

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

Participants:

- Dir. Ruben L. Carandang	OCD MIMAROPA, DND Chairperson, RTF MIMAROPA
- Dir. Mario Baquilod	DOH MIMAROPA
- ARD Rey Maranan	DILG MIMAROPA
- Dr. Arturo Cunanan	Culion Sanitarium and General Hospital
- OIC Rey Cristobal	PRC IV
- Dr. Audie Cipriano	Ospital ng Palawan
- Dir. Joffrey Suyao	DOLE MIMAROPA
- PBGEN Celso Bael	PRO MIMAROPA
- Dr. Matthew Medrano	DOH MIMAROPA
- Noel Orosco	DOH MIMAROPA
- Christy Andaya	DOH MIMAROPA
- Ramonito Martin	DOH MIMAROPA
- Myla Panganiban	DILG MIMAROPA
- Rod Paquera	DOST MIMAROPA
- Angelo Paolo Aboboto	NEDA MIMAROPA
- Sheryl Sarabia	NEDA MIMAROPA
- Azeneth Trasmonte	DSWD MIMAROPA
- CDR Ferdinand Gato	AFP WESCOM
- CPT Marlou Jay Madrigal	AFP WESCOM
- COL Arcangel Gamido Jr.	AFP SOLCOM
- MAJ Julius Villar	AFP SOLCOM
- COL Thad Rufino Candelario	TOW WEST
- CPT Aminkadra Abdula	TOW WEST
- Representative	2 nd ID PA
- PCPT Joel Saguid	PRO MIMAROPA
- PLTCOL Alma Paredes	PRO MIMAROPA
- ENS Aldrein Gonzales	PCG Palawan
- Lyndon Plantilla	PIA MIMAROPA
- Elvie Irene Paz Serrano	MARINA 4
- PPO1 Efrelyn Rabino	PPA Mindoro
- MAJ Allan Manuel	PPA Palawan
- Maria Anna Irene San	DEPED MIMAROPA
- Cesar Contreras	PMS MIMAROPA
- Jaypee Nardo	PMS MIMAROPA
- James Gonzalo	DOTr
- Gideon Navarro	DOTr
- Honrado Pineda Jr.	DOTr
- Maria Graciela Bucad	DOTr
- Gladys Quesea	DOT MIMAROPA
- Paul Pukias	DOLE MIMAROPA
- Edd Fernan Gonzales	DICT LC3
- Jose Rino Labay	PDRMO Marinduque

- COL Roseller Muros (Ret)	PDRRMO Romblon
- Cruzalde Ablaña	PDRRMO Palawan
- Earl Timbancaya	CDRRMO Puerto Princesa
- 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 by Ms. Georgina Opinion.

Current COVID-19 Situation Report and Vaccination Updates in MIMAROPA

- Mr. Noel Orosco of DOH MIMAROPA presented the latest COVID-19 situation, as of 10 August 2021, in the region. There are 16,991 total cases in the region, 1,072 of which are active cases (6.3%). There are now 15,268 recoveries (89.9%) and 480 deaths (2.8%) reported in the region. Romblon has the highest no. of active cases (302), while Oriental Mindoro have the highest total cases (5,865) in the region. 98% of the active cases in the region are from local transmission. MIMAROPA has 2.8% Case Fatality Rate with Puerto Princesa City having the highest with 4.4%. MIMAROPA has 24.5% positivity rate with Puerto Princesa City having the highest at 37.4.0%, followed by Palawan with 34.5%. Marinduque, Romblon and Puerto Princesa City is under Alert Level 3, while Occidental Mindoro and Palawan is under Alert Level 2. Oriental Mindoro is under Alert Level 1. Marinduque and Puerto Princesa City have a medium 2-week growth rate, with the whole region have an average of low 2-week growth rate. As of 11 August 2021, there is no reported COVID-19 Delta Variant infection in the region. Currently, 26% of the ICU beds, 41% of isolation beds and 28% of the COVID beds are occupied in the region.
- Dir. Carandang emphasized that asymptomatic and mild cases should not be admitted in hospitals to prevent competing with resources and attention that are best reserved for moderate, severe and critical COVID-19 cases. Further, strict facility quarantine for suspect, probable and confirmed cases should be observed by the LGUs, to avoid transmission among families and communities.
- Dr. Matthew Medrano of DOH MIMAROPA presented the latest Vaccination updates, as of 12 August 2021, in the region. For the 1st dose of the vaccines,

MIMAROPA has a consumption rate of 78% of allocated Sinovac vaccines in the region. For AstraZeneca, MIMAROPA has a consumption rate of 114%. The doses for AstraZeneca are 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 107% consumption out of the 104,550 doses allocated in the region. A total of 212,398 persons have been vaccinated with the 1st dose of the vaccine, while 238,513 are fully vaccinated, including those who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which only requires one dose. There were reported 5,425 deferrals for Group A while there are 1,102 refusals reported.

