



To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/
SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

Reference: Technical Department Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Temporary Measures.

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1. PURPOSE

To inform all concerned parties of the current situation and temporary measures to be taken by the Technical Department due to the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

2. BACKGROUND

On December 31st, 2019, the first outbreak known globally as the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) was reported in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of the People's Republic of China.

On January 30th, 2020 the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and issued a set of Temporary Recommendations.

On January 31st, 2020 the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has issued the Circular Letter No. 4204 to provide information and guidance on the precautions to be taken to minimize risks to seafarers, passengers and others on board ships from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This information and guidance are based on recommendations developed by the WHO.



On February 19th, 2020 an addendum to above mentioned circular was issued (Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.1) providing advice on Implementation and Enforcement of Relevant IMO Instruments.

On February 21st, 2020 another addendum (Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.2) was issued containing the Joint Statement IMO-WHO dated February 13th, 2020 on the response to the COVID-19 Outbreak and encourages Member States and International Organizations to disseminate it as widely as possible.

On the 2nd and 5th of March 2020 two more addendums (Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.3 and Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.4 respectively) were issued containing Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships and International Chamber of Shipping Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for ship operators for the protection of the health of seafarers.

On March 11th, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) has officially declared the outbreak of novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, a pandemic.

3. CONTENT

In view of the outbreak of novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) causing complications for the regular shipping operation, traveling restrictions and the fast spread extended to several countries, IMMARBE's Technical Department decided to take temporary measures related to Implementation and Enforcement of IMO Instruments due to force majeure.

4. TEMPORARY MEASURES

4.1. IMMARBE's Technical Department is prepared to grant extension on mandatory surveys and audits (SOLAS, MARPOL, Load Line, ISM, ISPS, MLC, 2006, etc.) up to May 31st, 2020 based on the following:

4.1.1. Requests shall be submitted by the Recognized Organization in charge of the mandatory certification supporting this extension.

4.1.2. Recognized Organizations shall submit temporary measures based on their procedures and requirements to be followed on board in order to keep the vessel in good standings during this period.



4.1.3. Shipowners/Operators shall submit the Self-Inspection Checklist in accordance with our Merchant Marine Notice 20-001 through the Recognized Organization as evidence of the proper self-inspection onboard confirming the good standing of the vessel.

4.2. IMMARBE's Technical Department is prepared to grant dry-docking extension up to May 31st, 2020 based on the following:

4.2.1. Request shall be submitted by the Deputy Registrar of the vessel using the form TDF-006.

4.2.2. The request shall contain a shipyard rejection letter due to COVID-19 along with a written confirmation of acceptance issued by the Recognized Organization.

Any request for dry-docking extension not related to the COVID-19 must comply with the parameters stated in our Merchant Marine Notice 18-001.

Note: These temporary measures will be ceased to be valid as soon as the World Health Organization (WHO) declares that the pandemic is finalized, and the risk is over but might be revised and the period extended if the situation remains.

5. ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES

Any vessel falling under above detailed temporary measures shall be provided with electronic certificates by the authorized RO to be valid until May 31st, 2020 with the intention to keep a valid certificate on board.

Upon completion of above period and as soon as all mandatory surveys/audits can be performed in accordance with Item 5.6 "Revalidation of Certificates" of IMO Resolution A.1053(27) "Survey Guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC), 2011, any electronic certificate issued under these temporary measures must be replaced by a compliance certificate maintaining the current ship's certification cycle.



Merchant Marine Notice MMN-20-002

6. ACTIONS REQUESTED

This Administration would like to encourage all Shipowners, Operators, Deputy Registrar and Recognized Organizations to take note of the contents of this Notice and to ensure its provisions are enforced on board vessels registered at IMMARBE as deemed necessary.

This Merchant Marine Notice is to be brought to the attention of Owners/ISM Operators, Masters and Recognized Organizations and be implemented forthwith.

Look forward for your cooperation and assistance.

The Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize: 17 March 2020

A blue ink signature of Eng. Eduardo Simon.

Eng. Eduardo Simon
Technical Manager
IMMARBE



A blue ink signature of Annette Garel (Mrs.).

AnnetteGarel(Mrs.)
Senior Deputy Registrar
IMMARBE