



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: 4 of 2020

Title: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Updated information

Notice to: **Ship Owners/Masters/Seafarers/Operators/Port Authorities/
Managers of Mauritian Flagged vessels and the whole Shipping Community**

The objective of this Merchant Shipping Notice is to provide follow up information and guidance on the situation with regard to the spread of the coronavirus.

1. Following Merchant Shipping Notice No.3 on the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-17) issued on 27 February 2020, this Ministry wishes to inform all those concerned that the **World Health Organisation (WHO)** has released guidelines to avoid or manage an outbreak of coronavirus on board ships. The recently-released guide calls on shipowners to provide crew with guidance so they can recognize signs and symptoms of the virus. If a suspected case is identified, WHO recommends that the ship should start an outbreak management plan on board, even before lab results confirm an infection.
2. The WHO document published is **WHO/2019-Operational Considerations for Managing COVID – 19 Cases and Outbreaks on Board Ships** and is annexed with this Merchant Shipping Notice.
3. The Shipping Division of this Ministry is closely monitoring the situation and will inform the shipping community accordingly.

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