EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. <u>7-A</u> Series of 2021

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7 SERIES OF 2021 BY PROVIDING ADDITIONAL TRAVEL PROTOCOLS SUCH AS THE REQUIREMENT OF A NEGATIVE RT-PCR TEST RESULT FOR INBOUND TRAVELERS IN CERTAIN CASES AND TRAVEL PERMIT FOR OUTBOUND TRAVELERS, AMONG OTHERS

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 1021 Series of 2020 on September 16, 2020 extending the period of State of Calamity throughout the Philippines until September 21, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) issued Resolution No. 101 dated February 26, 2021 approving the uniform travel protocols for land, air and sea of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, crafted in close coordination with the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines, League of Provinces of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines and the League of Cities of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, IATF Resolution No. 101 enjoins all local government units to ensure smooth implementation of these uniform travel protocols;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro issued Executive Order No. 7 Series of 2021 on March 6, 2021 entitled "An Order Adopting the Uniform Travel Protocols for Land, Air and Sea Embodied in IATF Resolution No. 101 to be Implemented in the Province of Occidental Mindoro".

WHEREAS, due to the continuously increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the province, in particular, and in the country, in general, there is an imperative need to revise the travel protocols and guidelines set forth under Executive Order No. 7 Series of 2021 in order to mitigate the surge of COVID-19 cases within our jurisdiction.

NOW THEREFORE, I, EDUARDO B. GADIANO, Governor of the Province of Occidental Mindoro, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the **AMENDMENT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7 SERIES OF 2021,** as follows:

Section 1. COVERAGE.

This Executive Order shall cover all persons traveling to and from the province of Occidental Mindoro whether by land, air or sea. These persons may be classified either as Authorized Persons Outside Residence (APORs) or ordinary travelers. APORs are those persons

traveling on official business. On the other hand, ordinary travelers are those persons traveling for personal purposes.

Section 2. MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS.

Minimum public health standards, which include physical distancing, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and wearing of face masks and face shields among others, shall be strictly implemented in the province of Occidental Mindoro.

Clinical and exposure assessment shall be strictly implemented in all ports of entry and exit to ensure that only asymptomatic, non-close contact individuals are allowed to travel or enter the local government unit of destination. Health assessment of passengers, supervised by medical doctors, shall be mandatory upon entry in the port/terminal and exit at point of destination.

Section 3. PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES FOR PERSONS TRAVELING TO THE PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO.

a) Prior to travel

Prior to travel to the province, travelers are required to have prior coordination with the LGU of destination through online registration or any form of local coordination scheme at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the date of travel. They are also required to secure a negative RT-PCR Test Result except those persons exempted therein as enumerated in Section 5 (b) of this Executive Order.

The proof of coordination and negative RT-PCR Test Result (if applicable) must be presented to the concerned LGU team stationed in the different entry points in the province.

APORs from national government agencies and their attached agencies must, prior to their travel to the province, coordinate with the local counterpart of their agency in the province or with the LGU of destination. The concerned local counterpart shall be in charge in coordinating the APOR's arrival to the LGU of destination's repatriation cluster. These APORs are not required to secure a negative RT-PCR Test Result prior to their entry to the province.

b) Upon entry to the province

Travelers and APOR's shall present the necessary documentary requirements and undergo health and exposure assessment at the different entry points of the province to be conducted by the personnel of the concerned LGU, as follows:

MATABANG PORT/ABRA DE ILOG PORT

Travelers and APORs bound to the municipality of Abra de Ilog shall proceed to LGU Abra de Ilog Repatriation Desk for health and exposure assessment.

Travelers and APORs bound to other destination shall undergo health and exposure assessment by the help/assistance desk personnel of the Provincial Government.

ii. SAN JOSE AIRPORT/ CAMINAWIT PORT

All arriving travelers and APORs bound to the municipality of San Jose shall undergo health and exposure assessment to be conducted by the personnel of LGU San Jose RHU with the assistance of MDRRMO.

