

# FONASBA COVID-19 BULLETIN



## AN UPDATE ON MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 BY MERCHANT SHIPPING – No. 121 14.01.2022

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

<b>Algeria</b>	<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, <b>crew changes are not allowed to be carried out in Algeria.</b></p> <p>Personnel who handle and are in contact with ships (Dockers, pilots, shipping agents, Customs, etc.) are all protected by standard equipment.</p>
<b>Argentina</b>	<p>Although the Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic is still in force in Argentina, based on the advance in vaccination coverage and the sustained decrease in the number of positive cases and deaths registered in the country, government implemented more flexible measures to enter the national territory.</p> <p>In this sense, as from November 1st, borders had opened to foreigners and international tourism under strict compliance with protocols, migration, and health requirements. Those who wish to enter Argentina, may do it through authorized safe corridors, and must have: (1) a complete vaccination schedule; (2) negative PCR tests performed within 72 hours before entering the country; (3) COVID-19 health insurance. Those who comply with points 1 and 2 will be exempted from performing mandatory quarantine except for those under 18 years of age, who will be exempted even when they have not complied with requirements under point 1 if completed requirements under point 2.</p> <p>Following this line, since October 20th, in accordance with current immigration and health requirements, replacement of foreign crews of international ships was authorized. Foreign crew members who disembark in the country to be replaced must comply with the maritime health declarations and those required by the National Directorate of Migration.</p>

	<p>Bi-oceanic and Antarctic cruise season began. For this, in addition to the previous conditions fixed to enter the national territory, passengers must have: (1) a complete vaccination schedule; (2) negative PCR carried out between 24 and 48 hours prior to boarding the cruise in the country; (3) COVID-19 and death insurance. Tests both at the beginning and at the end of landings for shore excursions will not be necessary, but antigen test will be required for the final landing of the trip. Notwithstanding this, cruise operating companies must formalize their protocols before national authorities following the guidelines determined by the national protocol.</p>
<b>Australia</b>	<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 (<a href="http://www.shippingaustralia.com.au/covid-19-shipping-update">www.shippingaustralia.com.au/covid-19-shipping-update</a>) is regularly updated with detailed information on crew changes and the current Federal and state restrictions.</p>
<b>Belgium</b>	<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, <a href="mailto:hilde.bruggeman@naves.be">hilde.bruggeman@naves.be</a></p>
<b>Brazil</b>	<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>

<p><b>Cabo Verde</b></p>	<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 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"> <li>- Request to be made to the agent 10 days before intended vessel call</li> <li>- Health Authorities will confirm vaccines available within 3 working days</li> <li>- 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</li> <li>- We will arrange vaccination on board OR crew to come to vaccination centre in 2 groups.</li> <li>- Service fee applicable depending on number of crew members to be vaccinated.</li> </ul> <p>Health authorities expect vaccine to be Astra Zeneca and they are available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Give two doses if vessel calls Cabo Verde within the period (or stays for 4 weeks)</li> <li>- Give dose number one</li> <li>- Give dose number two</li> </ul> <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>
<p><b>Chile</b></p>	<p>Please find restrictions to be followed by non-residents entering to Chile as from today December 1st 2021. Same were reported by Authorities to be applied as from yesterday at 00:00 hrs LT. This is a free translation of document published in internet by Health Authority on last Tuesday.</p> <p><b>ENTRANCE TO CHILE</b></p> <p>Who can enter Chile?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All non-resident foreigners in Chile (tourists) who have a Chilean Mobility Pass, which is the coronavirus vaccination certificate. Vaccines received abroad must have been previously validated in Chile to obtain it. (Paperwork should be performed in advance, it could take about 2-3 weeks).</li> <li>• Non-resident foreigners in Chile (tourists) under 6 years of age who have not been able to access vaccination against coronavirus, without need of Chilean Mobility Pass.</li> <li>• Foreigners not resident in Chile who comply with any of the exceptions contained in Decree 295 of the Ministry of the Interior.</li> </ul> <p>The entry of foreigners without regular residence who have been in the following countries of Africa in the last 14 days IS PROHIBITED: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique</p> <p>To any foreigner without regular residence over 6 years of age who is not vaccinated or who does not have his vaccination previously validated by the Ministry of Health of</p>

