



National Task Force against COVID19
National Incident Command – Emergency Operations Center (NIC-EOC)
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City

2 May 2020

THE SECRETARY
ARTHUR TUGADE
Department of Transportation
Apo Court along Sergio Osmeña Sr.,
Clark Freeport, Mabalacat, Pampanga

Dear *Sec. Tugade*,

In reference to the continuous efforts of the Philippine Government to contain the further spread of the COVID-19 pandemic within the country, and borne from serious and careful consideration and discussion of all the facts and circumstances present, as the Chief Implementer of the National Task Force for COVID-19, the undersigned is respectfully requesting the Department of Transportation to temporarily suspend the use of all Philippine International airports, except for emergency *en route* flights for inbound international passenger flights effective 3 May 2020, at 0000UTC/0800H LT.

To be sure, cargo operations, medical supplies, utility and maintenance flights shall still be allowed, and will remain unhampered, subject to IATF protocols.

This moratorium on flights is being imposed in view of the need to ramp up the capacity of our current systems to properly process the growing number of Filipino repatriates coming back to the Philippines on a daily basis. This will also allow the government's front line agencies and instrumentalities to upgrade their testing and screening protocols and expand existing quarantine and medical facilities to adequately deal with the growing number of repatriates and Covid19 cases in the Philippines.

Thank you for your continuous support to the COVID-19 National Task Force.

Respectfully yours,

SECRETARY CARLITO GALVEZ, JR.
Chief Implementer
National Taskforce for against COVID-19