



MEDIA RELEASE
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World Health Organization Compliant COVID-19 Surveillance System (CSS) Offered as Solution

Manila, Philippines ---- NOW Corporation (NOW), with its partner, the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC) is offering an IT-based solution to DOH, DICT, and IATF for comprehensive containment of COVID-19 infections.

COVID-19 CSS is an end-to-end IT solution that will be executed together with the Viettel Group, Vietnam's largest telecom firm, following the 3-step WHO approach: contact identification, contact listing, and contact follow up. The said solution has helped Vietnam fight Covid-19 and has exhibited a well-coordinated response against the pandemic. Vietnam's exemplary response to Covid-19 is evidenced by a relatively lower number of infections and no mortalities as of 1 May 2020. The country with a population of over 95 million used ICT as means for controlling the outbreak alongside strict enforcement of rules and policies. The solution has been implemented in three ASEAN countries namely Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

Contact identification will be made easier through quick access to an online comprehensive form that ensures secure data validation and verification and features real-time updates. This will be useful for airport and seaport personnel; DOH-Bureau of Quarantine, DOTR, DICT, CAAP, DOJ-Bureau of Immigration; IATF-Designated Checkpoints, as well as LGUs (for access and monitoring).

The system includes a Doctor24 Mobile Application whereby doctors and medical professionals can quickly gather medical information on the status of patients identified as "Confirmed" to have been infected, a "Suspected" case, or "Probable" case.

The CSS Dashboard will be the reporting system that can aid the government in gathering real-time data on the patient/individual as captured from the health declaration system and the Doctor24 system. The Dashboard can generate accurate reporting of the patient/individual for contact tracing purposes and will act as the basis of accurate data as required by the different government agencies to quickly evaluate the situation in order to issue appropriate policies, guidelines and measures to address the crisis.

"Once the enhanced community quarantine is lifted either to modified community quarantine or total lift, the more we need to monitor and to trace all those suspected with Covid-19. By implementing an ICT solution that would help government agencies fight this pandemic, we would be able to avoid a catastrophic 2nd or even 3rd wave," says Mel Velarde, CEO of NOW Corp and Chairman of the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication.

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