

FONASBA COVID-19 BULLETIN



AN UPDATE ON MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 BY MERCHANT SHIPPING – No. 109 17.11.2021

Further updates on COVID-19 precautions have been received from members as summarized below. As always, please contact the relevant association for more guidance.

Algeria	<p>All Algerian Ports are open to commercial operations both for import and export and applying recommended sanitary measures.</p> <p>Despite of the traffic restrictions borne by the COVID-19 protective measures most terminals have returned to normal working schedules.</p> <p>Free pratique and start operations always subject to sanitary service green light granted further their inspection which could be carried out either on road or at berth at the discretion of local authorities who requires a list of documents to be sent 48 hrs. prior arrival or upon departure for short sea transit. This list includes IMO crew list, recent crew change list, crew temperature list, last 10 ports of call and medical declaration of health.</p> <p>Compulsory disinfection of ships at owners/operators' expense is required at most Algerian ports.</p> <p>The boarding of the ship by the various control services (Border Police, Customs, Shipping Agents, Coast Guard, etc.) is reduced to the strict minimum.</p> <p>Getting off to shore is not allowed for crewmembers, except in cases of force majeure, (sickness, serious issues etc.); moreover, crew changes are not allowed to be carried out in Algeria.</p> <p>Personnel who handle and are in contact with ships (Dockers, pilots, shipping agents, Customs, etc.) are all protected by standard equipment.</p>
Argentina	<p>Although the Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic is still in force in Argentina, based on the advancement of vaccination coverage and the sustained decrease in the number of positive cases and deceases registered in the country, easing of restrictions on both, internal circulation and in the opening of borders, have been applied by government.</p> <p>In this sense, as from November 1st, the border will be opened for all foreigners who strictly comply with sanitary and migration protocols and requirements. To this respect, foreigners must comply with (1) complete vaccination schedule; (2) negative PCR tests at performed within 72 hours before entering the country; and (3) PCR between the fifth and seventh day of arrival.</p> <p>Replacement of foreign crews are allowed as from October 20th.</p> <p>On the other hand, the renewal of bi-oceanic and Antarctic cruise activity for this season has been authorized also as from October 20th, for which a frequency of up to 5 weekly ships will be fixed and that shall comply all protocols and operate up to a 50% of its capacity as determined by the health authority. Among other things, cruise companies must define a contingency plan to establish the protocol to apply in the event of a</p>

	<p>positive COVID-19 case or outbreak onboard, which must be approved by the National Authorities.</p> <p>Translations of the updated regulations are attached, courtesy of Centro de Navegación. The original documents in Spanish can be found at:</p> <p>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/puertos-vias-navegables-y-marina-mercante/protocolo-prevencion-covid-19-en-el-transporte-fluvial</p>
Australia	<p>The crew change situation in Australia remains complicated by differing Federal and state limitations, as well as rapid changes to policies. Shipping Australia have therefore issued the following guidance on their website:</p> <p>“Seafarers and crew change managers booking flights to Australia may wish to carefully think about their travel plans prior to booking.</p> <p>Travel to Australia remains difficult. Australia has severe and short limits on the numbers of people - even including its own citizens - it will allow into the country each week.</p> <p>Travel within Australia can be extremely difficult or, alternatively, easy. Whether it is difficult or easy is completely dependent on the situation at the time. NOTE: the rules are extremely fluid and can change at any time. For instance, there are numerous examples of people being caught-out on the wrong side of a border after travel restrictions have been announced. Those people were then stuck for days, weeks and months. There have also been instances where plane-loads of passengers have taken off, only for the rules to change mid-flight and the passengers were then forced into quarantine (or sent home) upon arrival at their destination.</p> <p>Queensland, however, remains the easiest jurisdiction in which to carry out crew changes in Australia”.</p> <p>The SAL website (www.shippingaustralia.com.au/covid-19-shipping-update) is regularly updated with detailed information on crew changes and the current Federal and state restrictions.</p>
Belgium	<p>The major Belgian ports of Antwerp, Bruges, Ghent, Ostend and Zeebrugge are now offering the Johnson and Johnson one-shot vaccine to foreign seafarers, regardless of nationality, arriving in Belgium as either a current crew member or an on or off-signer.</p> <p>In those ports, vaccinations are provided by a mobile unit that visits the vessels, rather than requiring the crew members to travel to a centre ashore, as elsewhere. Further information on the programme and the processes for booking vaccination visits can be obtained by contacting the local agent or through NAVES, hilde.bruggeman@naves.be</p>
Brazil	<p>Some states have declared a 14-day lockdown since most cities has now reached full hospital intensive care capacity. The beginning of this period can vary as decided by each State but, in general, it should happen during the 2nd half of March.</p> <p>At present, and despite of adverse situation, the Brazilian ports are still maintaining their regular loading and unloading cargo operations, as well as the crew change arrangements considering the precautions recommended by IMO. The situation may change at any time and a more aggressive level of restrictive measures could be adopted, thereby affecting a foreign trade chain and specifically a movement of cargo and crew change in Brazilian ports. We will provide updates as the situation changes.</p>
Cabo Verde	<p>We have been able to secure the green light from Cabo Verde Health Authorities to offer vaccination to any seafarers of any nationality that call Mindelo. Due to their good</p>

	<p>diplomatic relations, we expect the quantity of vaccines available at this stage is more than enough for the local population in Cabo Verde, hence their agreement to assist this urgent issue for the international shipping community.</p> <p>The vaccines are available both to vessels calling Mindelo for cargo operations but also for those who decide to have a “vaccination only” call. In close coordination with health authorities, we will adopt following procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request to be made to the agent 10 days before intended vessel call - Health Authorities will confirm vaccines available within 3 working days - Port call to be done on standard procedure (clearance, standard costs, agency fee, etc.). Same to be done on anchorage or at berth, subject to owner preference and berth availability - We will arrange vaccination on board OR crew to come to vaccination centre in 2 groups. - Service fee applicable depending on number of crew members to be vaccinated. <p>Health authorities expect vaccine to be Astra Zeneca and they are available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give two doses if vessel calls Cabo Verde within the period (or stays for 4 weeks) - Give dose number one - Give dose number two <p>Although small, we believe this is an important step to contribute to ease restrictions on crew changes and improve live and work conditions to seafarers.</p>
Cyprus	<p>By means of Circular 27/2021, Cyprus has made some stocks of EMA-approved vaccines available to seafarers serving on board ships which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>flying the flag of Cyprus; and</i> 2. <i>are managed by a legal entity based and taxed in Cyprus, if the ship in question calls at a Cyprus port, anchorages or roadstead located in the territory of Cyprus.</i> <p>Further information can be found on the Circular that is available here:</p>
Denmark	<p>Since the outbreak of Covid-19, seafarers legal right to shore leave has been restricted in Denmark. But from 25. October 2021 these restrictions are finally removed, so that seafarers no longer need to present documentation for EU approved vaccination or negative corona test to be able to use the right to shore leave. Contact Jesper Sebbelin jese@di.dk with any questions.</p> <p>Update of vaccination of seafarers in Danish ports and onboard vessels navigating through Danish waters:</p> <p>The official COVID-19 Government website coronasmitte.dk now publishes the ability to buy J&J vaccines for seafarers in Danish ports and onboard vessel navigating through Danish waters. The website updates a list of potential vendors, of which another vendor Copenhagen Medical has been announced on 11. October 2021 and is not yet in the authority list.</p> <p>On 20th August, Denmark has revised its entry requirements for cruise passengers. Unvaccinated passengers can travel to Denmark but all passengers or crew, whether vaccinated or not, must provide evidence of a recent negative test before being allowed ashore. The time limits for tests are 48 hours prior to arrival for an antigen/lateral flow test and 72 hours prior for a PCR test. This measure is due for review on 31st October.</p>

