

FONASBA COVID-19 BULLETIN



AN UPDATE ON MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 BY MERCHANT SHIPPING – No. 5 24.03.2020

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

Australia	Legislation in Western Australia, specifically the “Self-Quarantine Following Overseas Travel Directions”, (attached) state that any incoming crewmember must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival at the first place of entry into the state. The quarantine place can be a ship but for incoming crewmembers arriving at Perth International Airport (in most cases the only international gateway in WA) the directions require that they must spend the aforesaid 14 days in Perth before moving on to another WA port to join the vessel.
Belgium	Situation in Belgium today, further to our earlier report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No visa issued at the border anymore unless in very exceptional circumstances to be authorised on a national level (end of contract as such not being an exceptional circumstance).- No shore leave allowed for crew members during vessel’s stay at the port.- Crew changes on basis of pre-existing visa to be evaluated case by case (possibilities for return flight, possible restrictions in homeland for crew traveling in from Belgium,...).- Cruise passengers are not allowed to leave the vessel.
European Union	Information on the EU’s “Green Lanes” initiative to enhance cross-border clearances for freight transport can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_510 This link also includes the formal Commission communication on the “Green Lanes” initiative as well as further COVID-19 information. Thanks to Jesper in Denmark and Sari in Finland for this information.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ships that come directly from China will be first approached by International Health once the ship docked at anchor at the end of the day.• Ship agencies must specify the list of the last 10 ports the vessel arrive, and the date on which the ship operated.• If any crew member has temperature before arriving at the port, the

	<p>vessel captain will be requested to log the temperature monitoring each 24 hours from the last 3 days before arrival at the port and inform to International Health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crew may not disembark and crew changes are not permitted. All ships must be anchored and International Health authority get on board to make the Free Practique. • During the Free Practique they must use mouth covers and gloves, avoid shaking hands, don't consume any food or drinks and wash hands.
Worldwide Infographic	<p>Courtesy of Portugal and their member Wilhelmsens, we have been give permission to share a link to the company's detailed global summary of current restrictions: https://www.wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/coronavirus-map</p>

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT 2005 (WA)

Section 67

SELF-QUARANTINE FOLLOWING OVERSEAS TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

On 15 March 2020, the Minister for Emergency Services declared a state of emergency with effect from 12 a.m. on 16 March 2020 in respect of the pandemic caused by COVID-19 pursuant to section 56 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005 (WA)* (Act). The state of emergency applies to the State of Western Australia.

I, Christopher John Dawson, Commissioner of Police and State Emergency Coordinator, now give the following directions, pursuant to my powers under section 67 of the Act.

DIRECTIONS

Preamble

1. The purpose of these directions is to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Citation

2. These directions may be referred to as the **Self-Quarantine Following Overseas Travel Directions**.

Directions

3. Except in those circumstances identified in paragraph 8(a) or (c) below, a person who arrives at an airport in Western Australia on a flight that originated from a place outside Australia, or on a connecting flight from a flight that originated from a place outside Australia, after the day on which this direction is made:
 - (a) must travel as soon as possible from the airport to premises that are suitable for the person to reside in for a period of fourteen (14) days;
 - (b) must reside in those premises for the period beginning on the day of arrival and ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrived at the airport;
 - (c) must not leave the premises during the period described in paragraph 3(b) except:
 - (i) for the purposes of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or

- (ii) in an emergency situation.
- 4. Except in those circumstances identified in paragraph 8(a) or (c) below, a person who arrived or arrives at an airport in Western Australia on a flight that originated from a place outside Australia, or on a connecting flight from a flight that originated from a place outside Australia, at any time in the period commencing at the beginning of the day fourteen (14) days before the making of this direction and ending at the end of the day on which this direction is made:
 - (a) must, if the person is not already in premises that are suitable for the person to reside in:
 - (i) travel as soon as possible to premises that are suitable for the person to reside in for a period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrived at the airport; and
 - (ii) reside in those premises for the period beginning on the person's arrival at those premises and ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrived at the airport; or
 - (b) must, if the person is already in premises that are suitable for the person to reside in, reside in those premises for the period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrived at the airport; and
 - (c) must not leave the premises during the period described in paragraph 4(a)(ii) or (b) except:
 - (i) for the purpose of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or
 - (ii) in an emergency situation.
- 5. Except in those circumstances identified in paragraph 8(a) or (b) below, a person who enters Australian waters from international waters aboard any ship, boat or any other kind of vessel and disembarks from that vessel onto land within Western Australia after the day on which this direction is made:
 - (a) must travel as soon as possible from their point of disembarkation to premises that are suitable for the person to reside in for a period of 14 days;
 - (b) must reside in those premises for the period beginning on the day of arrival and ending at midnight on the fourteenth (14th) day after arrival;

- (c) must not leave the premises during the period described in paragraph 5(b) except:
 - (i) for the purpose of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or
 - (ii) in an emergency situation.

6. Except in those circumstances identified in paragraph 8(a) or (b) below, a person who entered or enters Australian waters from international waters aboard any ship, boat or any other kind of vessel and disembarks from that vessel onto land within Western Australia at any time in the period commencing at the beginning of the day fourteen (14) days before the making of this direction and ending at the end of the day on which this direction is made:

- (a) must, if the person is not already in premises that are suitable for the person to reside in:
 - (i) travel as soon as possible to premises that are suitable for the person to reside in for a period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person disembarked; and
 - (ii) reside in those premises for the period beginning on the person's arrival at those premises and ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person arrived at the airport; or
- (b) must, if the person is already in premises that are suitable for the person to reside in, reside in those premises for the period ending fourteen (14) days after the day on which the person disembarked; and
- (c) must not leave the premises during the period described in paragraph 6(a)(ii) or (b) except:
 - (i) for the purpose of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or
 - (ii) in an emergency situation.

7. A person (A) must not enter premises in which a person (B) is residing in compliance with a direction in paragraph 3, 4, 5 or 6 unless:

- (a) A usually lives in the premises; or
- (b) A is also complying with the direction for the same period as person B; or
- (c) A enters the premises for medical or emergency purposes.

8. Provided that at all times the person takes all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person, a person is not required to comply with a direction:
- (a) in paragraph 3, 4, 5 or 6 to the extent necessary to permit the person to leave Western Australia before the expiry of the relevant period described in paragraph 3(b), 4(a)(ii) or (b), 5(b) or 6(a)(ii) or (b) (**relevant period**):
 - (i) on another flight to a destination outside of Australia; or
 - (ii) on a ship, boat or any other kind of vessel which is not scheduled to disembark anyone at any place in Australia before the expiry of the relevant period; or
 - (b) in paragraph 5 or 6 if the person is a member of the crew of a ship, boat or any other kind of vessel described in paragraph 5 or 6, who:
 - (i) does not leave that vessel; or
 - (ii) leaves the vessel with the approval of an authorised officer who is authorised to exercise powers under section 67 of the Act and in accordance with any terms or conditions to which that approval is subject; or
 - (c) in paragraph 3 or 4 if the person is intending to live indefinitely on a Pacific Island who is travelling through an airport in Western Australia in transit to the Pacific Island and does not leave the airport except on a flight to a destination outside Western Australia.

PENALTIES

It is an offence to fail to comply with any of these directions, punishable by a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for bodies corporate.



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Christopher John Dawson
State Emergency Coordinator and Commissioner of Police

18 March 2020