



**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**

No. 2020-02

**FOR** : Port Operators, Other Port Authorities, Shipping Agencies, Ship Handlers, and Concerned Manning Agencies

**SUBJECT** : GUIDELINES AT ALL SEAPORTS FOR PREVENTION AND SPREAD OF 2019-NCOV

**DATE** : 31 January 2020

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On 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the 2019-nCoV ARD as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). The WHO emphasized the urgent need to coordinate international efforts to investigate and better understand 2019-nCoV, to minimize threat in affected countries and to reduce the risk of further international spread.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2020 President Rodrigo Duterte through the recommendation of the Inter-Agency task force for Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases issued a temporary travel ban for those travelers coming from China, including Hong Kong and Macau SAR.

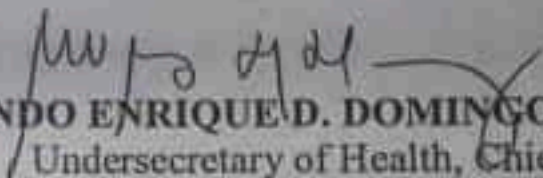
In line with the directive of the President, the Bureau of Quarantine shall be implementing the following measures effective immediately at all seaport for all maritime vessels.

1. All vessels (commercial and military) coming in from China, including Hong Kong and Macau SAR in the past fourteen (14) days are prohibited to enter any Philippine port, except emergency calls for Filipinos and holders of permanent residence visa.
2. All vessels (commercial and military) coming in from China, including Hong Kong and Macau SAR beyond fourteen (14) – days from their last port of call in China, including Hong Kong and Macau SAR are allowed, provided they will report upon entry to Philippine quarantine zone that there are no ill persons on board.
3. Duly accomplished Maritime Declaration must be submitted to Quarantine Medical Officer.
4. Strict observation of general preventive measures following Memorandum Circular No. 2020-02 of the Bureau of Quarantine.

5. Garbage disposal of food products, especially from animal products, are not allowed in Philippine ports.

For strict compliance

This issuance may be changed depending on their evolving public health conditions.

  
**ROLANDO ENRIQUE D. DOMINGO, MD, DPBO**  
Undersecretary of Health, Chief of Staff