	<p>Denmark changed its travel restrictions and announcements are published by the Danish Foreign Ministry on a weekly basis on www.um.dk, which also determines which color code each country is placed in. The rules governing travelling privately and for business can be studied in the Danish authorities' official website at: https://en.coronasmitte.dk. Seafarers and maritime personnel can still travel, but if they origin from Code Red country, e.g. India and Russia, they will only be allowed off-signing to travel home.</p> <p>The cruise industry re-opened in Denmark with restrictions on 26th June 2021 and the first cruise vessel call takes place today on the 14. July 2021. All passengers must have a documented proof of completed Covid-19 vaccination, with EMA approved vaccines which must have been conducted in EU, Schengen and OECD. The Crew members are not obliged to be vaccinated, however their usual legal right to shore leave has been suspended. Crew may work alongside the key with maintenance, waste disposal and supplies. Children younger than 16 years who is not vaccinated may travel with fully vaccinated parents but should then observe the corona test obligations and country of origin. Cruise Lines may conduct turn-around of passengers and crews in Denmark, but crew changes must be approved by both the Police and Health Authority, normally only the Police exercise this. When in port the passengers may visit shore individually or on tours.</p>
Dubai	<p>The authorities have now introduced the UAE Maritime Activities Return to Work Safely Protocol. The Protocol takes into prospective the following overarching principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adhere to public health requirements and precautionary measures in the UAE for maritime workers and those involved in marine activities. 2. Pre-registration of crew members' itinerary to join ships or return home. 3. Crew members' self-monitoring of traveler's health, in addition to knowledge of precautionary instructions and procedures, starting and during travel. 4. A Maritime Declaration of Health (according to the model of the WHO) and a pledge by the captain of the ship regarding the absence of any contagious diseases. 5. Any other mandatory requirements issued that require adherence, before departure or when ships come to ports or dry docks within UAE, or when conducting marine activities. 6. A designated person in every port and dry dock facility to follow up on all issues related to the prevention of COVID-19 pandemic and submit an internal daily report in order to review the procedures and to continuously improve them. <p>1. Crew change procedures. Crew change is permitted in the UAE ports and waters, taking into considerations the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Signing-on: - Obtain a seafarer entry visa (96 hours' visa). - The compulsory laboratory test for all seafarers wishing to enter the country without any exemption. The shipping agent should bear the responsibility to return the seafarer to his ship or provide a safe medical shelter if the COVID test was positive in accordance with the required instructions imposed by the health authorities in UAE. 1.2 Signing-off: - Provide the port authority with the Maritime Declaration of Health confirming the crew are free from any symptoms or epidemics, subject to penalties in force in the UAE in the event of presenting an incorrect health declaration report.

- Provide the immigration office in the port with a copy of the same above mentioned declaration.
- Obtain confirmed flight booking (Departure Ticket) on the nearest available flight.
- Obtain a seafarer entry visa (96 hours' visa).
- The seafarer should go through the required COVID 19 test as specified by the UAE health authorities.
- in case of Positive result of the test, the shipping agent should follow the required instructions applied by the competent authorities

2. Dry Docks and Ship Repairs Facilities Procedures

1. Provide dry docks and ship repair facilities with the Maritime Declaration of Health, that seafarers are free of any infectious diseases or epidemics before accepting the vessel.
2. Dry docks and ship repair facilities measure seafarers' temperatures on a daily basis until their departure, in anticipation of any Covid-19 cases.
3. Restrict seafarers' movement around to prevent unnecessary contact in the docks and maintenance workshops
4. Appoint a designated person by the dry dock or the ship repairs facilities to record the names of the supervisors and their employees on a daily basis those who are in charge of the maintenance of the ship, in order to facilitate the information of those in contact with the suspected cases on the ship later.
5. Follow all required isolation procedures on the ship in the event that there is a suspected case of Covid-19 or any other contagious diseases, and promptly inform the concerned health authorities.

3. Ships and Off-Shore Supply Vessels Procedures

1. Request a Maritime Declaration of Health (according to the model provided by the WHO) and a pledge by the captain that confirms the vessel is free of any contagious diseases, as an alternative for the requirements for any tests.
2. Imposing quarantine on ships and marine units suspected of having symptoms of infectious diseases or any epidemics between their crew. The suspected ship or marine unit is not allowed to carry out any operations in UAE waters and ports except after going through the required tests as specified by the UAE health authorities.
3. Resume issuing Entry and Exit visas for seafarers with residence permits, who are working on national or foreign ships and off shore supply vessels which has a navigation license in the UAE, to ensure facilitation of its business and its transportation inside and outside the UAE.

4. Passenger Ships Procedures

1. Maintain prohibiting Passenger ships from calling and docking in UAE waters and ports.
2. Maintain prohibiting Passenger ships already docked at UAE ports from conducting any activity whatsoever.

5. Ferries Procedures

Continue to prohibit any passenger ferries activity at the present time in UAE waters and ports, with the exception of deporting the stranded passengers only, and after

	<p>taking the necessary approvals from the local authorities in the UAE and the concerned embassies to ensure the smooth reception of them in the country of arrival.</p> <p>6. Wooden Ships (Dhows) Procedures</p> <p>Maintain existing procedures to prevent wooden ships (Dhows) from staying for more than 7 days, and not to receive the ships without confirming the presence of goods ready to be transported, in order to reduce the period of their stay in UAE waters.</p> <p>7. Yachts and Leisure Boats Procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lift the restrictions on the use of leisure boats, yachts, commercial charter, pleasure and touring activities, taking into consideration adhering to the approved capacity of 50% of the actual vessel capacity at this stage, and complying with the approved health guidelines and using the personal protective equipment. 2. Allow visiting foreign flag yachts to call UAE waters, ports and marinas, and resume issuing the sailing permit for them by the Federal Transport Authority –Land & Maritime, so long as they present Maritime Declaration of Health (according to the model provided by World Health Organization) confirming that the crew are free from any symptoms or contagious diseases before arriving at the first point of entry in the UAE, subject to the penalties in force in the UAE in the event of presenting an incorrect health declaration report. 3. Restrict the use of the Jet ski by its rider only, without allowing additional passenger. <p>8. Shore Passes Procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspend the 24 hours’ shore passes (permits to visit the city), with possible exception for seafarers on board yachts, recreational boats and ships which has been in the country for a period of more than 14 days, provided that they comply with the enforced health requirements in the UAE. 2. The agent should provide the seafarers with all Covid-19 pandemic relevant laws and precautionary measures followed in the UAE and the importance of adhering to them, in addition he should provide them with the information related to the penalties imposed in case of violation, he should document their acknowledgment of receiving theses information from him. 3. The port should measure seafarer’s temperature before authorizing them to leave the port gate as a precautionary measure to monitor any symptoms that may indicate infection with Covid-19. 9. Protocol Review and Update Mechanism In coordination with the concerned entities in the UAE, the competent authorities will review and update the protocol periodically and when needed in the event of substantial developments in the Covid-19 pandemic procedures.
Egypt	<p>The following advice has just been released by the Egyptian health authorities:</p> <p>Kindly be informed and act accordingly with the necessary for quarantine at airports, seaports and crossing points regarding the update of the regulations, prescribed health measures & formalities regarding the vaccine against coronavirus and the requirement of having a coronavirus vaccine certificate as follows:</p> <p>Arrivals with coronavirus vaccine certificate:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrivals who have a vaccine certificate against coronavirus from countries affected by strains of coronavirus at India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan , Myanmar, Nepal, Sir Lanka, Vietnam, Brazil, Latin America: The following will be applied: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revising the vaccine certificate against coronavirus with the arrivals and accepting the approved certificates in the country of issuance without scraping or adding any wording to the certificate, also the certificate must be with the QR Code, only then it will be accepted after making sure of place of issuance of the certificates. 2. Making ID NOW COVID-19 test analysis and in case being positive, a PCR test will be carried at destination of arrival and in case of being positive the arrival will be sent to fever hospital to take the necessary protocol. 3. Arrival with the vaccine certificate against coronavirus from countries not affected with strains of coronavirus directly or indirectly during the past 14 days, the certificate will be approved after being revised with the country of issue and the certificate must be without scraping or any additional notes and it also must include the QR Code. • The vaccines approved by the International Health Organization, and Egyptian Medicine Authority are accepted taking into consideration that 14 days must pass the date of the 2nd doze of the vaccine for vaccines given on 2 dozes (Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Moderna, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Sputnik) or 14 days to pass the date of having the first doze of Jonson & Jonson vaccine. <p>Arrival without a coronavirus vaccine certificate:</p> <p>They must follow the rules and health measures taken in that regard in view of the decision taken by prime Minister and in related circulars.</p>
Finland	See the advice on crew changes (and other travel arrangements), previously circulated under update no. 78.
Germany	<p>Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccines are now available for the inoculation of seafarers in Hamburg, Kiel, Bremen, Bremerhaven and now Lübeck. The times and dates on which seafarer vaccinations take place vary from port to port, as do the arrangements for booking appointments. In Lübeck, free vaccinations are available for seafarers of any nationality without an appointment in the following period:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, October 21st, to Saturday, October 23rd, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The vaccination event takes place at Sophienstr. 19-21.</p> <p>For further details, contact the port agent, owners’ representative or, in the case of vaccinations in Hamburg, the German Shipbrokers association, ZVDS, at: info@schiffsmakler.de. (See the attached flyer for up-dated information on the Bremerhaven vaccination centre).</p>
Israel	<p>With immediate effect, entrance to Israel will be allowed only to vaccinated crewmembers/technicians.</p> <p>However, even If they hold a vaccination document, entrance will not be granted, from the following countries: India, Brazil, South Africa, Russia, Argentina, and Mexico.</p> <p>Applications must be submitted to Mr. Ofer Talker, Chief Inspector at the Ministry of Transportation (talkero@mot.gov.il) 5-business days prior arrival. No isolation is required before arrival. A Corona test is required 48 hours before flying and upon landing a PCR test is also required.</p>

