



NIGERIAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY AGENCY (NIMASA)

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

Maritime House: 4 Burma Road, Apapa, P.M.B. 12861, Lagos.

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MN 05/20/SN02

MARINE NOTICE

TO ALL: SHIPPING COMPANIES, MANNING AGENTS, SEAFARERS, INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES, SEAPORTS, TERMINAL AND JETTIES OPERATORS, OFFSHORE PLATFORMS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC FOR SEAFARERS ON ESSENTIAL DUTIES FOR CREW CHANGE/TRAVEL PROTOCOLS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN NIGERIA

Sequel to the Presidential directive on COVID-19 pandemic in the Nation's Seaports, the Agency's Marine Notice MN 04/20/SN01 on the extension of statutory/trading certificates and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Circular No.4204/Add.14 dated 5th May 2020 on crew change/travel protocols,

NOTICE is hereby given:

1. That the duties of Seafarers' onboard ships and offshore platforms in anchorage, seaports, offshore, terminal and jetties are considered essential to the economy of the Country and therefore, they should be granted passage to and from their vessel on crew change at anchorage, seaport, offshore, terminal and jetties.
2. That all Ship Owner/Shipping Companies/Manning Agents shall have their distinctive company procedure for the joining and signing-off of seafarers which shall be in line with National and International requirements as prescribed for COVID -19 by the Presidential Task Force, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control(NCDC), the Port Health Services and the Agency.
3. That special and dedicated means of transportation shall be used by companies to convey the seafarers and all such means shall be fumigated and/or disinfected before being used within the recommended minimum hours before boarding the vessel.
4. Noting that isolation centres are for persons who are exposed to the pandemic, the shipping company and or agent should obtain approval for any isolation centre within the airport/seaport/terminal/jetty of joining or sign off of the seafarer/s from the NCDC.
5. That all foreign seafarers either arriving through the airport, anchorage or leaving a vessel at the anchorage, the seaports, terminal, offshore platforms and jetties, shall adhere strictly to all the National requirements on COVID -19 and the practical steps of this Notice.

6. Joining the vessel

- a. That all seafarers shall before commencing their journey either from home, location or place of residence to join a ship or offshore platform at anchorage/seaports/terminal/offshore platform/jetty meet the National requirements on COVID-19 and shall observe in all the travel locations, the standard guideline provided by the Presidential task force, NCDC and Port Health Service on curbing and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in Nigeria.
- b. The Seafarers in addition to other guidelines provided shall:
 - i. At all times familiarize himself/herself with travel information
 - ii. Confirm from their company and or agent, date and means of his travel from home/location/place of residence to the vessel in anchorage, seaport, terminal, offshore platform or jetty.

- iii. Always have a means of their identification as Seafarer.
- iv. Always have their crew health medical certificate of fitness.
- v. At all times require a joining instruction and introduction letter as a seafarer from the shipping company.

7. Leaving the vessel

- a. That all seafarers shall before leaving the ship or offshore platform at anchorage /seaports/terminal/offshore platform/jetty to his/her home/locality/place of residence, meet the National requirements on COVID-19 and shall observe in all the travel locations, the standard guidelines provided by the Presidential task force, NCDC and Port Health Service on containing and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in Nigeria.
- b. The Seafarers in addition to other guidelines provided shall:
 - i. At all times familiarize himself/herself with travel information
 - ii. Confirm from their company and or agent, date and means of his transportation from the vessel at anchorage/seaport/terminal/offshore platform/jetty to his or her home, location and or place of residence.
 - iii. Always have a means of their identification as Seafarer
 - iv. Always have their crew health medical certificate of fitness.
 - v. At all times require a leaving instruction and introduction letter as seafarers from the shipping company.

8. That all Shipping Companies shall submit to the Agency the crew list with the aforementioned information in 6b (i-v) and 7b (i-v) before joining and leaving the vessel.

9. Take further notice:

- That all shipping companies and or agents shall adhere strictly to the terms of engagement with the seafarers concerning their welfare, health, wages, safety and security onboard the vessels and in transit during and after the COVID -19 pandemic.
- That all shipping companies and or agents shall develop and implement a contingency plan and risk assessment on COVID -19 for their companies.
- For further information and submission of requirement 8, please contact :

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SIGNED: MANAGEMENT