	<p>Chile, and who does not comply with any of the exceptions contained in Decree 295 of the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>Border crossings enabled for entry into the country</p> <p>Arturo Merino Benítez Airport Iquique Airport Antofagasta Airport Punta Arenas Airport</p> <p>Who can leave Chile?</p> <p>All, without any restrictions and without the need for a Virtual Police Station permit or Mobility Pass.</p> <p>Border crossings enabled for exit from the country:</p> <p>Arturo Merino Benítez Airport Iquique Airport Antofagasta Airport Punta Arenas Airport</p> <p><b>SANITARY MEASURES WHEN ENTERING CHILE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCR Negative taken in the country of origin with 72hrs. before boarding the airplane (from 2 years of age. Children under 2 years of age are exempt from this requirement).</li> <li>• Affidavit from the c19.cl website.</li> <li>• Medical insurance US\$ 30.000 dollars to cover diseases associated with COVID-19. (In the case of citizens of Spanish nationality, point IV number 28 of Exempt Resolution 672 applies, which indicates that this insurance will not be required).</li> <li>• Validation of vaccine approved by the Ministry of Health.</li> </ul> <p>These documents will be required by the operator of the means of transport when boarding , and by the Health authority when entering the country.</p> <p>Those who have a complete vaccination schedule validated by the Ministry of Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon entering the country, you will be screened for coronavirus (PCR).</li> <li>• You must quarantine at an address reported in the Affidavit, until you receive the negative test result.</li> <li>• To get to this place, domestic flight connections are allowed, even if you have not yet received the negative result of the coronavirus test made at the entrance.</li> </ul> <p>Once the Ministry of Health receives the negative result of the test from the laboratory, the mobility pass will be enabled.</p> <p>Those who are under 6 years old, who have not been able to access vaccination for coronavirus and travel with a father, mother or legal guardian with a complete vaccination schedule validated by the Ministry of Health:</p> <p>Children between 2 and 6 years old who enter the country with their father, mother or legal guardian who if they have a complete vaccination schedule validated, upon entry into the country. They will be screened for coronavirus (PCR). Until you receive the negative result of this test, you must quarantine at an address reported in the Affidavit.</p> <p>To get to this place, domestic flight connections are allowed, even if you have not yet received the negative result of the coronavirus test made at the entrance.</p>
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<b>Cyprus</b>	<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"> <li>1. <i>flying the flag of Cyprus; and</i></li> <li>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></li> </ol> <p>Further information can be found on the Circular that is available <a href="#">here</a>:</p>
<b>Denmark</b>	<p>Denmark has reinstated the use of corona passports to enter restaurants, bars, cinemas, concerts and sports events. This is due to an increasing corona infectious and to prevent numbers from escalating. Seafarers still have a right to shore leave with no restrictions, but must observe the corona passport demand. Seafarers are permitted shore leave to take a privately paid corona test.</p> <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 <a href="mailto:jese@di.dk">jese@di.dk</a> 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 <a href="https://en.coronasmitte.dk">https://en.coronasmitte.dk</a> now publishes the ability to buy J&amp;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>
<b>Dubai</b>	<p>The authorities have now introduced <b>the UAE Maritime Activities Return to Work Safely Protocol</b>. The Protocol takes into prospective the following overarching principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adhere to public health requirements and precautionary measures in the UAE for maritime workers and those involved in marine activities.</li> <li>2. Pre-registration of crew members' itinerary to join ships or return home.</li> <li>3. Crew members' self-monitoring of traveler's health, in addition to knowledge of precautionary instructions and procedures, starting and during travel.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <p><b>1. Crew change procedures.</b> Crew change is permitted in the UAE ports and waters, taking into considerations the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> </ol>

	<p>provide a safe medical shelter if the COVID test was positive in accordance with the required instructions imposed by the health authorities in UAE.</p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide the immigration office in the port with a copy of the same above mentioned declaration.</li> <li>- Obtain confirmed flight booking (Departure Ticket) on the nearest available flight.</li> <li>- Obtain a seafarer entry visa (96 hours' visa).</li> <li>- The seafarer should go through the required COVID 19 test as specified by the UAE health authorities.</li> <li>- in case of Positive result of the test, the shipping agent should follow the required instructions applied by the competent authorities</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Dry Docks and Ship Repairs Facilities Procedures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Dry docks and ship repair facilities measure seafarers' temperatures on a daily basis until their departure, in anticipation of any Covid-19 cases.</li> <li>3. Restrict seafarers' movement around to prevent unnecessary contact in the docks and maintenance workshops</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <p><b>3. Ships and Off-Shore Supply Vessels Procedures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <p><b>4. Passenger Ships Procedures</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain prohibiting Passenger ships from calling and docking in UAE waters and ports.</li> </ol>
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<b>Egypt</b>	<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</p>