<p>Italy</p>	<p>With effect from 12th July, seafarers in the ports of Genoa and La Spezia can obtain a COVID-19 vaccination without appointment in a specially established facility at the Genoa Conference Centre (Fiera del Mare). The facility is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 – 17.00. Seafarers wishing to make use of this facility are recommended to organise their visits via the agent. A seaman’s identity document (or letter from the Master countersigned by the Port Health Authority) will require to be produced on arrival.</p> <p>Vaccinations of crews of cruise vessels can also be arranged but will require the prior authorisation of the Port Health Authority. Again, coordination via the agent is recommended.</p> <p>DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CABINET - 14 January 2021</p> <p>Art. 9</p> <p>Obligations of carriers and shipowners</p> <p>1. Carriers and shipowners are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) acquire and verify before boarding the declaration referred to in art. 7; b) check the body temperature of each passengers; c) prohibit boarding for those who are or have been feverish, as well as who have not completed the declaration referred to in (a); d) adopt all measures which, in accordance with the "Shared Regulatory Protocol to contain the spread of COVID-19 in transport and logistics sector" signed on 20 March 2020, as referred to in Annex 14, "Organizational arrangements to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the field of public transport" referred to in Annex 15, and ensure at all times of the journey an interpersonal distance of at least one meter between the passengers transported; e) make sure that the crew and passengers use personal protective equipment and to indicate situations in which they may be temporarily and exceptionally removed; f) supply at the time of embarkation, passengers who do not have the means of personal protection with same. <p>2. In exceptional cases and, in any case, only in the presence of requirements for the protection of Italian citizens abroad and the fulfilment of international and European obligations, including those arising from the implementation of Council Directive (EU) 2015/637 of 20 April 2015, "On coordination and cooperation measures to facilitate consular protection of Union citizens not represented in third countries" and repealing Decision 95/553/EC, by decree of the Ministry for Infrastructure and Transport, adopted on a proposal from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and in agreement with the Ministry for Health, specific and temporary derogations from the provisions of this Article may be provided.</p> <p>Art.10</p> <p>Provisions on cruise ships and foreign flag ships</p> <p>1. Cruise services by Italian flag passenger ships may be carried out only in compliance with the specific guidelines set out in Annex 17 to this Decree, validated by the Technical and Scientific Committee referred to in art. 2 of Order No 630 of 3 February 2020 of the Head of the Department of Civil Protection.</p> <p>2. Cruise services may be used by those who are not subject to or obliged to comply with health surveillance and/or fiduciary isolation measures and who have not been during the fourteen days prior to embarkation in the States or territories listed in Lists D and</p>
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	<p>E of Annex 20. In case of residence or transit in states or territories listed in List C, the Article 8, paragraph 6 will be applied.</p> <p>3. For the purpose of authorizing the cruise to take place, before the departure of the vessel, the Master shall submit to the Maritime Authority a specific declaration where following points will be stated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the preparation of all the measures necessary to comply with the guidelines referred to in paragraph 1; b) the subsequent ports of call and the port at the end of the cruise, with the relevant arrival/departure dates; c) the nationality and origin of the passengers on board in compliance with the provisions referred to in the preceding subparagraph. <p>4. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, second period, foreign flag vessels employed in cruise services shall be allowed to enter Italian ports providing that the last ports of call are located in states or territories listed in Lists A, B and C of Annex 20 and all passengers on board have not stayed or transited in the fourteen days prior to entry into the Italian port in states or territories listed in Lists D and E of Annex 20, as well as after declaration of compliance on board the vessel, to the guidelines referred to in paragraph 1.</p> <p>The Master of the vessel shall submit to the Maritime Authority, at least twenty-four hours before the vessel's arrival, a specific declaration containing the particulars referred to in paragraph 3.</p> <p>5. Calls shall be permitted only in the States and territories listed in Lists A, B and C of Annex 20 and free excursions shall be prohibited, for which cruise services may not adopt specific measures to prevent infection.</p> <p>The provisions of the DPCM in question apply as from 16th January and will remain in force until 5th March 2021.</p> <p>It is evidenced that Article 10 of the DPCM in question no longer provides for the suspension of cruise services or, for foreign vessels, entry into ports for the purposes of inactive stay which, therefore, can be considered possible in compliance with the specific guidelines and directives issued by the DPCM itself.</p>
<p>Japan</p>	<p>As The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has announced that the following relaxation of the entry restrictions on Covid-19 will take effect on 10:00 am November 8.</p> <p>Please be advised as follow and refer to www.mofo.go.jp for checking more details.</p> <p>(1) Revision of Restrictions on New Entry for Foreigners</p> <p>In accordance with a government decision dated January 13, 2021, the entry of new foreign nationals into Japan has been suspended since midnight (Japan time) on January 14, and new entry has been permitted only under special circumstances. Now, we have decided to suspend the entry of new foreign nationals into Japan only under special circumstances. The same applies hereinafter.) The application form including a written pledge and activity plan submitted by the person in charge of the acceptance (a company, organization, etc. that employs or invites a person to enter Japan for business or entertainment; hereinafter the same) to the ministry in charge of the business will not be accepted by a specific ministry (in principle, the ministry in charge of the business of the person in charge of the acceptance; hereinafter the same). In some cases, short-term (3 months or less) and long-term visitors may be allowed to enter Japan for business or employment purposes, provided that the application form, including a letter</p>

of intent and activity plan, has been reviewed in advance by a specific ministry (in principle, the ministry with jurisdiction over the industry of the person responsible for acceptance; hereinafter referred to as the "ministry with jurisdiction over the industry").

