrano informed that all uniformed personnel may be given vaccination, as they are considered as frontline workers, and are requested to submit the



151 master list of their personnel to DOH MIMAROPA, to be endorsed in their  
152 respective Local Government Units where they are assigned.  
153

#### 154 **Response Cluster Updates**

- 155 • Dr. Christy Andaya of DOH MIMAROPA presented the Response Cluster  
156 Accomplishments in the region, focusing on the violations against the Minimum  
157 Public Health Standards (MHPS). The highest no. of violations are from  
158 Romblon, followed by Palawan and Oriental Mindoro. Apprehensions in the  
159 violations against the MHPS are face masks violations, face shield violations,  
160 social distancing violations, and violations of RA 11332. DOH MIMAROPA  
161 continuously implements programs in line with the PDITR (Prevent, Detect,  
162 Isolate, Treat and Reintegrate) Strategy.  
163

#### 164 **Accomplishment Report of the Recovery Cluster**

- 165 • Ms. Kimberly Pilonggo of NEDA MIMAROPA presented the accomplishments  
166 of the Recovery Cluster. The following activities were conducted by the  
167 Recovery Cluster agencies:  
168
  - 169 ○ Endorsement of Loan Availments and addressing queries on loan  
170 availments
  - 171 ○ Conduct of *Negosyo* cliniquings
  - 172 ○ Provision of livelihood kits
  - 173 ○ Conduct of entrepreneurship seminars to barangays
  - 174 ○ Monitoring of supply of BNPCs to firms
  - 175 ○ Monitoring of compliance to COVID-19 prevention measures in  
176 workplaces and business establishments
  - 177 ○ Enrollment of MSMEs in e-commerce platforms
  - 178 ○ Provision of farm equipment and animal inputs for agriculture
  - 179 ○ Organization of Local CODE Teams
  - 180 ○ Provision of Food and Non-Food Items
  - 181 ○ Provision of Social Pension to senior citizens
  - 182 ○ Provision of Social Amelioration Program and other financial  
183 assistance
  - 184 ○ Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) for children
  - 185 ○ Approval and assistance to applications for CAMP and TUPAD
  - 186 ○ Training on Distance Learning for teachers
  - 187 ○ Development and distribution of self-learning modules (SLM)
  - 188 ○ Implementation of automated business permits and licenses  
189 application
  - 190 ○ Issuance of Digital Signature Certificates
  - 191 ○ Conduct of Coastal Security Patrols
  - 192 ○ Thermal scanning/screening/disinfection to all crew of inbound and  
193 outbound vessels
  - 194 ○ Acceleration of registration and painting of watercrafts
  - 195 ○ Strict conduct of pre-departure inspection to all watercrafts
  - 196 ○ Deployment of floating assets as security barriers and to enforce  
197 COVID-19 health protocols
  - 198 ○ Providing assistance and deploying personnel to IMTs and EOCs  
199  
200



**Progress of Operationalization of Molecular Laboratories in Palawan and Puerto Princesa City**

- Mr. Cruzalde Ablaña presented the update on the operationalization of molecular laboratory in PEPO Compound, Irawan, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. As of 05 August 2021, the mechanical ventilation / air conditioning for the said facility have already been procured and is awaiting transportation from Manila to Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.
- Ms. Gina Villapa of CHO Puerto Princesa provided the update of the molecular laboratory in Puerto Princesa City. The hauling, treatment and disposal of infectious waste is currently undergoing procurement process. There is also on-going proficiency testing (currently on stage 4), which will be the basis of RITM that the facility and staff complement is capable to correctly and accurately test for COVID-19.