	<p>measures &amp; 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"> <li>• Arrivals who have a vaccine certificate against coronavirus from countries affected by strains of coronavirus at India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Bhutan , Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Brazil, Latin America: The following will be applied: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• 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 dose of the vaccine for vaccines given on 2 doses (Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Moderna, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Sputnik) or 14 days to pass the date of having the first dose of Johnson &amp; Johnson vaccine.</li> </ul> <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>
<b>Finland</b>	See the advice on crew changes (and other travel arrangements), previously circulated under update no. 78.
<b>Germany</b>	<p>Free vaccinations are available for foreign seafarers in almost all German ports. Please contact your local agents or owners' representative for further details and for organizing an appointment on shore.</p> <p>Seafarers vaccinated with Sputnik or Sinovac or other unauthorised vaccines are considered as "unvaccinated". However, also those seafarers can receive vaccination with approved vaccines.</p> <p>The national vaccination programme is open to foreign seafarers. In the ports of Bremen, Bremerhaven and Hamburg there are exclusive vaccination appointments for foreign seafarers.</p> <p>Crew changes are still possible. Call your local agents for further details</p>
<b>Israel</b>	<p>As of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the Government concluded that vaccinated and recovered foreigners from orange countries are allowed to enter Israel subject to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Filling a timely online document.</li> <li>2) A PCR or ANTIGEN test before embarkation.</li> <li>3) PCR test upon entering Israel.</li> </ol>

	<p>4) 24 hours isolation or receiving a negative answer of the test in (3) – whatever comes first.</p> <p>Not vaccinated or not recovered foreigners will not be allowed to enter Israel.</p> <p>Foreigners from red countries, excluding exceptional approvals, will not be allowed to enter Israel.</p> <p>Ship agents should update themselves about the red countries list by the Ministries of Health and Immigration websites.</p> <p>The current procedure pertaining to seamen exchange will be cancelled as of January 9th. Henceforth, ship agents must receive approvals for foreign crew members arrivals according to the entrance procedure for foreigners issued by the Immigration authority and MOH guidelines.</p>
<p><b>Italy</b></p>	<p>With effect from 12<sup>th</sup> 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><b>DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CABINET - 14 January 2021</b></p> <p><b>Art. 9</b></p> <p><b>Obligations of carriers and shipowners</b></p> <p>1. Carriers and shipowners are required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) acquire and verify before boarding the declaration referred to in art. 7;</li> <li>b) check the body temperature of each passengers;</li> <li>c) prohibit boarding for those who are or have been feverish, as well as who have not completed the declaration referred to in (a);</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>f) supply at the time of embarkation, passengers who do not have the means of personal protection with same.</li> </ol> <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,</p>

	<p>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><b>Art.10</b></p> <p><b>Provisions on cruise ships and foreign flag ships</b></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 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> <p>a) the preparation of all the measures necessary to comply with the guidelines referred to in paragraph 1;</p> <p>b) the subsequent ports of call and the port at the end of the cruise, with the relevant arrival/departure dates;</p> <p>c) the nationality and origin of the passengers on board in compliance with the provisions referred to in the preceding subparagraph.</p> <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><b>Japan</b></p>	<p>In the past few days, the Omicron strain has spread rapidly across the country.</p> <p>The Government is imposing a number of restrictions in order to keep the situation under control, which will lead to a tightening of medical care.</p>