Applications from responsible parties in Japan to the ministry in charge of the business will be accepted from 10:00 a.m. on November 8, 2021. For details, please contact the ministry in charge of your business.

Please refer to this page for information on the documents required for visa applications for newcomers to Japan based on this decision.

(2) Restrictions on activities after entry for holders of vaccination certificates

Under the supervision of the person in charge of acceptance, a review of the activity restrictions for holders of a valid vaccination certificate will be permitted from the fourth day after entry into Japan at the earliest. Specifically, for those who have not stayed in a designated country or region subject to the 6- or 10-day waiting list for accommodation within 14 days prior to entry, and who hold a vaccination certificate confirmed as valid by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, and whose application forms, including a written pledge and activity plan submitted to the ministry or agency in charge of the business, have been reviewed in advance (The same applies hereinafter.)) until the 14th day after entry, and by notifying the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of the negative result of the test (PCR test or quantitative antigen test) voluntarily taken again on or after the 3rd day after entry, they may engage in activities (hereinafter referred to as "specified activities") under the supervision of the person in charge of accepting the application during the remaining period of waiting at the waiting facility, etc. on or after the 4th day after entry.

(1) Activities In principle, the above measures will be applied to Japanese nationals.

In addition to Japanese returnees and foreign re-entrants, the above measures will be permitted for those who stay for a short period of time (3 months or less) for business or employment purposes, and for those who stay for a long period of time and are recognized by the ministry in charge as having circumstances that require relaxation, if they meet the above requirements.

In order to implement this measure, applications from the person in charge of accepting visitors to the ministry having jurisdiction over the business will be accepted from 10:00 a.m. on November 8, 2021. For details, please consult with the ministry having jurisdiction over your business.

(3) Required documents at the time of application

The following documents are required when the person in charge of acceptance applies to the ministry having jurisdiction over the business. The following documents are required when the person in charge of acceptance applies to the ministry having jurisdiction over the business. Please note that none of the forms can be changed.

a. Application Form

b. Written pledge

c. Activity Plan

d. List of Entrants

(e) A copy of the passport of the immigrant

(f) Vaccination certificate (copy) of the entrant for whom the waiting period will be shortened and for whom specific action will be taken

Jordan	See attached updated protocols for crew changes.
Lebanon	<p>Lebanon has opened nearly all sectors based on country wide improvement in fighting against the COVID19 epidemic.</p> <p>All ports are commercially active, operations running smoothly and applying relevant sanitary guidelines.</p> <p>Beirut-Rafik Hariri International Airport (BRHIA) is operating at 30% capacity and is expected to have gradual increase this summer onward.</p> <p>All passengers are required to hold a negative PCR test issued within 72 hours of the scheduled inbound flight.</p> <p>Crew change through Lebanon follow the following guidelines should be observed:</p> <p>SIGN OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCR samples are collected onboard, at anchorage or alongside. • Negative PCR holders are allowed to disembark/repatriate through airport. <p>SIGN ON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold a PCR test with negative result from one of the certified laboratories by local authorities at point of departure, present test result upon check in. • Negative PCR test result validity must not exceed 96 hours between test result and date of arrival to Lebanon. • No negative PCR no boarding. • All passengers must complete the COVID-19 pass through the link https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/988ba32e1b634902ba3b14c3e4f1614d issued by the Ministry of Public Health. • Passengers shall undergo PCR test upon arrival at Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport (BRHIA). • Passengers are mandatory required to complete airport tracking registration form through the following https://covid.pcm.gov.lb/impactmobile/curfe
Libya	<p>The following COVID-19 procedures are currently in place at Libyan ports:</p> <p>Zawia, Bouri, Mellitah, Farwah:</p> <p>Remote Pilotage is in force since the emergence of COVID-19, no port personnel or authorities board vessel, every procedure is performed remotely (Docs exchanged by E-mail) (Berthing ops by VHF). B/Ls are signed by the agent via LOA (Letter of Authorization) issued by the ship master for agents to sign B/L on his behalf. However, if master insists on pilot boarding the vessel, a health representative will board the vessel to check on the crew's COVID-19 symptoms when everything is clear, pilot will board vessel while wearing the COVID-19 protective gear.</p> <p>Misurata, Tripoli, Al-Khoms:</p> <p>Only Health Representative and Pilot Board the Vessel, First the doctor gets on board to check on crew's temperatures and COVID-19 symptoms if crew is all well then he gives the free pratique which means that pilot will board the vessel to perform berthing ops. Pilot disembarks vessel after hose connecting and commencing of discharge, pilot embarks vessel after discharging is completed to perform hose disconnecting and unberthing. Doc exchanging is performed remotely (by E-mail)</p>

	<p>Ras Lanuf, Essider, Zuietina, Marsa El Brega, Marsa El Hariga:</p> <p>Usual procedure, pilot, customs, agent boards the vessel and they remain on boards until vessel completes loading, hose disconnecting and unberthing. Then all the above mentioned disembark the vessel. All doc procedures are performed normally.</p> <p>Benghazi, Tobruk:</p> <p>Health Representative boards Vessel to check on crew's covid-19 symptoms when the crew is all well, doctor give the green light for Pilot to board vessel and performs berthing ops. After vessel is berthed pilot disembarks the ship until discharging is completed, then he boards vessel for hose disconnecting and unmooring. All docs are exchanged via E-mail.</p>
Mexico	<p>All the Mexican ports are opened to commercial operations both for import and export and applying recommended sanitary measures.</p> <p>International Health carries out the inspection at anchor in case the captain of the ship reports crew members with symptoms of COVID, they have to be kept isolated for 14 days inside their cabin; in case no crew members with symptoms are reported, the health authority performs the physical inspection once the ship is docked.</p> <p>Once International Health determines that there is no risk, port pilots are notified to carry out the docking of the ship and the rest of the authorities such as Immigration Authority, Customs, SAGARPA and SADER - SENASICA can upload the free pratique, maintaining sanitary measures in compliance with the regulations on International Health.</p> <p>Customs is working normally in customer service in international trade and providing attention to operations applying sanitary security measures.</p> <p>The crew changes are allowed in adherence to the guidelines and protocols stipulated by the international health authority.</p>
Netherlands	<p>With effect from 2nd August, vaccinations are being offered to any seafarers (irrespective of nationality or the flag of the vessel) arriving in the port of Rotterdam. 10,000 shots of the Janssen one-shot vaccine have been provided free of charge by the Dutch government, although a €45 fee applies to cover the cost of providing the service. Vaccination bookings should be made through the agent.</p> <p>Further information can found on the Dutch Shipowners Association website at: https://www.kvnr.nl/en/vaccination/start and a factsheet on the Rotterdam programme is attached.</p>
Panama	<p>As of June 7th, Curfew will be in effect from 2200 hours to 0400 hours everyday in Panama City. Business will close at 2100 hrs. As of June 26th, Full Lockdown in the City of Colon every Saturday from 2200 hours until Mondays 0400 hours until further notice.</p> <p>All incoming crewmembers arriving to Panama International airport (Tocumen International Airport/PTY) from UK, South Africa, India or any country of South America, will be subject to arrive with a negative PCR test 48 hours prior arrival Panama and once at the Panama Airport the Health officer will conduct another Covid test at crew own cost (\$80.00). The crewmember will be transported to an authorized Hotel/Hospital paid by the Panamanian Government to do quarantine for 3 days (hotel room is shared with others is not a private room). On the 3rd day at the Hotel/Hospital a second Covid test will be done to the crewmember at crew own cost (\$80.00) and if result is Negative the crewmember will be released and can join the vessel. The agent</p>

