

**[ DOH ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2012-0028,  
December 05, 2012 ]**

**REVISED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF  
REPUBLIC ACT 9271 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE QUARANTINE  
ACT OF 2004**

**I. BACKGROUND/RATIONALE**

In July 4, 1946, the Quarantine Service was formally turned over to the Philippine Government from United States Public Health Services. The following year, Republic Act No. 123 "An Act Prescribing the Reorganization and Operation of the Bureau of Quarantine Service and Promulgating Regulations Thereof" was approved on July 14, 1947 (*Bureau of Quarantine Documents*)

At the global scene, the International Sanitary Regulation (ISR) by the World Health Organization to which the Philippines is a signatory was adopted by the Fourth World Assembly in 1951. (*Quarantine Regulations of 1955, International Health Regulations, 2005*)

In 1969, the ISR was renamed the International Health Regulations or Regulations. The 1969 Regulations were later amended in 1973 and 1981 respectively (*International Health Regulation, 2005 Bureau of Quarantine Documents*)

Due to the above developments, the Quarantine Regulations to implement Republic Act 123 or the Quarantine Law was revised. The directive was issued through Administrative Order No. 188-C, entitled "Revised Quarantine Rules and Regulations", dated March 6, 1992.

In 2004, the dynamic changes occurring worldwide concerning diseases of international concern prompted the government to ratify Republic Act 9271, "An Act Strengthening the Regulatory Capacity of the Department of Health in Quarantine and International Health Surveillance, Repealing for the Purpose RA No. 123 of 1947". In line with this, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the said Republic Act were promulgated. The IRR was issued through Administrative Order No. 186, series of 2004.

On the other hand, the Forty-eight World Health Assembly in 1995 called for a substantial revision of the IHR which was adopted in 1969. And, in 2005 the Fifty-eight World Health Assembly adopted the 2005 International Health Regulation (*International Health Regulation, 2005*)

With these developments and in consideration of the increase in international travel and trade, and the emergence and re-emergence of international disease threats and other public health risks, there is a need to update the current Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9271 otherwise known as the Quarantine Act of 2004 in