In Caminawit Port, travelers and APORs bound to other destination shall undergo health and exposure assessment by the help/assistance desk personnel of the Provincial Government.

iii. MAGSAYSAY BORDER

Travelers and APORs bound to the municipality of Magsaysay shall proceed to LGU Magsaysay Repatriation Desk for health and exposure assessment.

Travelers and APORs bound to other destination shall undergo health and exposure assessment by the help/assistance desk personnel of the Provincial Government.

iv. LUBANG/TILIK PORT

All arriving travelers and APORs shall undergo health and exposure assessment to be conducted by the personnel of LGU Lubang RHU with the assistance of MDRRMO.

v. LOOC PORT

All arriving travelers and APORs shall undergo health and exposure assessment to be conducted by the personnel of LGU Looc RHU with the assistance of MDRRMO.

c) Travelers found to be symptomatic after health and exposure assessment

All travelers and APORs who are found to be symptomatic after health and exposure assessment shall undergo mandatory quarantine in the quarantine/isolation facility of the LGU of destination.

Section 4. COVID-19 TESTING AND QUARANTINE.

In general, a negative RT-PCR Test Result is required for travelers prior to their entry to the province except those travelers exempted therein as enumerated in Section 5 (b) of this Executive Order. The RT-PCR Test Result is valid only for forty eight (48) hours from its release or issuance. RT-PCR may either be through swab or saliva testing. Antigen Test and all other tests will not be allowed.

No traveler or APOR shall be required to undergo quarantine unless he/she shall exhibit symptoms upon health and exposure assessment at the different entry points of the province.

Section 5. DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR OUTBOUND AND INBOUND TRAVELERS.

Travel authority (issued by JTF-COVID Shield of the PNP) and medical clearance certificate are no longer required for travelers and APORs entering the province as well as for those traveling outside the province (outbound travelers).

a. OUTBOUND TRAVELERS

Outbound travelers (including government employees who are on non-official business) who will be returning to the province for a specified period, are required the following documents:

- travel permit from their LGU of origin which shall also serve as their notice of coordination upon their return to the province. Travel order issued by government agencies to its officials and employees shall serve as the travel permit;
- 2. a negative RT-PCR Test Result, if their return to the province is beyond seventy two (72) hours from the time they left the province.

b. INBOUND TRAVELERS

Inbound travelers are required the following documents:

- 1. a negative RT-PCR Test Result;
- 2. notice of coordination with the receiving LGU

PERSONS EXEMPTED FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF NEGATIVE RT-PCR TEST RESULT:

- APORs from national government agencies and their attached agencies as per IATF Resolution No. 98-A;
- ii. Local Government officials or employees, if their travel is for official business. Outbound government employees are also exempted from the requirement even if their return to the province is beyond 72 hours provided that the travel is for official business and within the duration indicated in the travel order;
- iii. Returning patients and their watchers (maximum of two (2) watchers which shall be listed in the travel permit). Those in excess of two (2) shall be required to present a negative RT-PCR Test Result. However, these returning patients and their watchers must present medical proof that the patient sought medical treatment outside the province. Also, they are encouraged to undergo voluntary homestay for 10 days with regular monitoring from the concerned Municipal Health Office personnel or BHERT members.

Accordingly, if they are amenable to undergo voluntary homestay, they shall execute an undertaking that they are willing and voluntarily submitting themselves to voluntary homestay. For this purpose, there must be a proper coordination with the receiving LGUs to ensure that regular monitoring shall be done by the concerned MHO personnel or BHERT members.

iv. Outbound travelers (residents and government employees on personal travel) who returned to the province within seventy two (72) hours from the time they left the province.

APORs from national government agencies and their attached agencies must provide their identification card, travel order, and travel itinerary, and must pass symptom-screening at points of entry and exit in the province pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 98-A issued on February 4, 2021.

Section 6. REQUIREMENTS FOR CARGO TRUCK DRIVERS AND HELPERS TRAVELING TO THE PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO.