	<p>We will continue to monitor and report on the situation as it develops. Meantime, the following precautions are now in place for those who are returning to Japan or entering Japan from abroad.</p> <p>Japan has taken the following strict measures as emergency and precautionary measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New entry of foreign nationals from all over the world is suspended</b></li> <li>• Japanese nationals and other residents in Japan may return, but those arriving from countries and regions designated by the Japanese government will be required to stay in accommodation organised by the Quarantine Office. The length of stay will be 3, 6, or 10 days, depending on the risk in the designated countries and regions. After leaving the accommodation, they will be required to stay at home until the 14th day after entering Japan.</li> </ul> <p>Please also refer to the following website for the latest information on corona countermeasures from the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare: (<a href="https://mhlw.go.jp">mhlw.go.jp</a>)</p>
<b>Jordan</b>	See attached updated protocols for crew changes.
<b>Lebanon</b>	<p>According to the Lebanese ministry of public health relevant warnings, the daily COVID19 (+ Omicron) infection in Lebanon is on the rise. Social distancing is enforced and widely observed. Face masks are mandatory in all enclosed areas.</p> <p>SEAPORTS:</p> <p>Lebanon commercial ports are operating according to the official schedule and apply relevant sanitary guidelines.</p> <p>Ships’ agents provide declaration to arrange formalities as per usual practice ahead of vessel’s arrival.</p> <p>Sanitary officer green light is mandatory before free pratique is granted and start of operations.</p> <p>Shore pass for crew is restricted to holders of negative PCR made by the local sanitary officer (fast track test in 2 hours is available upon request).</p> <p>Exception cases on sickness ground would be considered subject to final approval by the local authorities.</p> <p>CREW ON SIGNERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the procedures applicable for all passengers through BRHIA (listed below).</li> </ul> <p>CREW OFF SIGNERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A PCR sample should be collected onboard alongside by a local doctor at a Lebanese port.</li> <li>• Negative PCR holder(s) are allowed to disembark/repatriate through BRHIA if they meet the health requirement of the country of destination.</li> </ul> <p>BEIRUT AIRPORT (BRHIA):</p> <p>Procedures for All Incoming Passengers to Lebanon Circular No. 52/2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All passengers wishing to come to Lebanon, except Children under 12 years age and UNIFIL, must register on the MOPH PASS platform of the Ministry of Public Health through the following website: <a href="https://PASS.MOPH.GOV.LB">https://PASS.MOPH.GOV.LB</a> and to make sure that the information sent is correct, before obtaining a MOPH PASS (Annex</li> </ol>

	<p>2. All Passengers wishing to come to Lebanon, except children under 12 years old, must perform PCR test in a Lab. certified by the countries Local authorities latest 48 hours between the sampling date and boarding the plane from the country of origin, and they should upload the PCR test result on the platform of the Ministry of Health referred to in item 1 above, where a QR code will be created for each passenger coming to Lebanon and sent to him via a text message with a link to download it. Upon arrival at Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport, the QR Code will be read to ensure that the passenger's information is correct before he is allowed to enter.</p> <p>3. All passengers arriving to Lebanon, except Children under 12 years age and UNIFIL, shall perform a PCR test upon their arrival to BRHIA.</p> <p>4. Other relevant details can be found at the link <a href="https://moph.gov.lb/en/MoPHPASS">https://moph.gov.lb/en/MoPHPASS</a>.</p>
<b>Libya</b>	<p>Attached you could find the original and translated docs for the latest decision by the Libyan Maritime authority to allow port personnel such as : the pilot, immigration, customs, agent, port authority, cargo inspector and anyone within their connection as long as they have been: vaccinated twice *prove to be shown by the vaccination card* and wear goggles, face masks (N-95) and having a hand sanitizer.</p> <p>Crew change is now also permitted as long as the crew member can provide: vaccination card which proves that the member has been vaccinated twice and also wear goggles, face mask (N-95) and a hand sanitizer.</p> <p>The above was approved by the Libyan Maritime authority in all Libyan ports (Farwah, Bouri, Mellitah, Zawia, Tripoli, Al-Khoms, Misurata, Sirte, Essider, Ras Lanuf, Marsa Al Brega, Zueitina, Benghazi, Derna, Marsa Al Hariga and Tobruk) the decision took effect on 16/Dec/2021.</p>
<b>Mexico</b>	<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>
<b>Netherlands</b>	<p>As of 11 January 2022, the Port Health Centre is providing booster vaccinations for seafarers under the Netherlands COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for Seafarers. Booster vaccination for seafarers at Amsterdam Schiphol Airport is not possible at this moment. For further information, contact the local agent.</p> <p>With effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> August, vaccinations are being offered to any seafarers (irrespective of nationality or the flag of the vessel) arriving in the port of Rotterdam.</p>

