



NIGERIAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY AGENCY (NIMASA)

(Established under the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency Act, 2007)

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COVID-19 MARINE NOTICE

TO ALL: TERMINAL & JETTY OPERATORS, STEVEDORING COMPANIES, SHIPOWNERS, SHIP OPERATORS, MASTERS OF SHIP, SHIP AGENTS, SHIPPING COMPANIES AND MARITIME STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNING DOCKWORKERS ON ESSENTIAL DUTIES IN SEAPORTS, TERMINAL AND JETTIES.

Pursuant to the on-going coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Agency has developed the following Guidelines to support Stevedoring Companies, Dock Labour Employers, Dockworkers and Stakeholders at all Terminals and Jetties within the Nigerian Maritime Domain. The purpose of this Notice is to assist Terminal and Jetty Operators, Stevedoring Companies, Dock Labour Employers, Dockworkers, Shipping Companies and Maritime stakeholders to adhere to guidance as provided by the United Nation's Agencies, including the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC).

NOTICE is hereby given as follows:

1. That all duties of Dockworkers in the nation's seaports, terminal and jetties are essential to the economy of the Country and as such Dockworkers, should be granted passage to and from their residence to the seaports/terminal and jetties to perform their duties.
2. That in addition to the guidelines provided by the NCDC, the Federal and respective State Governments to prevent, detect and control the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, employers of dockworkers should take note that they have the overall responsibility of ensuring that all practicable preventive and protective measures are taken to minimize occupational risks in line with Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155).
3. Employers are responsible for providing, where necessary and so far as is reasonably practicable, adequate protective clothing and protective equipment, at no cost to the dockworkers.
4. That all dock labour employers shall develop risk assessments and safety intervention guidelines for all personnel and operations in the areas of vulnerability within their maritime operations that can be affected by the COVID 19 pandemic including but not limited to cargo handling, access control and rostering procedures.
5. That Dockworkers shall cooperate and comply with all guidelines and directives provided by their employers in respect to their safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.
6. That all dock labour employers shall devise methods of ensuring that all Dockworkers who as a result of COVID-19 are absent from their duties remain for quarantine are compensated for the suspension of earnings they suffer as a consequence.
7. That mandatory use of nose masks shall be enforced within all terminals and jetties. Mandatory temperature checks shall be conducted on all staff before accessing the terminals and anyone who presents temperature above 38°C shall not be allowed entry. All suspected cases of COVID-19 infections shall be isolated and away from other employees. Any case shall promptly be reported to the NCDC on **080097000010**, and the Port Health Services and also notify NIMASA accordingly.
8. That all dock Labour employers shall prepare work rosters with appropriate notices and communicate same to the employees. The employers shall also ensure that only on-duty workers are allowed within the port premises at any point in time. The roster shall take cognizance of the specified curfew timelines as may from time to time be imposed by Government.
9. That all dock labour employers shall ensure that all bus deployed during the COVID-19 pandemic shall:
 - i. have a 50% maximum capacity in line with the directives of the Federal Government;
 - ii. ensure all passengers wear nose masks;
 - iii. Provide hand sanitizers for all drivers and passengers to use;
 - iv. Have all buses frequently disinfected.
10. That all dock labour employers shall observe strict sanitation protocols before entry into terminals and jetties such as handwashing at different points, hand sanitizers and regular disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces.
11. That all milling around port premises halls, playing of games and unnecessary loitering are hereby prohibited.
12. That all dock labour employers shall ensure social distancing of two (2) meters maintained between people in the workplace and other public spaces within and around port terminals.
13. All Terminal Operators, Dock Labour employers, Shipping companies, and maritime stakeholders are advised to note the foregoing guidance which is intended to minimize and mitigate the negative effects of COVID-19 in the Dock Labour Industry and ensure smooth operations at the ports.
14. For further information and assistance, please contact:
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SIGNED: **MANAGEMENT**