	<p>will be in charged to submit all pre- arrival documentation and forms to the Sanitary inspector and get the approval to join the vessel.</p> <p>Crewmembers coming from any of the countries not mentioned above can enter Panama with an Antigen or PCR test 48 hours prior arrival Panama (no quarantine). The agent will be responsible to obtain all pre-arrival documentation and submit to the Sanitary office to get the approval to join the vessel.</p> <p>Remember that all incoming crewmembers are required to arrive Panama with an approved Panamanian Seaman Visa obtained locally by the agent.</p> <p>Vessels arriving to transit the Panama Canal or docking are not required to arrive with a Covid test from last port. The Vessel is required to send as usual all the Pre-arrival, security and sanitary information 96 hours prior arrival. Crewmembers that are required to disembark in Panama to be repatriated will be required to do an Antigen test on board (the agent will arrange a nurse to go on board), once Antigen is negative the agent will submit Covid result plus other documents and forms to the local Sanitary inspector and wait the approval to disembark.</p> <p>The use of masks is mandatory in Panama.</p> <p>Above situation is always subject to changes depending on the Covid situation in the Republic of Panama. Last minute changes can always be expected from the local Ministry of Health. It is suggested to keep in close contact with your agent for latest updates.</p> <p>Please find below Panama Canal Advisories to Shipping related to Covid-19:-</p> <p>https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-13-2020.pdf</p> <p>https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-19-2020.pdf</p> <p>https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2021/ADV-13-2021.pdf</p>
<p>Portugal</p>	<p>The Portuguese Government decision has decided to reduce level of dangerous from State of Calamity to State of Contingency. On this basis and as per Ministry Council Resolution no. 9573-A/2021, please be informed of the present restrictions in force to enter/leaving Portugal (changes highlighted in yellow)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flights within EU and within Schengen Space are authorized, being allowed all voyages, as well as from Brazil, United Kingdom and United States of America. 2. Passengers should only be allowed to board the plane with presentation of Passengers holding a valid EU Digital COVID Certificate of vaccination; or COVID Valid Certificate of vaccination or recovery issued by third countries recognized and accepted as per reciprocity conditions; or by presenting PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 infection with negative result and performed within 72 hrs prior boarding plane; or showing Quick Antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection (approved by UE Health committee) with negative result and performed within 48 hrs prior boarding flight. <p>Repatriation - Passengers leaving Portugal by airplane flights are not required by Portuguese Governmental dispatch to have PCR test prior embarking on the plane. However, passengers should follow airplane company and Countries of destination recommendation. Therefore, it is recommended that all passengers to take a PCR test prior leaving country if not holding a valid EU COVID Certificate of vaccination.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Passengers with strictly necessary voyages with period of stay in Portuguese territory below 48 hrs, proofed by returning ticket issued, are exempt of the prophylactic confinement,

	<p>4. Authorized flights to Portugal with passengers coming from, or originated from, countries with outbreak rate over 500 cases per 100 000 citizens over the last 14 days (as per information given by European Centre for Disease Control, allowed only for strictly essential voyages and must board the plane after presenting the negative result of PCR test⁽¹⁾ performed within 72 hrs prior boarding plane. Passengers will be placed under prophylactic confinement for 10 days in a place indicated by health authorities.</p> <p>5. Passengers holding a valid EU Digital COVID Certificate of vaccination or recovery, or COVID Valid Certificate of vaccination or recovery issued by third countries recognized and accepted as per reciprocity conditions⁽²⁾ are exempt of quarantine and therefore dismissed of prophylactic confinement</p> <p>6. All passengers arriving from countries, in which epidemiological situation is complying with EU Recommendation no. 2020/912 of European Council and respective updates (listed below) are allowed voyages to Portugal and must board the plane after presenting the negative result of PCR test⁽¹⁾ performed within 72 hrs prior boarding plane or holding a valid EU Digital COVID Certificate of vaccination; or COVID Valid Certificate of vaccination or recovery issued by third countries recognized and accepted as per reciprocity conditions⁽²⁾. Presently, list of these countries are:</p> <p>Australia, Canada, China, Chile, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Ukraine and Uruguay + Hong Kong and Macau.</p> <p>7. Foreign citizens arriving to Portugal without showing the PCR test⁽¹⁾ performed, or holding a valid EU Digital COVID Certificate of vaccination; or COVID Valid Certificate of vaccination or recovery issued by third countries recognized and accepted as per reciprocity conditions⁽²⁾, should have their entry in Portugal denied</p> <p>Cruises</p> <p>The Portuguese Government decided to continue with measurements restrictions for cruise vessels sector, enounced on Resolution no. 9573-B/2021, stating following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To allow embarkation, debarkation and licenses to go ashore for passengers and crew members of cruise ships in all Portuguese ports, with exceptions for passengers with origin and destination, from and to, countries which only allows strictly necessary/essential voyages. • The authorization for embarkation, debarkation and licenses to go ashore - referred above - will be exclusively allowed - with presentation of Passengers holding a valid EU Digital COVID Certificate of vaccination or recovery ; or COVID Valid Certificate of vaccination or recovery issued by third countries recognized and accepted as per reciprocity conditions⁽²⁾; or by presenting PCR test⁽¹⁾ for SARS-CoV-2 infection with negative result and performed within 72 hrs prior leaving, embarking or disembarking the cruise ship; or showing Quick Antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection (approved by EU Health committee) with negative result and performed within 48 hrs prior ship's arrival, embarking or disembarking the cruise ship. • Only Quick Antigen tests approved by the EU Health committee will be accepted and must lab report must indicate the set of normalized data agreed by the EU Health committee. • Vaccination certificate, PCR test or Antigen test presentation are not applicable to Children under 12 years of age.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shore excursions in “bubble regime” no longer in force. Private tours allowed. <p>¹ or Quick Antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection (approved by UE Health committee) with negative result and performed within 48 hrs prior leaving, embarking or disembarking the cruise ship.</p> <p>² Compulsory Data required to be included on the Vaccinations Certificates and Recovery Certificates to allow recognition</p> <p>a. Vaccination Certificates, must include at least following information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Names and Surnames of the holder ii. Birth date iii. Disease or target agent: COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 or one of its variants) iv. Vaccine against COVID-19 or prophylactic v. Name of Vaccine against COVID-19 vi. Marketing authorization holder or COVID-19 vaccine’s manufacturer vii. Number of doses series, as well as total number of series doses viii. Vaccination date, mentioning date of last dose administered ix. Member-state or third country where vaccine were administered x. Issuing Entity of the certificate <p>b. Recovery’s Certificates, must include at least following information</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Names and Surnames of the holder ii. Birth date iii. Disease or agent from which holder recovered: COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2 or one of its variants) iv. Date of 1st positive diagnostic test result v. Member-state or third country where diagnostic test were performed vi. Issuing Entity of the certificate vii. Date when Certificate commence its validity <p>3. Vaccines against COVID-19 accepted</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Janssen: COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen b. AstraZeneca: Vaxzevria (formerly COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) c. Moderna: Spikevax (formerly COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna) d. Pfizer-BioNTech: Cominaty
<p>Russia</p>	<p>The restrictions on crew change in the Russian Federation have been reviewed and amended by the health authority so that crew changes are possible for seafarers who are non-residents of RF.</p> <p>The current rules for on-signers and off-signers are as follows:</p> <p>On-signer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. medical certificate with negative result of COVID-19 to be presented on arrival/ border check-in. The certificate should read that the test was done by PCR method and not earlier than 3 days before arrival. b. If no certificate on arrival, then the test must be done (PCR method) with help of agent within 3 days after arrival. c. Unavailability of med. certificate at the country of departure might result in rejection for boarding. It is a decision of the airline company and to be clarified while booking the tickets.

