

4<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## **Customer Advisory (18)**

### **Novel Coronavirus Papua New Guinea Update**

In light of an incident last week where the Health Risk Assessment protocol was breached by a vessel and the likelihood of a penalty being imposed.

Inchcape PNG reiterate to all masters of vessels calling Papua New Guinea that the first officials to board your vessel in PNG at the below designated ports will be Health Officers to conduct a Health Risk Assessment of the crew. No other personal including Pilot, PNG Customs, Agent are to be refused entry to board the vessel until pratique is granted by the Health officers.

Failure to comply with this protocol will lead to a substantial fine against the vessel.

Further please see below for your guidance

Designated Ports for Health and Customs Clearance at the following ports only.

- Port Moresby\*\*
- Lae
- Madang
- Rabaul

\*\* All vessels are directed to call at the above designated ports for Health and Customs Clearance before proceeding to its intended port for discharge / loading.

1. Kumul Marine Terminal to be cleared at Port Moresby OPL or Zone 10
2. Basamuk to be cleared at Madang anchorage.
3. Kavieng to be cleared at Rabaul anchorage.

The exception to this directive continues with all LNG Tankers Health cleared at Caution Bay (PNG LNG)

Please note: Additional cost will be incurred to Owners, Principals, Charterers under the designated port requirements.

All Cruise ships are refused entry to any PNG Port for the foreseeable future.

All international vessels with last ports in

**Mainland China**

**South Korea**

**Iran**

**All European Union Countries**

**United Kingdom**

**United States of America**

direct to PNG, will be directed to anchor at the stated ports respective quarantine grounds to wait the 14 day quarantine period (inclusive of transit time). On day 15 Health officials will then board the vessel for risk assessment, to allow the vessel to proceed to berth or intended PNG port for inward clearance formalities.

With an increase of Covid-19 cases registered in Port Moresby the National Operations Centre Controller as of 28<sup>th</sup> July has placed further restrictions in Port Moresby where the cases are prevalent.

The following preventative measures for Port Moresby.

- No international travel into PNG unless approved by the Controller and new entry measures are met
- See attached – International Travel Measure 28<sup>th</sup> July.
- Domestic flights restricted
- Public transportation stopped.
- Mandatory mask requirement in public places
- Curfew 2200 hrs to 0500 hrs in Port Moresby.

As shipping is deemed an essential service there will be no disruption to vessel operations however all measures/ directives remain in place as follows.

### **Crew Change in Port Moresby only**

1. No crew change at ports or terminals, including Technicians, Inspectors and Superintendents is permissible in PNG unless approved by the Controller.
2. No OPL Crew Change permissible in PNG
3. Suspension of all shore crew leave.
4. No crew personnel allowed on quayside of PNG Port facilities.
5. It is mandatory for all personnel boarding vessels to wear PPE to protect themselves and the crew of vessel.

### **Controller approval and exemption procedure for crew change.**

#### **Recommend a lead time of 15 working days.**

*The following is for guidance purposes only and is an outline of the process to be followed to seek Controller approval for Port Moresby crew change.*

*Important Note: Crew change outside of Port Moresby is not possible at this time.*

#### **1. PNG Entry On signers:**

- *Pandemic Act Exemption*
  - *Individuals details required: name, designation, copy of passport bio page, copy of seamans book, company name*
- *Inward flight Itinerary*
- *Proof (result) of Covid 19 Test **within 7 calendar days** prior to boarding an aircraft bound for PNG.*
- *Completed APTF see attached*
- *NOC attestation form – print and complete prior to arrival*
- *Health Declaration form*

*Valid PNG Visa (Apply Online) – <https://ica.gov.pg/> - no visa will be issued until Controller approves travel.*

**2. PNG Entry Off signers:**

- **Pandemic Act Exemption**
  - Individuals details required: name, designation, copy of passport bio page, copy of seamans book, company name, Vessel name
- **Outward flight Itinerary**
- **Number of days off signer onboard vessel**
- **Health Declaration form**
- **Ship's Particulars**
- **Body Temperature records**
- **Last 10 Voyage Memo (vessel)**
- **Nil Decease on board declaration**

Once information is provided, Inchcape PNG will prepare a formal letter to the Controller to seek approval and exemption for Crew change.

Please note there is no guaranteed crew change will be granted by the Controller.

**3. Flights:**

- **Australia Transit is the most reliable. Flights from Europe, Qatar Airways via Doha to Brisbane (BNE), Air Niugini (ANG) from BNE to Port Moresby (POM)**
- **Singapore Transit is not available at this time.**

**4. Australia Transit:**

Each traveller will require:

- **Transit Visa (Apply Online) - <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/transit-771> - if they do not have a valid ETA (Electronic Travel Authority)**
- **Queensland Entry Pass (Apply Online) - <https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass>**
- **Australian Transit Exemption (Apply Online) - <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/covid19-enquiry-form>**
- **Supporting documents required: Company Letter / Itinerary / Queensland Pass**

On arrival at Brisbane, travellers may need to reside at a quarantine airport hotel arranged by the Australian Border Force if connection is more than 8 hours / following day. As of 1July this will be Self/Company funded.

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