- a. The requirements for cargo truck drivers and helpers intending to travel to the Province of Occidental Mindoro are, as follows:
 - 1. For Occidental Mindoro Truckers- a negative RT-PCR Test Result, the test of which should be undertaken at least once a month;

For non-Occidental Mindoro Truckers who shall do business in the province (like buying farm produce) - a negative RT-PCR Test Result which is valid for forty eight (48) hours from its release or issuance;

For non-Occidental Mindoro Truckers who shall only make a delivery in the province- they are not required to present a negative RT-PCR Test Result provided that they will leave the province within thirty six (36) hours from entry, otherwise, they may face the applicable legal sanctions;

- 2. Pertinent business permit (for non-Occidental Mindoro truckers who shall do business in the province);
- 3. Food lane conduct pass and its pertinent papers.
- b. Cargo truck drivers and helpers shall undergo health and exposure assessment upon their arrival at the entry points of the province;
- c. Cargo truck drivers and helpers cannot be subjected to quarantine as long as they are asymptomatic;
- d. Only one (1) driver and a maximum of three (3) helpers per cargo truck are allowed entry into the province. Any other persons in excess of this number shall not be allowed entry to the province. This also applies to any vehicle bearing food lane conduct pass.
- e. After unloading of cargoes at the final destination, cargo truck drivers and helpers (of Occidental Mindoreňo truckers) are encouraged to stay in a temporary shelter provided by the employer or operator. They will be allowed to leave the temporary shelter when they are scheduled for another trip outside the province. During their stay in the shelter, the MHO and/or the concerned BHERT member shall regularly monitor them for any sign or symptom of COVID-19 infection.

Section 7. RETURNING OVERSEAS FILIPINOS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS.

The requirements for Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) and Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who arrived in the country and intending to travel to the province of Occidental Mindoro are, as follows:

- a. Negative RT-PCR Test Result;
- b. Quarantine Clearance issued by the Bureau of Quarantine;
- c. Proof that the ROF or OFW underwent whole genome sequencing and was found negative for any COVID-19 variant by the Philippine Genome Center (This only applies where the ROF or OFW was found positive for COVID-19 based on RT-PCR Test Results)

Section 8. ZONING CONTAINMENT STRATEGY.

LGUs are reminded to implement Zoning Containment Strategy or localized lockdown of a particular barangay, purok, sitio or building within their area of jurisdiction which has confirmed COVID-19 infection or transmission, upon concurrence of the Regional IATF.

Section 9. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

Once established and functional, the Safe, Swift and Smart Passage (S-PaSS) Travel Management System of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall be the one-stop-shop application/communication for travelers in Occidental Mindoro.

The StaySafe.ph System shall be utilized as the primary contract tracing system in the province. As such, all government offices, both national and local, are directed to implement and utilize the StaySafe.ph system in their respective premises. Municipalities are also enjoined to require all business establishments within their jurisdiction to utilize the said contact tracing system. Traze App for airports, and such other existing contact tracing applications must be integrated with the StaySafe.ph System following IATF Resolution No. 85 issued on November 25, 2020.

Section 10. PORTS AND TERMINALS.

All ports and terminals in the province shall put in place a referral system wherein travelers who become symptomatic shall be transferred to the quarantine/isolation facilities of their LGU of destination.

San Jose Airport and all ports in the province shall designate a quarantine/isolation facility for symptomatic travelers which shall be temporarily utilized prior to their coordination/transfer to LGU of destination's quarantine facility.

It shall be the duty of the PDRRMO to transport symptomatic travelers to the quarantine/isolation facility of their LGU of destination.

Section 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.

If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid for any reason, the parts not affected thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

Section 12. REPEALING CLAUSE.

All Executive Orders, Rules and Regulations issued by this province which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.

Section 13. EFFECTIVITY.

This Order shall take effect on March 25, 2021 until lifted by the undersigned.

DONE at the Provincial Capitol, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro this 23rd day of March 2021.

EDUARDO B GADIANO Governor