PTI precautionary measures to Control and Prevent the spread of COVID-19

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Port Training Institute
Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport

With the coronavirus outbreak, and in accordance with the instructions issued by the World Health Organization and the Egyptian Government as precautionary procedures to avoid the spread of the virus. PTI (Port Training Institute) in Alexandria, EGYPT, has taken the following measures for protecting workers and employees from exposure to, and infection with, COVID-19 depend on the type of work being performed and exposure risk, including potential for interaction with infectious people and contamination of the work environment in an effort to slow the spread of the virus.

PTI adapted infection control strategies based on a thorough hazard assessment, using appropriate combinations of health and safety and administrative controls, safe work practices, and PPE to prevent worker exposures according to WHO standards:

1. Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Use of alcohol dispensers for hand rubs with at least 70% alcohol.
3. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
4. Avoid close contact with people.

Training and learning alternatives

PTI adapted quickly to the new changes and has activated and online communication system to all PTI staff, and PTI E-LEARNING system for all trainees, which are currently running, through the following procedures:

1. Allocate an interactive website for Staff and Trainees.
2. Explain how to use PTI official training platform in a one-day workshop that took place on Wednesday 18-3-2020.
3. Using of ZOOM app for best video conference and virtual classroom, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport currently working on getting the license for using the Full App.
4. We are also using “Google Classroom” for uploading all training materials to available immediately for trainees.
5. All PTI indoors training have been directed to be online from Wednesday 18-3-2020 until further notice as a part of its emergency situation package of measures in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. Trainees are continuing their studies remotely, primarily via the PTI developed safety plan.
6. PTI also uses the same app for doing work from home and video conferencing between employees.
7. We are ready to share PTI’s best practices and solutions with others in need.
8. A number of tools are being prepared for international usage and for conducting online international joint courses.

The aim of this initiative is to:

1. Support training in the maritime sector during this time of crisis.
2. Increase the social aspect of distance learning.
3. Motivate trainees locally and with the European Alliances.
Egyptian ports counter measures against coronavirus outbreak.

Ports of Alexandria, Red Sea, Damietta, Port Said and SCZ announced the emergency to confront the Coronavirus in coordination with the quarantine departments present in each port. To keep citizens and tourists safe from the danger of that virus, the quarantine officials were present during the reception of containers and goods. In coordination with the quarantine departments, an operations room was formed to continue checking the arrivals on board the vessels and ships that the ports receive daily.

Immediately when the disease appeared to the world the following plan were taken into consideration:
1. Isolation departments in fever hospitals entrusted with dealing with such cases were fully equipped.
2. Ministry of health worked on raising awareness and monitoring the global epidemiological situation around the clock.
3. Military field hospitals were established in case of the escalation of the epidemic.
4. The virus was explained to all workers and employees.

World Health Organization
Dr. John Jabbour, the representative of the World Health Organization in Egypt confirmed that Egypt has full preparations to confront the Coronavirus. “Egypt is ready to confront any disease or virus such as the Coronavirus,” Jabbour said. “It is fully prepared to confront that kind of disease, I trust Egypt’s actions to face any potential epidemic.”

Help China in fighting coronavirus
Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population sent:
1. Ten tons of protective supplies as a gift to the Chinese people to confront coronavirus.
2. Medical preventive items that any citizen needs to follow protective measures such as masks and alcohol disinfectants.
3. A plane to bring back all Egyptian citizens from the Chinese city of Wuhan.
Those supplies are meant to support the Chinese people, within the framework of deep and interrelated relations and enhance cooperation between the two countries to confront the outbreak of coronavirus.

Help Italy in fighting coronavirus.
On the 2nd March, 2020 EgyptAir flight carrying medical supplies has landed in the Italian Malpensa Airport to provide the Italian authority medical aid to fight the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The medical aid includes more than one million medical face masks.