



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping
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Port-Louis

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE Ref: 17 of 2020

Title: IMO-ICAO-ILO instructions to facilitate crew changes and movements in Ports and Airports in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notice to: Ship Owners/Masters/Seafarers/Operators/Port Authority/Managers of Mauritian flagged vessels/Recruiting and Manning Agents/Port & Airport Police/ Port and Airport Health Officers/Port Agents/ Department of Civil Aviation and the whole Shipping Community.

The objectives of this Merchant Shipping Notice is to inform all those concerned of the IMO Circular regarding the joint statement IMO-ICAO-ILO on designation of seafarers, marine personnel, fishing vessel personnel, offshore energy sector personnel, aviation personnel, air cargo supply chain personnel and service provider personnel at airports and ports as key workers, and on facilitation of crew changes in ports and airports in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 1.** As from June 2020, some countries will embark on the first phase of easing their lockdown protocol with regards to the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is therefore expected that there will be a large number of seafarers who will be moving to and from ships through ports and airports around the world, including Mauritius.
- 2.** In this respect, the Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) have jointly issued the attached statement to enlist the support of Governments for the facilitation of crew changes in ports and airports in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. The above joint statement issued as **Circular Letter No.4204/Add.18** is attached herewith and all those concerned are invited to take note of its contents and consider its application as and when necessary.

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