- Dr. Medrano clarified that persons who have hypertension may still acquire the COVID-19 vaccine, as long as the blood pressure is less than 180/120 and the person is clinically well, but longer observation time must be done after the administration of the vaccine.

Surge Capacity Plans of PDOHO Representatives / Hospital Chiefs in Compliance to DOH DM 2021-0321 and Status of Oxygen Supply in the Respective Hospitals

- Dr. Arturo Cunanan (CSGH) and Dr. Audie Cipriano (ONP) presented the Surge Capacity Plans of their respective hospitals. The highlights of their plans are as follows:

Culion Sanitarium and General Hospital

- Designated COVID-19 Referral Hospital
- Licensed Molecular Laboratory – RT PCR
- Caters to Calamianes Group of Islands and Northern Palawan
- Alloted 30 beds for COVID-19 (50 beds for surge)
- Operating Oxygen Generating Plant since 2011
- Nearest Referral Tertiary Center is in Manila and Puerto Princesa City
- Fortified 4S (Structure, Stuff, System and Staff) Framework for Management of Intra-hospital Infection
- 5-level Calibrated Response
- 56% of COVID ward utilized and 40% of COVID ICU beds utilized as of 11 August 2021
- Upgrade of existing Oxygen Generating Plant is needed to augment the increasing demands in Northern Palawan
- Proposal for construction of new warehouse for oxygen and separate designated generator for Oxygen Plant

Hospital of Palawan

- Planned conversion of respiratory ward and pediatrics ward into isolation beds
- Conversion of auditorium into male and female non-COVID wards
- 3 teams composed of 3 doctors on duty weekly and 2 weeks off for testing and monitoring
- Augmentation of HRH, Nurses and RMTs
- Shifting of schedules from 8 to 12 hours
- Additional request of HRH for Laboratory and Nursing Service

- Mandatory testing of staff after tour of duty in isolation wards
- Supplementing staff with vitamins
- Frequent monitoring of level of drugs and medicines available (requisition and procurement for additional)
- Procurement and requisition of PPE and medical equipment
- Limit OPD patients to be seen and limit elective surgeries

Actions Taken of DILG MIMAROPA and DOH MIMAROPA on the Key Activities

- ARD Rey Maranan presented the actions taken by DILG:
 - Activation of EOC at the P/C/M Local Government Units
 - Activation of BHERTS in all the Provinces of MIMAROPA
 - Preparation of transportation, crematorium, and burial sites
 - Contracting telemedicine providers
- Dir. Baquilod presented the actions taken by DOH MIMAROPA:
 - Activated the Regional One-Hospital-Command
 - On-going procurement and delivery of COVID-19 commodities
 - Distribution of testing cartridges
 - Emphasis of PDITR Strategy to LGUs and Local Health Offices

Result of Coordination with Various Hotels to be used as TTMFs

- Ms. Gladys Quesea presented the updates on the discussion with Accommodation Establishments (AEs) in MIMAROPA, for the possible utilization as TTMFs. DOT MIMAROPA conducted the meeting with the AEs on April 29, 2021, in collaboration with DOH and PHILHEALTH. 25 AEs signified their interest to be utilized as TTMFs. 22 of these AEs are in Palawan while Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro and Marinduque each have 1 AE. Romblon have no identified AE to be utilized as TTMF. 2% of these are already functioning as TTMF, 12% cancelled their application, 4% have on-going processing of application and 76% have signified that they are no longer interested to be used as TTMFs. Several issues that were raised by the AEs are the TTMF operating cost, limited manpower, difficulty in complying with the requirements of DOH and PHILHEALTH, and the LGUs already have existing TTMFs.
- Dir. Carandang informed that according to NTF COVID-19 Order No. 03-A, s. 2020, the National Government shall be implementing the OPLAN KALINGA PROGRAM to accommodate possible and confirmed COVID-19 patients, ROFs, healthcare workers, non-medical frontliners and all personalities as may be authorized by the NTF. The OCD has been instructed to make necessary coordination in identifying and possible contractin of hotels, to be utilized as TTFMs, starting March 2021 and onwards.

