

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20 Series of 2022

ADOPTING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 03, SERIES OF 2022 BY THE PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY FERDINAND ROMUALDEZ MARCOS JR. ALLOWING THE VOLUNTARY WEARING OF FACE MASKS IN OUTDOOR SETTINGS AND REITERATING THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS DURING THE STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATIVE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

WHEREAS, due to the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid 19), then President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the country;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 151, series of 2021, the Alert Level System was adopted replacing the Community Quarantine System, authorizing further the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Disease to amend or modify the guidelines in the nationwide implementation of the Alert Level System for Covid -19 Response which include the mandatory wearing of face masks whether outdoor or in indoor public or private establishments as well as in public transport either by land, air and sea;

WHEREAS, based on IATF Resolution No. 01, series of 2022 which recommended the liberalization of the mask mandate, the President issued Executive Order No. 03, series of 2022 lifting the mandatory mask mandate and allowing the optional wearing of face mask in open spaces, outdoor areas and in non-crowded spaces with good ventilation;

**NOW THEREFORE,** by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, I, **BERNARD S. WACLIN**, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, Benguet Province, hereby ORDER and decree as follows:

Section 1. <u>Voluntary Wearing of Face Masks; Exceptions</u>. The voluntary wearing of face masks is hereby allowed in open spaces and non-crowded outdoor areas with good ventilation. Provided further, that individuals who are not fully vaccinated, senior citizens and the immune-compromised individuals are highly encouraged to wear their face masks. Physical distancing shall be observed at all times.

*Provided further,* that face masks shall continue to worn in indoor public or private establishments, including in public transportation where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Wearing of face masks shall also be mandatory in all types of mass transport services for employees or workers in either public or private sector.

Section 2. <u>Observance of Minimum Public Health Standards.</u> In accordance with Executive Order No. 03, series of 2022, the minimum public health standards intended to effectively prevent and minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the country shall continue to be implemented consistent with the principles of shared accountability, evidence-based decision-making, socio-economic equity and rights-based approach.

Section 3. <u>Responsibilities of the Component Barangays.</u> Barangay officials are hereby directed to cause the widest dissemination of this Order in their Areas of Jurisdiction for the information of their respective constituents. The Punong Barangays

are further instructed to implement this Order in their respective barangays. In the process, they shall coordinate with various stakeholders such as purok leaders, PUJ associations, owners of business establishments, administrators or heads of public and private institutions such as schools and churches, the Municipal Health Office and the Itogon Municipal Police Station for the provision of appropriate and necessary assistance.

Section 6. <u>Repealing Clause</u>. All Orders and executive issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby deemed repealed accordingly.

Section 7. <u>Separability Clause</u>. If for any reason, this order or parts hereof are declared invalid or unconstitutional, other parts hereof not affected by such declaration shall continue to be in force and effect.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022 at Itogon, Benguet.

HON. BERNARD S. WACLIN Municipal Mayor

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