	<p>Off-signer:</p> <p>Test by PCR method has to be done and its negative results to be presented to Health Control to get approval for going to airport for boarding.</p> <p>Shore leave remains prohibited</p>
South Africa	<p>The South African authorities have relaxed several restrictions on shipping including allowing crew changes at all nine commercial ports. Shore leave is also permitted, albeit within the limitations of the overnight curfew. Full details are provided in the attachments.</p>
Slovenia	<p>The Slovenian government once again declared a national epidemic on 18.10.2020. General population movement was restricted. Crew arriving in port of Koper must stay on board all the time. There are few exceptions authorities will permit exiting the port.</p> <p>Crew change is possible with some restrictions mentioned below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The crew member must be EU national or have a Valid Schengen visa - The Owners/Carrier must find a suitable flight or other method of transport which enables direct transfer from/to vessel to airport, bus or train station. Hotels and other accommodation cannot be used. The crew member must have all necessary paperwork or contract on which is stated his or her employment status for the vessel owner/operator. - Ljubljana airport is open with a great reduction of air traffic and connections. - There are no restrictions for vessels to enter and exit port of Koper. - All incoming vessels must declare all crew changes done in last 2 months and provide a correctly filled Medical Declaration of Health prior to arrival. - If any infection noticed on board prior to vessel arrival person in charge must notify agent and below procedures must be taken: <p>Agent must notify all authorities of potential risk of COVID-19 infected seaman in the national single window.</p> <p>Authorities will order the ship to stop on anchorage before granting port entry. Medical team is ordered to board the ship to take swabs for testing.</p> <p>All next decisions for crew and vessel movements are responsibility of medical officials at the NIJZ (National Institute of Public Health).</p> <p>If this is an isolated case of one crew member who is not at risk of spreading the virus, the responsible medical practitioner will order that the crew member should be isolated during the vessel's stay in Slovenia. If the crew member is in critical condition, they will be transported to University Medical center in Ljubljana at the infectious disease clinic.</p>
Spain	<p>Cruise operations will commence from Spanish ports on 7th June in accordance with new measures issued by the Spanish Ministry of Health, a copy of which are being circulated separately.</p>
Sweden	<p>All Swedish ports remain operational and shipping agents are working 24/7, applying recommended sanitary measures. Visits to ships from shore-based personnel are limited to those absolutely necessary to avoid bringing COVID-19 on board. Seafarers domiciled outside Sweden are exempt from the need to provide a negative COVID test when entering the country.</p>



Department: Harbour Master

12 November 2021

ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Dear Valued Stakeholder,

RE: AMENDMENTS TO NOTICE 12 TO ALIGN WITH THE DOTs Amendment to the Sea Ports Directions, Gazette No.45376

The risk adjusted strategy currently implemented nationally has lessened restrictions to allow and fast-track economic recovery. The Department of Transport has issued measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 at seaports for adjusted level 1 in terms of Regulation 4 (7)(b), read with Regulations 75(5) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002. Attached as Annexure "B"


TNPA Notice No.12 implementation is hereby discontinued with immediate effect in order to align with the DOT guidelines together with the SAMSA Marine Notice.

Please be advised that on the latest directives published by the DOT, vessels calling the Port of Durban will no longer be required to have the crews tested for Covid 19 whilst at anchorage. Vessels are however required to adhere to the DOT regulations and the SAMSA Marine Notice MN21-21(C). Attached as annexure "A"

The directive also allows for shore leave, however strict adherence must be made to the official curfew laws at alert level 1. (1) Any shore leave must end at 2300(It) each day while in port, to allow for travel time to the vessel; (2) Planning should be such that the last crewmembers are onboard the vessel no later than 2359 (It)

Please be advised that the amendments are subject to change based on the alert level guidelines as provided by the Disaster Management Act, 2002.

Yours Sincerely,


Captain Pinky Zungu
 Acting Harbour Master
 Port of Durban

Transnet SOC Ltd
 Registration Number
 1990/000900/30

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Interim Group Company Secretary: Ms S Bopape

www.transnet.net

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TRANSNET HAS A 'ZERO GIFTS' POLICY. NO EMPLOYEE IS ALLOWED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, FAVOURS OR BENEFITS



MARINE NOTICE

MN 21-21 (C)

PASSENGER SHIPS – ALERT LEVEL 1

ALL SAMSA PERSONNEL, SHIP AGENTS, PORT AUTHORITIES, TERMINAL OPERATORS, SHIP OWNERS, CRUISE SHIP OWNERS, TOURISM, MASTERS, SEAFARERS, HOSPITALITY SEAFARERS AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ISSUE DATE	EXPIRY DATE	REFERENCE
27 October 2021	26 October 2026 or unless withdrawn	SM6/5/2/1/MN

Marine Notice's affected

Cancelled or superseded:	47 of 2020	Read in conjunction with:	MN 24 of 2020, MN 26 of 2020, MN 6 of 21, MN 19-21
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SUMMARY

This marine notice serves to inform the tourism industry that passenger ships may plan and recommence tourism activities along the South African coast. It also provides SAMSA's interpretation of the regulations *No 1077 Disaster Management Act (57/2002): Amendment to the Sea Ports Directions*, Gazette No. 45376.

The Marine Notice defines all requirements for vessels, including the requirements of a Company and Ship Risk Management Plan to conduct safe operations in line with Department of Transport Seaports Directions.

DEFINITIONS

"coastal voyage" for the purposes of this marine notice means any voyage between any of the commercial ports of South Africa, provided that the first and last port of call is either Cape Town, Port Elizabeth or Durban.

"international voyage" means a voyage from a port in one country to a port in another country

"seafarer" means any person who is employed or engaged or works in any capacity on board a ship. (*crew has a corresponding meaning*)

"passenger" means any person carried in a ship, except—

- (a) a person employed or engaged in any capacity on board the ship on the business of the ship;
- (b) a person on board the ship either in pursuance of the obligation laid upon the master to carry shipwrecked, distressed or other persons or by reason of any circumstances that neither the master nor the owner nor the charterer (if any) could have prevented; and
- (c) a child under one year of age;

"passenger ship" means a ship which carries more than twelve passengers;

PART I: PORTS AND TERMINALS

All port facilities or terminals must enforce Maritime Security Level 2 when facilitating passenger ships and enforce Maritime Security Level 1 when handling cargo operations.

All types of vessels must be permitted to proceed to berth once cleared by Department of Transport. The National Department of Health is required to ensure NHLS is available at all functional/open Ports of Entry during operations to conduct antigen testing ashore;

No conveyance must wait at borders for COVID-19 tests to be conducted (A plane, ship & car are allowed to proceed to the Republic and allow travellers to utilize national services provided at borders for appropriate COVID-19 tests/screenings)

PART II: ALL VESSEL TYPES, INCLUDING PASSENGER SHIPS

- (a) All Commercial Ports remain open;
- (b) Foreign crew changes are permitted at all nine commercial ports;
- (c) Shore leave is allowed for all crew in line with South African immigration and port health protocols;
- (d) Any embarkation and disembarkation activities must comply with curfew restrictions.
 - (i) Curfew period for Level 1: 2359(lt) to 0400(lt) daily