**Provinces and Cities Contingency Plan for the Spread of COVID-19 Delta Variant**

- The representative of the Provincial and City DRRM Offices of MIMAROPA presented their respective Contingency Plans, in the event of the spread of the COVID-19 Delta Variant in the region. Mr. Jose Rino Labay of PDRRMO Marinduque informed that their contingency plan is still for formulation, in coordination with the Provincial Health Office.
  - a. Province of Occidental Mindoro  
The contingency plan of Occidental Mindoro is anchored on the 4-Door strategy advocated by the DOH, while emphasis of the plan is on the mandate of the Provinces which is the border and increasing the capacities of the hospitals. Realignment of the budget will also be made to accommodate the needs of the hospitals.
  - b. Province of Romblon  
The plan of Romblon is based on the 4S Strategy by DOH. This includes improvement of the spaces/structures, increasing capacities of the staff, and provision of additional equipment/supplies.
  - c. Province of Palawan  
Palawan conducted a meeting involving the Provincial TG Covid Shield, and came up with the following recommendations: (1) Issuance of Provincial Ordinance re; violations of Minimum Health Protocols, (2) Conduct meeting with Municipal Mayors of Palawan, (3) LGU Briefing for COVID-19 Delta Variant, (4) Creating of ConPlan of all municipalities, and (5) Strengthen IEC Campaign, especially in Southern Palawan.
  - d. Puerto Princesa City  
Puerto Princesa included in their plan the intensification of testing, empowerment of community preparedness, increasing number of Barangay isolation units, heightening monitoring and surveillance and intensification of contact tracing.



### Updates on VIMS-VAS

- Mr. Edd Fernan Gonzales of DICT LC3 presented the updates on VIMS-VAS. MIMAROPA has reached the 100% target upload of previously reported backlog of data. All of the LGUs in MIMAROPA has also uploaded their respective VAS Line Lists. DICT will continuously follow up the LGUs for LOI submission and DVAS Roll Out, and will contact LGUs for VAS Line List compliances.

### Updates on the Proposed New RTF Organization Structure

- Dir. Ruben Carandang of OCD MIMAROPA presented the proposed new organization of the Regional Task Forces Against COVID-19. Under the proposed structure, the Task Group Communities and Task Group Health Facilities will be created under the Response Cluster.

## 2. Decision Points/Actionable Items

Mr. Marc Rembrandt P. Victore of OCD MIMAROPA presented the Actionable Items noted during the discussion:


Item No.	Actionable Item	Responsible Office / LGU
1	Provide the RTF COVID-19 Member Agencies and Local Task Groups of MIMAROPA the copy of DOH Department Memorandum 2021-0327	DOH MIMAROPA
2	Invite PDOHO representatives / hospital chiefs to present in the next RTF MIMAROPA Meeting the Surge Capacity Plans in compliance to DOH DM 2021-0327 and status of oxygen supply in their respective hospitals	DOH MIMAROPA
3	Intensify Information Dissemination of RTF COVID-19 MIMAROPA preparations and actions taken to prepare against the COVID-19 Delta Variant	PIA MIMAROPA
4	Present in the next RTF MIMAROPA Meeting the Provincial Data of Healthcare Utilization Rate, aside from the Regional Data	DOH MIMAROPA
5	Submit to DOH MIMAROPA the list of personnel to be provided with COVID-19 vaccine (including the location of assignment, LGU where the personnel is located, contact no. and focal person)	203 <sup>rd</sup> IB PA / WESCOM
6	Remind concerned LGUs to strictly follow the quarantine protocols provided by the IATF and DOH on ROFs (note: as reported by OWWA MIMAROPA, there are Romblon LGUs that still require ROFs to undergo 14-day quarantine upon arrival in Romblon despite the 10-days quarantine in Manila and remaining 4-day home quarantine in	PDRRMO Romblon




point of destination if they were tested negative by RT PCR tests in Manila)	
---	--

- Dir. Carandang of OCD MIMAROPA gave his closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned at around 1:55 PM.

Prepared by:

  
Marc Rembrandt P. Victore  
Civil Defense Officer III  
OCD MIMAROPA

Noted by:

  
Dir. Ruben L. Carandang  
Chairperson, RTF COVID-19 MIMAROPA  
Chairperson, RDRRMC MIMAROPA  
Regional Director, OCD MIMAROPA