

FONASBA COVID-19 BULLETIN



AN UPDATE ON MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 BY MERCHANT SHIPPING – No. 98 14.07.2021

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>"Preventive and compulsory social isolation" is still in force at a national level, including the closure of the country's borders, maintaining some procedures for the attention of exceptions and particular cases, under a practically monthly dynamic of updating the sanitary measures.</p> <p>Due to the strong increase in cases in the country and the entry of different variants of COVID 19, the authorities have recently increased restrictions on internal circulation and some activities, especially at night. Flight bans have been added to certain destinations such as UK, Italy, Brazil, Chile and Mexico, limiting others. On the other hand, it was established that in all cases, health controls are carried out upon admission based on a very strict specific protocol.</p> <p>Authorities have not yet authorized the disembarkation or replacement of foreign crews, except for the attention of particular humanitarian situations managed and justified on a case-by-case basis, which has been made even more difficult by the significant increase in cases that currently exist.</p> <p>For the embarkation of Pilots and grants of Free Pratique, the specific protocols and information requirements continue without modifying with no less than 72 hours prior to the arrival of the ship at the first place of embarkation of Pilots and authorization of entry, requiring the information provided to international level by the International Health</p>

	<p>Regulations (IHR) plus certain complementary data especially related to the last 14 days of navigation, crew changes in that period and port entries.</p> <p>In the case of ships that arrive at the Pilot's embarkation points with 14 days or more of navigation since their last entry to port, some additional information such as temperature data of each member of the crew continues to be added to the usual previous information, statement of cleaning / disinfection procedures and equipment used and any other supplementary information. The health authorities verify this information and, where appropriate, give their consent for the Pilots to board and enter the port. Upon arrival they carry out controls on board and if no inconveniences are observed, they will proceed to grant the "Free Pratique", enabling the operations of the ship.</p> <p>If the ship has entered ports in the last 14 days prior to arrival, further additional information on crew replacement is still required, a protocol implemented by the port and the ship's company to carry out such replacement, an affidavit of the crew members to verify the traceability of the days prior to embarkation, health certificate for embarkation, copy of the embarkation and disembarkation records of crew and ground personnel involved in the operation of the ship and all other complementary data that in the process of Analysis of prior information may be required by the health authorities according to each case.</p> <p>The protocols established for ships that must comply with quarantine or isolation also remain unchanged; specific information required if symptoms or positive cases of COVID-19 are registered on board (depending on the different situations that may arise), protocols for the case of care for affected crew members, etc. All this is reported by the partner Maritime Agencies to the shipowners and captains of the ships in detail and as applicable in each case.</p> <p>The updated regulations on the activity described (in Spanish only) are available through the following link:</p> <p>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/puertos-vias-navegables-y-marina-mercante/protocolo-prevencion-covid-19-en-el-transporte-fluvial</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>
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>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</p>

	<p>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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 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.

6. Wooden Ships (Dhows) Procedures

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.

7. Yachts and Leisure Boats Procedures

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

	<p>the actual vessel capacity at this stage, and complying with the approved health guidelines and using the personal protective equipment.</p> <p>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 & Maritimes, 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.</p> <p>3. Restrict the use of the Jet ski by its rider only, without allowing additional passenger.</p> <p>8. Shore Passes Procedures</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 these information from him.</p> <p>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.</p>
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

	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccines are now available for the inoculation of seafarers in Hamburg, Kiel, Bremen and Bremerhaven. The times and dates on which seafarer vaccinations take place vary from port to port, as do the arrangements for booking appointments. 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 .
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>
Italy	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> acquire and verify before boarding the declaration referred to in art. 7; check the body temperature of each passengers; 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.

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.

Art.10

Provisions on cruise ships and foreign flag ships

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.

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.

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:

- 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.

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>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>
Japan	<p>The State of Emergency introduced on 26th February has now been lifted. Information on current health and travel restrictions can be found using the following links:</p> <p>Border Enforcement Measures: https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html and http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/hisho06_00099.html</p> <p>Measures for controlling travel to and from Japan and visa application procedures: https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/cp/page22e_000925.html and: https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page22e_000921.html</p>
Jordan	<p>See attached updated protocols for crew changes.</p>
Lebanon	<p>Lebanon has opened up 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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>

<p>Panama</p>	<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 the 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>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>Please be guided that the Portuguese Government decision has decided to maintain the State Calamity. On this basis and as per Ministry Council Resolution no. 6326-A/2021, please be informed of the present restrictions in force to enter/leaving Portugal (changes highlight in yellow)</p> <p>Flights within EU and within Schengen Space are authorized, being allowed all voyages. Passengers should only be allowed to board the plane after presenting the negative result of PCR test(1) performed within 72 hrs prior boarding plane.</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.
 - All flights with other origins/destinations exclusively allowed if strictly necessary and reasoned and if not suspended by Portuguese Government. Professional activities are included on such authorization.
 - 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,
 - 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 14 days in a place indicated by health authorities. Presently, list of these countries are:
 - Brazil, **Great Britain**, India, Nepal and South Africa
 - **Great Britain exemption: Unless proof of vaccination against COVID-19 received in GB and attesting complete vaccination process (with vaccine approved by EMA) has been fulfilled for more than 14 days.**
 - 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. Presently, list of these countries are:
 - **Albania**, Australia, China, Israel, Japan, **Lebanon**, New Zealand, **North Macedonia**, Rwanda, **Serbia**, Singapore, South Korea, **Taiwan**, Thailand and **USA**, + Hong Kong and Macau.
 - Foreign citizens arriving to Portugal without showing the PCR test(1) performed, should have their entry in Portugal denied.
- *1 or Quick Antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection (approved by UE Health committee) with negative result and performed within 24 hrs prior boarding plane.

Cruises

The Portuguese Government decided to continue with measurements restrictions for cruise vessels sector, enounced on Resolution no. **6336-B/2021**, under presently Ministry Council Resolution no. 5848-A/2021 stating following:

- 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 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 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.
 - PCR test obligation is not applicable to Children under **12 years** of age.
- *1 or Quick Antigen tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection (approved by UE Health committee) with negative result and performed within 24 hrs prior leaving, embarking or disembarking the cruise ship.

<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>
<p>South Africa</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shipping is continuing in all ports except that it is now mandatory that all arriving vessels undergo an Antigen /Rapid test before being allowed entry into the port. Should anyone be found to be positive the vessel will be quarantined and remain at the anchorage for the ten day quarantine period before retesting. The port was insisting on the PCR test that took approximately 48 hours to produce the result but were convinced to amend the instruction to the Antigen type test that provides a result after plus-minus 30 minutes. 2. All port workers, visitors to the port undergo screening before entering the ports. Should anyone prove positive they will be sent away to undergo the necessary quarantine period. 3. Shore leave is still prohibited. 4. OPL – (Off Port Limit) operations are continuing with the same testing in place. 5. False reporting by masters in respect of COVID positive crew or other illnesses will be viewed in a serious light. 6. Should a vessel enter port, commence operations and then discover that a crew member is COVID positive the operation will cease, and the vessel quarantined for a period of ten days.
<p>Slovenia</p>	<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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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: Agent must notify all authorities of potential risk of COVID-19 infected seaman in the national single window. 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. All next decisions for crew and vessel movements are responsibility of medical officials at the NIJZ (National Institute of Public Health). 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.
Spain	Cruise operations will commence from Spanish ports on 7 th June in accordance with new measures issued by the Spanish Ministry of Health, a copy of which are being circulated separately.
Sweden	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.