All Marine Notices can be found at www.samsa.org.za Email: marine-notices@samsa.org.za	South African Maritime Safety Authority 146 Lunnon Road, Hillcrest, Pretoria 0083 Tel: +27 12 366 2600	Page 1 of 4
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- (ii) Any shore leave must end at 2300(lt) each day while in port, to allow for travel time to the vessel.
- (iii) Planning should be such that the last crewmembers are onboard the vessel no later than 2359(lt)
- (e) All crew arriving at a port to join a vessel, must provide a valid certificate of negative COVID-19 test recognised by the WHO, and must be obtain not more than 72 hours before arriving in South Africa. Failure to do so would mean that the crew must undergo an antigen test on arrival, at vessel owner/operators own cost. No costs will be borne by the state.
- (f) Should the test result be positive, the crewmember will have to isolate himself or herself for a period of 10 days.
- (g) Every seafarer has a right to health protection, medical care, welfare measures and other forms of social protection. The costs for any medical tests and/or isolation must be borne by the ship owner or ship manager.
- (h) Signing off crew are not required to produce a valid certificate of a negative COVID-19 test if the vessel has not had any crew changes or has not visited a foreign port within 10 days before arrival in South Africa.
- (i) If the vessel has had any crew changes or visited a foreign port within 10 days before arrival at a South African Port, the crew must undergo antigen testing on arrival. If the test is positive, then (f) and (g) applies to the crewmember.
- (j) Ship Owner / Ship Operator is responsible and accountable for all transportation costs and arrangements when crew are required to isolate at an approved isolation or quarantine facility.

PART III: PASSENGER SHIP S

- (a) International embarkation and disembarkation for passenger ships are restricted to the following main ports:
 - (i) Cape Town
 - (ii) Durban
 - (iii) Port Elizabeth
- (b) The first and last ports of call for passenger ships embarking on an international voyage must be at any of the three main ports.
- (c) Coastal voyages are restricted to the following secondary ports:
 - (i) Cape Town
 - (ii) Durban
 - (iii) Port Elizabeth
 - (iv) Richards Bay
 - (v) Port of Ngqura
 - (vi) Mossel Bay
 - (vii) Saldanha Bay
 - (viii) East London
- (d) Any embarkation and disembarkation activities for passengers must comply with curfew restrictions.
 - a. Curfew period for Level 1: 2359(lt) to 0400(lt) daily
 - b. Any shore excursions must end at 2300(lt) each day while in port, to allow for travel time to the vessel.
 - c. Planning should be such that the last passengers are onboard the vessel no later than 2359(lt)
- (e) All passengers arriving at a port to join a vessel, must provide a valid certificate of negative COVID-19 test recognised by the WHO, and must be obtain not more than 72 hours before arriving in South Africa. Failure to do so would mean that the passenger must undergo an antigen test on arrival, at his/her own cost, unless agreed the cruise ship operator agreed to cover the costs. No costs will be borne by the state.
- (f) Should the test result be positive, the passenger will have to isolate himself or herself for a period of 10 days.
- (g) The ship agent and cruise ship company shall make all necessary transport arrangements for any passenger to and from any approved isolation or quarantine facility ashore.
- (h) Passengers are advised to carefully study the terms and conditions on his or her passenger ticket.
- (i) Passengers are advised to procure travel insurance to cover any unexpected medical costs.

Passenger ships are permitted to call at a designated South African Port for the following purposes:

- (a) International cruising;
- (b) Coastal cruising and tourism activities
- (c) Crew Changes
- (d) Replenishing fuel, stores and provisions;
- (e) Repairs and maintenance;
- (f) Medical evacuations;
- (g) Emergencies;
- (h) Other services approved by the Department of Transport

Companies must assess all identified risks to their ships, crew, passengers and other persons in relation to COVID-19 and establish appropriate safeguards through a Company and Ship Management Plan;

PART IV: COMPANY AND SHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

The company and ship management plan is a vessel specific plan on how the passenger ship operators or manager, master and crew conduct day to day operations, detailing all precautionary measures in place.

The plan must be readily available to the authorities and must contain the following minimum requirements, taking into consideration all COVID-19 safety measures:

- (a) Risk Assessments
- (b) Response to outbreaks
- (c) Embarkation and disembarkation of passengers
- (d) Responsible social distancing.
- (e) Elevated standards of sanitation and cleanliness.
- (f) Enhanced medical services with highly qualified staff
- (g) Emergency Mandatory Drills, including dealing with Covid-19 during these drills and actual emergencies.
- (h) Crew Training to ensure all crew are familiar with all protocols, including refresher training.
- (i) Public spaces and recreational areas.
- (j) Shore excursions
- (k) Entertainment and activities
- (l) Maintain Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems (HVAC) as per recommended manufacturers requirements, with regular filter changes.

The following operating protocols should be adhered to by all owners and operators of passengers and cruise ships to ensure safe and secure operations:-

- (a) Embarkation and disembarkation at terminals must be staggered to ensure social distancing;
- (b) All embarking passengers must be subjected to antigen testing and screening prior to embarkation;
- (c) No visitors will be allowed to board any passenger ship whilst alongside;
- (d) All passenger ships must have a percentage of designated isolation and/or quarantine cabins as per the onboard contingency plans in reasonable proportion with overall capacity, size and number of crew and passengers carried onboard;
 - (i) *The number of dedicated isolation and quarantine cabins available onboard can be based on between 10% - 20% of the number of passengers and crew carried onboard.*
- (e) Cabins used for the purpose of quarantine should, where possible, allow for direct air exchanges to the atmosphere and isolated from the general ventilation systems of the ship;
- (f) Regular announcements should be made over the ships P.A. system to remind passengers that they should contact the medical doctor at the infirmary onboard should they develop any signs of COVID-19 or suspect that they are getting sick.
- (g) Infirmaries should be available 24/7 and fully equipped to be able to deal with any COVID-19 infections onboard and radio medical advice should be available at all times.
- (h) Contact tracing must be initiated when a possible or probable case of COVID-19 is identified onboard, whilst waiting for laboratory confirmation. Close contacts must be isolated until the medical doctor onboard have cleared the close contact and it has been confirmed that there is no risk of COVID-19.
- (i) Selected Itineraries: To be modified as needed and carefully managed, based on risk. All excursions should be staggered to ensure itineraries ensure social distancing and appropriate safety measures.
- (j) Cleaning methods should include the use of increased cleaning frequency and a focus on high-traffic, electrostatics sprayers, hospital-grade disinfectants, frequently touched areas.
- (k) Cabins should be cleaned daily, with additional deep sanitation at the end of each cruise.
- (l) 100% fresh, external air supplied to all cabins and public spaces, with no recirculation.
- (m) Hand sanitiser dispensers available around the ship.
- (n) Entertainment and dining activities must be done considering Social Distancing and Safety protocols.

PART V: VACCINATION

South Africa allows all persons over the age of 12 to be vaccinated, including seafarers. SAMSA recommends that all passengers are fully vaccinated prior to joining any passenger ship for a cruise.

PART VI: SAMSA APPROVAL

SAMSA MRCC, Port Health and the National Port Authority should be informed immediately should a COVID-19 outbreak occur onboard a passenger ship where 50% or more of the persons onboard are infected.

The cruise should be suspended if an outbreak occurs. The passenger ship should deviate to the nearest South African main port, as prescribed in PART II (a). The vessel will only be released to continue on her voyage once SAMSA has determined that is safe to continue on her voyage, as per direction 4(7)(6) in the Disaster Management Act (57/2002): Amendment to the Sea Ports Directions, Gazette No. 45376.

