Circular Letter No.4228/Add.3  
18 June 2020

To: All IMO Members  
Intergovernmental organizations  
Non-governmental organizations in consultative status

Subject: Communication from the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has sent the attached communication, on 18 June 2020, with the request that it be circulated by the Organization.

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Notice to Shipping 12

Procedures for Shipping Community icw COVID-19 (4)

NTS-11 of 18 May 2020 is herewith revoked and replaced.

To : Ship owners, Local representatives, Ship's operators and agencies, Masters, RO's, Marines and Yachts Association/Operators, psc MOU's

Applicable to : MAC COVID-19 Contingency Plan and Guidelines

Effective as from : 12 June 2020

As part of the efforts to revive the local economy, the government step-by-step allows more traffic and activities in its commercial ports. The first phase is to re-open the commercial ports for the following commercial activities:

1. Cargo / bunkering / provisioning / vessel repairs
2. Waste reception under MARPOL Annexes I-V
3. Lay-up of vessels and yachts
4. Crew changes and repatriations
5. Maintenance & services on-board
6. Local commercial vessels

These activities are allowed, but in a controlled manner and under specific health-related guidance and supervision by the port and health supervising agencies.

Agree to relax the entry ban in the following manner:

A. - as of Friday, June 12, 2020 persons from the Dutch public bodies Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba, and
   - as of Monday, June 15, 2020 persons from the countries Aruba and St. Maarten, without permission to enter Curaçao under the following conditions or regulations:
   a. that they, at least 14 days before they travel to Curaçao, have not been in a country with widespread transmission of SARS-CoV-2, or
   b. that they have not been in contact within the same period with someone who has been identified at that time as being infected with SARS-CoV-2.
   c. that she has acquired pays for all medical expenses here in advance have insured entering.

B. The persons mentioned under A are exempted from the mandatory quarantine. Details about application of relaxation of the entry ban is annexed to this NTS 12-2020.
Cargo shipping / bunkering / provisioning / vessel repairs

This was already allowed under NTS-09 and this remains in place. The ship repair yards are open for normal business. Other repair and maintenance facilities are now also allowed to operate, including port and underwater repairs, under port and health guidance.

Ship waste reception and management procedures

All activities shall be in accordance with the procedures and guidelines of the Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature.

The following waste types are currently not accepted:

1. Aerosol
2. Hazardous ash
3. PCB’s
4. Pyrotechnics
5. Waste containing fluoride or heavy metals
6. Radio-active waste
7. Bases
8. Dry cell batteries

Acids/alkalis waste is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

One week before the scheduled arrival of the ship at the port - or prior to the departure of the ship from its last port of call - Selikor NV should be informed of the exact arrival time of the ship at the port. Due to the current pandemic of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, all waste originated from cruise ships will be considered as international special waste.

All waste retained on board after its last departure port and delivered at the local arrival port, will be collected, transported and processed as potential infectious and will therefore be incinerated.

After the mandatory quarantined period, and based on instructions of Healthcare authorities, all waste produced on board will be treated as local waste and processed accordingly, provided that there are no crew changes on board during the rest of the lay-up period.
Lay-ups

Lay-up of commercial vessels in the designated ports under harbor master rules & regulations. Permits for shore visits and crew repatriation must be applied for via the harbor master. Local social distancing regulations apply to all shore visits by crew. Local waste management company Selikor supervises all waste reception from lay-up cruise vessels.

Exceptional circumstances (procedures A, B on page 1)

Yachts are directed to a mooring location by the harbor master. The option is to leave the island immediately with a “through ticket” to their final destination. Yachtsmen need to mention their intentions specifically in their request. Yachtsmen need to apply for entrance approval 14 days in advance via email reisverificatie.cur@gobiernu.cw and await approval before departure.

For large (cruise) vessels in lay-up pre-arrival approval is required via the port agent and the harbor master office. Vessels are to submit a class & flag approved lay-up plan, stipulating the minimum manning required in port, and a waste reception plan for on-board waste upon arrival and for waste generated during the lay-up. These plans must be submitted 7 days in advance to the harbor master and approved by authorities prior to arrival.

Crew changes and repatriation

Crew changes and repatriations using approved scheduled and/or charter flights are allowed under guidance by the relevant port and aviation authorities and protocols in place. A valid “through ticket” to the final destination is required for outgoing crew, and incoming crew must provide all required visa and other documentation (PLC)well in advance. Please check with local agent. Incoming crew need to apply for entrance in Curaçao via email reisverificatie.cur@gobiernu.cw.

In case outbound/inbound crew need to remain on-board together for a limited period, on-board procedures must be in place to avoid cross-contamination.

Local commercial traffic
Local commercial passenger boats can undertake voyages with specific permission by the harbor master. The government up to now maintains the “25 persons” rule, both on land and on water. This regulation is currently being re-evaluated, in relation to the re-opening of our borders to specific tourist markets. **The new rules will become available in due course, and will also apply to local commercial traffic, as an addendum to this notice.**

The authorities understand that the applicable social distancing rules cannot always be applied on-board, depending on the specific lay-out of the boat, as well as the situation and circumstances at sea. However, the captain remains responsible to see to it, that the social distancing and health regulations on-board are maintained as much as possible.

**Applicable ports**

This Notice applies to the ports listed below:

- Willemstad
- Fuikbaai
- Caracas baai
- Spaanse Water
- St. Michielsbaai
- Bullenbaai

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