2. Other Matters

- PRC IV-A has requested the assistance of RTF MIMAROPA, in the smooth passage of examinees who will undertake the Mechanical Engineers and Certified Plan Mechanics Licensure Examination on August 15-16, 2021 in

Lucena City, Quezon. Dir. Carandang requested PRC IV-A to provide the secretariat with the list of names of those who will undertake the said examination (for endorsement to RTF CALABARZON) and to remind the examinees to prepare necessary documents, to strictly apply for TCP to Lucena City, through the S-PASS System.

- Mr. Edd Fernan Gonzales provided the updates on the VIMS-VAS. As of 10 August 2021, there is a 97.08% completion rate (backlog and regular) and 201 Letter of Intents have been submitted. 7 LGUs are already utilizing the DVAS.
- Dir. Baquilod informed the body about the letter complaint sent by Mr. Klaus Huber, regarding the incident wherein one ambulance was not allowed aboard Montenegro and Starlite ships in Batangas Port, going into Oriental Mindor, even after informing that they are carrying a patient requiring immediate medical attention. The said incident will be discussed with MARINA IV, for immediate action.
- Dir. Carandang instructed for the widest dissemination of the official statement of DOH, refuting the video of Dr. Romeo Quijano, alleging that COVID-19 vaccines are unsafe.
- Mr. Ramonito Martin of DOH MIMAROPA presented the National Crisis Action Plan for COVID-19. Under the Crisis Action Plan, the Four Door Strategy will be implemented, as follows:
 - Door 1 (Point of Origin): Travel bans and restrictions
 - Door 2 (Point of Entry): Screening, Quarantine, and Testing at Point of Entry
 - Door 3 (Point of Care): PDITR + Vaccination
 - Door 4 (Wide-scale community transmission): Enhanced PDITR + Vaccination

3. Decision Points/Actionable Items

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

Item No.	Actionable Item	Responsible Office / LGU
1	Submit to the RTF Secretariat the latest data on status of Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities (TTMFs) in the region	DOH MIMAROPA
2	Invite the Provincial Directors of DILG and Provincial Health Officers in MIMAROPA in the next RTF Meetings to be continuously updated of the current situation and relevant policies, and to provide the issues and concerns in the	DILG MIMAROPA / DOH MIMAROPA

	operationalization of the Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities (TTMFs) and clarify reasons why there still exists home quarantine of covid19 patients.	
3	Reiterate the utilization of Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities (TTMFs) over home quarantine of COVID-19 positive individuals	DILG MIMAROPA
4	Reiterate the importance and benefits of vaccination against COVID-19, through intensified IEC Campaign, to dispel false information	DOH MIMAROPA / PIA MIMAROPA
5	Reiterate the recommendations of DOH MIMAROPA to the Local Task Groups COVID-19 of MIMAROPA, to continuously prevent the spread of COVID-19	OCD MIMAROPA
6	Provide OCD MIMAROPA with DOH Memorandum informing that COVID-19 vaccines may be administered to persons, including senior citizens, with mild hypertension (including the threshold of hypertension case) to be shared to all LTGs	DOH MIMAROPA
7	Invite OCD MIMAROPA to the table-top exercise to test the logistical deployment of COVID-19 commodities in the region, as indicated in the respective Surge Capacity Plans	DOH MIMAROPA
8	Provide OCD MIMAROPA with the copies of Issuances/Memorandums issued and other actions taken, in response to the Critical Action Plan	DILG MIMAROPA
9	Conduct further consultation and re-orient the Accommodation Establishments in MIMAROPA to discuss the issues and concerns (in coordination with LGUs, DOT, DOH, and PHILHEALTH representatives), in the re-purposing of the establishments as TTMFs	OCD MIMAROPA
10	Send official communication to RTF CALABARZON, endorsing the request of PRC IV-A, for the smooth passage of examinees, who will be taking the Mechanical Engineering Examination on August 15-16, 2021 in Lucena City	OCD MIMAROPA
11	Provide OCD MIMAROPA with the list of persons, who will be taking the Mechanical Engineering Examination on August 15-16, 2021 in Lucena City (email address: ocd4_mimaropa@yahoo.com). Further, inform the examinees to prepare the necessary documents, to strictly apply for TCP to Lucena City LGU, through the S-PASS system	PRC IV-A
12	Provide a copy to OCD MIMAROPA of the letter complaint regarding the incident wherein one ambulance was not allowed aboard Montenegro	DOH MIMAROPA

	and Starlite ships, to be discussed with MARINA IV	
13	Disseminate to the LTGs COVID-19 MIMAROPA the official statement of DOH regarding the video of Dr. Romeo Quijano alleging that COVID-19 vaccines are unsafe	OCD MIMAROPA

- Dir. Carandang of OCD MIMAROPA gave his closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned at around 2:30 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