

## Novel Coronavirus

### Preventive Measures undertaken by MFT

The below outlines the various preventive measures undertaken by MFT against the Novel Coronavirus as well as the necessary means to prevent transmission.

1. Dissemination of information and guidance to MFT personnel on the nature and characteristics of the virus, on how it can spread and ways to reduce risks of infection through talks, notice board posters and e-mails;
2. Installation of hand sanitising dispensers throughout the terminals, office buildings, kitchenettes, canteens, personnel transport vehicles, stores and other strategic locations;
3. Emergency response guidance issued to MFT Nurse based on instructions given by Port Health for any suspected cases on vessels. The same guidance has been forwarded to all Managers to ensure alignment and proper coordination for any suspected cases;
4. Personal hand sanitising bottles and spray for personnel working in or on vessels;
5. A stock of disposable masks is being kept at the Duty Manager's office and is available if/when required;
6. Awareness posters supplied by the Health Department are displayed in the main reception area and pedestrian gate;
7. Continuous updates issued by the WHO are sent to Managers for further circulation to subordinates;
8. Any other local (national) updates from authorities mainly Port Health, Health Department and Transport Malta are communicated with MFT Managers;
9. In continuous discussions with MFT personnel and any matters of concern are clarified;
10. In continuous contact with the Health Department and Port Health for any updates and guidance as necessary;
11. All Terminal Operators have been requested to provide the vessel port rotation covering the last twenty days prior calling MFT;
12. Weekly List of vessels coming from the Far East is provided to Transport Malta;
13. Additional screening of vessel crew members for high body temperature, cough and shortness of breath by MFT nurse on all vessels allowed to berth by TM and Health authority;

14. Following the introduction of screening by nurse and advice by Health department, the use of masks was deemed unnecessary but were still provided to anyone who expresses the wish to wear one. However, no specific standard was required for these masks for vessel crew declared healthy by Port Health Authority and MFT nurse;
15. Additional Precautionary Measures were introduced by Port Health Authority for vessels coming in from Italy or would have called at an Italian port within the last 14 days. Within this scenario crew member must wear a mask; always adopt the social distance rule of 1 metre or more from crew member; use of PPE (mask, gloves and safety glasses) and maintain frequent hygiene practices - washing of hands rigorously, using of alcohol gel and not touching face (nose, mouth and eyes) as much as possible especially between hand washes;
16. Malta Freeport introduced a new procedure whereby all persons visiting the Freeport's facilities have to fill in a 'Declaration Form' to conform that they would not have travelled to countries with confirmed COVID-19 cases.