	<p>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: <a href="https://www.kvnr.nl/en/vaccination/start">https://www.kvnr.nl/en/vaccination/start</a> and a factsheet on the Rotterdam programme is attached.</p>
<p><b>Panama</b></p>	<p>Vaccination Update 11.01.2022: The Autoridad Maritima de Panama / Panama Maritime Authority has just started the Covid-19 Vaccination program in Panama for all crewmembers. For details and information, owners and operators are recommended to contact their local agents to make proper arrangements/coordination in time.</p> <p>As of June 7th, Curfew will be in effect from 2200 hours to 0400 hours every day 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 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><b>Remember that all incoming crewmembers are required to arrive Panama with an approved Panamanian Seaman Visa obtained locally by the agent.</b></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:-  <a href="https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-13-2020.pdf">https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-13-2020.pdf</a></p>

	<p><a href="https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-19-2020.pdf">https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2020/ADV-19-2020.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2021/ADV-13-2021.pdf">https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2021/ADV-13-2021.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Portugal</b></p>	<p>The Portuguese Government decision has decided to maintain present State of Calamity. On this basis and as per Ministry Council Resolution <b>no. 291-E/2022</b>, please be informed of the present restrictions in force to enter/leaving Portugal <b>(changes highlighted in yellow)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Flights within EU and within Schengen Space are authorized, being allowed all voyages.</li> <li>2. Authorized flights to Portugal with passengers coming from, or originated from, countries outside EU and Schengen space are allowed with <b>list of countries as below:</b>  <b>Argentina, Australia, Bahrein, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Kuwait, Macau, New Zealand, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, U.A.E., United Kingdom, Uruguay, U.S.A.</b></li> <li>3. All passengers arriving from other countries, in which epidemiological situation is complying with EU Recommendation no. 2020/912 of European Council and respective updates are allowed voyages to Portugal.  <b>Argentina, Australia, Bahrein, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Kuwait, Macau, New Zealand, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, U.A.E., United Kingdom, Uruguay, U.S.A.</b></li> <li>4. Passengers are only authorized to board flights to Portugal: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If holding 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 EU Health committee) with negative result and performed within 48 hrs prior boarding flight.</li> <li>b. Or if holding a COVID-19 Valid Certificate of recovery</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Crewmembers on board ships, required to embark, disembark or to obtain license ashore, are only allowed under the same conditions as mentioned on item 4. (a. and b.)</li> </ol> <p><b>Cruises</b></p> <p>The Portuguese Government decided to continue with measurements restrictions for cruise vessels sector, enounced on Resolution <b>no. 291-D/2022</b>, stating following:</p> <p>To allow embarkation, disembarkation and licenses to go ashore for passengers and crew members of cruise ships in all Portuguese ports, only If holding 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 EU Health committee) with negative result and performed within 48 hrs prior debarking or embarking, or if holding a COVID-19 Valid Certificate of recovery</p> <p>Only Quick Antigen tests approved by the EU Health committee will be accepted and lab report must indicate the set of normalized data agreed by the EU Health committee.</p> <p>Such restrictions are not applicable to children under 12 years of age.</p>

	These present Governmental orders will be in force from <b>00.001 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022, until 23.59 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b> , being subject to review, having into consideration the evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak in Portugal.
<b>Russia</b>	<p>The restrictions on crew change in the Russian Federation have been reviewed and amended by the health authority so that <b>crew changes are possible for seafarers who are non-residents of RF.</b></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"> <li>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.</li> <li>b. If no certificate on arrival, then the test must be done (PCR method) with help of agent within 3 days after arrival.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <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>
<b>South Africa</b>	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.
<b>Slovenia</b>	<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"> <li>- The crew member must be EU national or have a Valid Schengen visa</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Ljubljana airport is open with a great reduction of air traffic and connections.</li> <li>- There are no restrictions for vessels to enter and exit port of Koper.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- If any infection noticed on board prior to vessel arrival person in charge must notify agent and below procedures must be taken:</li> </ul> <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 centre in Ljubljana at the infectious disease clinic.</p>
<b>Spain</b>	<p>Cruise operations will commence from Spanish ports on 7<sup>th</sup> June in accordance with new measures issued by the Spanish Ministry of Health, a copy of which are being circulated separately.</p>
<b>Sweden</b>	<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>