



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping
3rd Floor, Ken Lee Building
Edith Cavell Street
Port-Louis

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE Ref: 19 of 2020

Title: Movement of Crew of fishing vessels calling at Port Louis Harbour

Notice to: **Ship Owners/Masters/Operators/Skippers/Port Master/Port Police/
Port Health Officers and crew members of fishing vessels**

The purpose of this Merchant Shipping Notice is to inform all those concerned about the movement facilities which will be extended to crew members of fishing vessels calling at Port Louis Harbour.

1.0 The Covid-19 pandemic has created havoc amongst the Shipping community and the general response to controlling the virus has caused many challenges to international and local shipping including delays to crew changeovers and seafarers remaining on board for extremely long periods of time.

2.0 To ease up the problem of seafarers spending prolonged stay onboard their fishing vessels without shore leave, different Ministries and departments have been consulted and appropriate decisions have been taken.

3.0 The crew members concerned, shall take into consideration that the Covid-19 issue is still behind the door and all necessary precautions must continue be taken to avoid any contamination.

4.0 At **ANNEX 1** are the instructions and conditions from the Prime Minister's Office to be followed and strictly adhered to by **ALL** those concerned.

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24 June 2020
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ANNEX 1

Movement of Crew of fishing vessels calling at Port Louis Harbour

1. Semi Industrial Fishing Vessels with local and foreign crew on board.

- These fishing vessels undertaking fishing campaigns for not more than 10 days as the type of fish they are bringing has to be disembarked within 10 days.
 - All crew will have to remain confined on board until the 14th day.
 - No PCR test will be done.
- (a) Mauritian nationals will be allowed to go ashore. Foreigners having work permit and resident permit will be allowed to go ashore like any other Mauritian.
- (b) Foreign Crew with no work permit and resident permit will be authorised to move out for specific purposes such as banking services and other activities, excluding hotel accommodation and shall be back on board of their respective vessels.
- (c) The Passport, Work and Resident Permits, whichever applicable, shall be verified at the port access control gates before authorising the Crew to leave or return to their respective vessel.

2. Industrial Fishing Vessels with local and foreign Crew on board.

- (a) Fishing vessels undertaking fishing campaigns for **at least 40 days at sea**, all Crew on board will be subject to a PCR Covid test against payment by the Agents/Owners. Mauritians and foreigners with work permit and resident permit will be authorised to go ashore.
- (b) Foreign Crew without work permit and resident permit will be authorised to move out for specific purposes such as banking services and other activities, excluding hotel accommodation and shall be back on board of their respective vessels.
- (c) The Passport/National Identity Card, PCR test Report, Work/Resident Permits, whichever applicable, shall be verified at the port access control gates before authorising the Crew to leave or return to their respective vessel.

3. Industrial Foreign Fishing vessels - Large ships only with foreigners

- (a) Fishing vessels undertaking fishing campaigns for at least 30 days at sea, all Crew on board will be subject to a PCR Covid test against payment by the Agents/Owners.
- (b) Foreign Crew will be authorised to move out for specific purposes such as banking services and other activities, excluding hotel accommodation and shall be back on board of their respective vessels.
- (c) The Passport, PCR test Report, Work permit and Resident permit, whichever applicable, shall be verified at the port access control gates before authorising the Crew to leave or return to their respective vessel.

**Prime Minister's Office
(External Communications Division)
18 June 2020**