



# South African Maritime Safety Authority

Ref: SM6/5/2/1

Date: 1 June 2020

## Marine Notice No. 30 of 2020

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### COVID-19 Level 3 Crew Changes

TO ALL REGIONAL MANAGERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, SHIP AGENTS, PORT AUTHORITIES, SHIP OWNERS, SHIP MANAGERS, SEAFARERS AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

*To be read in conjunction with Marine Notice 24 of 2020: Medical Evacuations from Vessels (MEDEVAC) & Marine Notice 26 of 2020: Coronavirus Information and Emergency Contact details*

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#### *Summary*

This marine notice serves to inform all South African seafarers that they are permitted to embark and disembark vessels for the purposes of work under LEVEL 3.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Shipping is vital to the world supply chain. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that all personnel involved are protected from infection, including those onboard ships and shore personnel who may need to temporarily go onboard ships or interact with seafarers.

Many seafarers on board ships (and personnel in the offshore industry) have been on enforced extended contracts during the COVID-19 pandemic, with restrictions on travel making it difficult for crew to leave ships and for new crew to join ships. These extended stays on board could have significant repercussions for crew wellbeing as well as for safe ship operations.

South African implemented a 5 Level Risk-Based Approach and on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2020, South Africa will reduce to a Level 3.

#### **a) SOUTH AFRICAN SEAFARERS**

All South African Seafarers will be permitted to embark or disembark vessels either in South Africa or Internationally. Returning Seafarers will be required to undergo a 14-day quarantine. South African Seafarers wishing to join a vessel, should preferably self-quarantine for 14-days prior to embarking. It is further recommended that seafarers undergo a Covid-19 test prior to joining a vessel.

#### **b) FOREIGN SEAFARERS**

No foreign Seafarers will be permitted to embark or disembark vessels in South Africa, unless prior arrangements have been agreed upon between the seafarers' Embassy and Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), Department of Home Affairs and Department of Health.

#### **c) MEDICAL EVACUATIONS**

Medical Evacuations will be dealt with in accordance with Marine Notice 24 of 2020.

**d) HEALTH DECLARATIONS**

Masters, Seafarers and Ship Operators are to ensure that each individual seafarer, wishing to join or sign off a vessel completes a CREW HEALTH SELF-DECLARATION & DAILY TEMPERATURE RECORDS as per Annex 1.

**e) INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL**

Restrictions may still apply in terms of international air travel. Ship Owners, Ship Operators, Ship Agents and seafarers should be aware that any restrictions or availability of Air Travel may still impose difficulties in international travel.

**f) APPROVAL TO TRAVEL**

Any seafarer wishing to travel internationally should request permission or request further information from the Department of Home Affairs at:

[Covid19Travel@dha.gov.za](mailto:Covid19Travel@dha.gov.za)

**1 June 2020**

**SM6/5/2/1**

Issued by and obtainable from:  
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## APPENDIX 1

### CREW HEALTH SELF-DECLARATION & DAILY TEMPERATURE RECORDS

The protocols refer to a seafarer completing a "Crew Health Self-Declaration" and keeping records of daily temperature checks.

The following is a template for a "Crew Health Self-Declaration" and a template for "Daily Crew Temperature Check Records", which should be completed by seafarers while still at their place of ordinary residence or onboard ship, prior to their travel.

CREW HEALTH SELF-DECLARATION FORM	
Name of Seafarer:	
Date:	
Medical Certificate	
Number/Reference:	
Date of Examination:	
Date of Expiry:	
Crew Change Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Joining ship <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving ship
If joining ship, Place of Ordinary Residence: (i.e. city/town, country)	
Ship Name: (if leave the ship)	
IMO No.:	
Flag State:	
Capacity/Position:	
Have gone on shore leave in the last 14 days?	Yes / No
Have you maintained a safe distance from any shore-side personnel that have boarded the ship in the last 14 days?	
Have you received information and guidance on the coronavirus (COVID-19), including about standard health protection measures and precautions?	
Do you understand and comply with applicable standard health protection measures and precautions to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), such as proper hand washing, coughing etiquette, appropriate social distancing?	
During the last 14 days, have you:	
Tested positive for being infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)? If "Yes", please provide date of test and name of test:	
Tested positive for the antibodies for the coronavirus (COVID-19)? If "Yes", please provide date of test and name of test:	
Shown any symptoms associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19), specifically	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new and continuous cough</li> <li>• A fever</li> </ul>	
Completed a period of self-isolation related to the coronavirus (COVID-19)?	
Had close contact with anyone that has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)?	
Had close contact with anyone with symptoms of the coronavirus (COVID-19)?	
Maintained good personal hygiene and complied with applicable health protection measures and precautions?	

DAILY CREW TEMPERATURE CHECK RECORDS														
	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7	DAY 8	DAY 9	DAY 10	DAY 11	DAY 12	DAY 13	DAY 14
DATE														
AM														
PM														

I confirm that the information provided above is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_