PART VII: CONTACT INFORMATION

- (a) Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (24/7/365): Email: mrcc.ct@samsa.org.za Tel: +27 (0) 21 938 3300
- (b) Seafarer Welfare: welfare@samsa.org.za

REFERENCES

- (i) The following documents should be consulted as they are of particular relevance:
- (ii) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.27 (26 August 2020) - Coronavirus (COVID 19) – Protocols to mitigate the risks of cases on board ships
- (iii) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.16 (6 May 2020) - Coronavirus (COVID 19) – COVID-19 related guidelines for ensuring a safe shipboard interface between ship and shore-based personnel;
- (iv) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.15 (6 May 2020) - Coronavirus (COVID 19) - Personal protective equipment;
- (v) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.14/Rev.1 (5 October 2020) - Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Recommended framework of protocols for ensuring safe ship crew changes and travel during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic;
- (vi) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.4/Rev.2 (9 October 2020) contains ICS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for ship operators for the protection of the health of seafarers;
- (vii) IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.3 (2 March 2020) - Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships;

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AIDS HELPLINE: 0800-0123-22 Prevention is the cure

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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NO. 1077

22 October 2021

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002

**AMENDMENT OF DIRECTIONS ISSUED IN TERMS OF REGULATION 4(7)(b),
READ WITH REGULATIONS 75(5), 75A(3) AND 76(2)(e) OF THE REGULATIONS
MADE UNDER SECTION 27(2) OF THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2002
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2002): MEASURES TO ADDRESS, PREVENT AND COMBAT THE
SPREAD OF COVID-19 AT SEA PORTS FOR ADJUSTED ALERT LEVEL 1**

I, Fikile Mbalula, Minister of Transport, hereby, in terms of regulation 4(7)(b), read with regulations 75(5), 75A(3) and 76(2)(e) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002), after consultation with the Cabinet members responsible for cooperative governance and traditional affairs, trade, industry and competition, health, justice and correctional services, finance and public enterprises, amend the directions as set out in the Schedule hereto, to address, prevent and combat the spread of the COVID-19 at sea ports for Adjusted Alert Level 1.



**MR F. A. MBALULA, MP
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

DATE: 21/10/2021

SCHEDULE

Definition

1. In these directions, the "Directions" means the Directions, published under Government Notice No. 79, in Government Gazette No. 44140 of 10 February 2021.

Amendment of direction 3 of Directions

2. Direction 3 of the Directions is hereby amended—

(a) by the substitution for paragraph (b) of the following paragraph:

"(b) the commercial sea ports, foreign crew changes, passenger vessels on international voyages calling at any of the sea ports;" and

(b) by the deletion of paragraph (c).

Substitution of direction 6 of Directions

3. Direction 6 of the Directions is hereby substituted for the following direction:

"6. Commercial sea ports, foreign crew changes, passenger vessels on international voyages calling at sea ports

(1) All commercial sea ports remain open.

(2) Foreign crew changes are permitted at all nine commercial ports.

(3) Passenger vessels are permitted for international voyages.

(4) (a) International embarkation and disembarkation for passenger vessels are restricted to the following sea ports:

(i) Port of Cape Town;

(ii) Port of Durban;

- (iii) Port of Port Elizabeth;
 - (b) Coastal voyages are restricted to the following sea ports:
 - (i) Port of Richards Bay;
 - (ii) Port of Ngqura;
 - (iii) Port of Mossel Bay;
 - (iv) Port of Saldanha Bay;
 - (v) Port of East London; and
 - (vi) sea ports listed in paragraph (a).
- (5) All passenger vessels embarking on international voyages must utilize seaports listed in subdirection (4)(a) for first and last South African port of call.
- (6) Embarkation and disembarkation must comply with the curfew restrictions.
- (7) All international travellers and crew arriving at seaports must provide a valid certificate of a negative COVID-19 test recognised by the World Health Organization, which was obtained not more than 72 hours before the date of last foreign shore excursion.
- (8) In the event of the traveller's failure to submit a valid certificate of a negative COVID-19 test, the traveller will be required to do an antigen test on arrival, at his or her own cost, and in the event of a traveller testing positive for COVID-19, he or she will be required to isolate himself or herself at their own cost for the period of 10 days.
- (9)
 - (a) Signing-off crews are not required to produce a valid certificate of a negative COVID-19 test if the vessel has not had crew changes or has not visited a foreign port within 10 days before arrival at a South African sea port.
 - (b) Where the vessel has had crew changes or has visited a foreign port within 10 days before arrival at a South African sea port, the crew must undergo antigen testing on arrival and, in the event of a crew member testing positive for COVID-19, he or she will be required to isolate himself or herself for the period of 10 days, at the crew member's or employer's own cost.

- (10) The agents and cruise liners will be responsible for all arrangements relating to the transportation of travellers and crew who are required to isolate or quarantine at approved facilities ashore.
- (11) Shore leave is allowed for foreign crew in line with South African immigration requirements and port health protocols.
- (12) All port facilities or terminals must enforce Maritime Security Level 2 when facilitating passenger vessels and enforce Maritime Security Level 1 when handling cargo operations.

Substitution of direction 7 of Directions

4. *Direction 7 of the Directions is hereby substituted for the following direction:*

"7. Passenger vessels visiting South African sea port

- (1) Passenger vessels will be permitted to call at designated South African sea ports for the following purposes:
 - (i) International cruising;
 - (ii) coastal cruising and tourism activities;
 - (iii) crew changes;
 - (iv) replenishing fuel, stores and provisions;
 - (v) repairs and maintenance;
 - (vi) medical evacuation;
 - (vii) emergencies; and
 - (viii) other services approved by the Department of Transport.
- (2) All passenger vessels must comply with national legislation, including COVID-19 protocols in accordance with adjusted alert levels, whilst on coastal voyages.
- (3) Cruise companies must assess all identified risks to their crew, travellers and other persons in relation to COVID-19 and establish appropriate measures through a company and ship management plan.
- (4) All travellers embarking on passenger vessels must be subjected to antigen testing and screening prior to embarkation.

- (5) All passenger vessels must have designated cabins for isolation as per the on-board contingency plan in reasonable proportion with overall capacity.
- (6) Should the passenger vessel experience an outbreak where 50% or more of persons on board are infected, the cruise or voyage must be cancelled until the South African Maritime Safety Authority has, after consultation with the Department of Health, certified that the cruise or voyage may resume.
- (7) All travellers and crew must wear face masks whilst in public or shared spaces.
- (8) Embarkation and disembarkation at terminals must be staggered to ensure social distancing.
- (9) Travellers who contract COVID-19 on board must be isolated and receive the necessary medical health care.
- (10) No visitors are allowed to board passenger vessels whilst docked.
- (11) Stevedores, consultants, contractors and maritime port operators rendering services to passenger vessels must adhere to Maritime Security Level 2 measures as contained in port or port facility plans.
- (12) Travellers must be given clear information during embarkation, and should be reminded hourly during the cruise that they should contact the cruise medical services if they have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- (13) Should travellers develop any COVID-19 symptoms they must contact the cruise medical services.
- (14) Travellers developing symptoms during a cruise must be, isolated in dedicated cabin, wear a medical facemask, be tested for COVID-19 on board and be given appropriate treatment by qualified medical personnel on board.
- (15) Where COVID-19 cases are detected and there is not enough capacity to isolate persons, the vessel must discontinue the voyage and call the closest port for further medical assistance.
- (16) Contact tracing must be initiated when a possible or probable case of COVID-19 is identified whilst waiting laboratory confirmation.
- (17) All close contacts must be moved to isolation cabins.

- (18) Other possible contacts may quarantine in their designated cabins if there is no space available at isolation facilities.
- (19) Any local excursions must be conducted in a staggered manner to ensure that all health protocols can be adhered to during the excursion.
- (20) Persons going ashore and re-embarking on coastal voyages must be subjected to COVID-19 screening upon embarkation and disembarkation.
- (21)
 - (a) On-board dining and recreational facilities must adhere to social distancing measures.
 - (b) COVID-19 screening must be conducted before persons make use of the facilities contemplated in paragraph (a)."

Commencement

- 5. This amendment comes into effect on the date of publication thereof in the *Government Gazette*.