

ACTIONS ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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OVERVIEW OF MEASURES TAKEN BY IMO TO ADDRESS TECHNICAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



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- 1. Technical advice to Member States and Industry (IMO Circular Letters)**
- 2. Assistance to/support for seafarers**
- 3. Collaboration with shipping industry**
- 4. Collaboration with other UN agencies**
- 5. Central repository of all information**

1. TECHNICAL ADVICE



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Circular Letter No.	Date	Title	Contents
4204	31/1/20	Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)	WHO guidance on precautions to minimize risks to seafarers, passengers and others on board ships
4204/Add.1	19/2/20	COVID-19 – Implementation and enforcement of relevant IMO instruments	Avoiding unnecessary restrictions or delay on port entry to ships, persons and property on board
4204/Add.2	21/2/20	Joint Statement IMO-WHO on the Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak	Health measures introduced to minimize interference with international traffic and trade
4204/Add.3	2/3/20	Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships prepared by WHO	WHO guidance for managing cases/outbreak on board ships
4204/Add.4	5/3/20	ICS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for ship operators for the protection of the health of seafarers	ICS guidance for ship operators for protecting health of seafarers
4204/Add.5/Rev.1	2/4/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Guidance relating to the certification of seafarers and fishing vessel personnel	The recommendations address the needs of the workers in the offshore energy sector who face challenges similar to those of seafarers
4204/Add.6	30/3/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Preliminary list of recommendations for Governments and relevant national authorities on the facilitation of maritime trade during the COVID-19 pandemic	Industry recommendations on facilitation of maritime trade; refers to G20 Summit leaders' statement (Addressing International Trade Disruptions) and SG's statement on flow of commerce by sea
4204/Add.7	3/4/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Guidance concerning unforeseen delays in the delivery of ships	Invites MS to consider application of two UIs (MSC-MEPC.5/Circ.8 and MSC.1/Circ.1247) to ships the delivery of which is delayed beyond 1 July 2020
4204/Add.8	14/4/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Video meeting with Port State Control (PSC) regimes	Promotes harmonized action, assistance and pragmatic approach with respect to PSC inspections; includes joint statement by the 10 global PSC regimes

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Circular Letter No.	Date	Title	Contents
4204/Add.9	16/4/20	Joint Statement IMO-WCO on the integrity of the global supply chain during the COVID-19 pandemic	Customs Administrations and Port State authorities urged to establish coordinated and proactive approach
4204/Add.10	22/4/20	Joint Statement IMO-WHO-ILO on medical certificates of seafarers, ship sanitation certificates and medical care of seafarers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic	Requirements/recommendations concerning medical care and extensions of medical certificates of seafarers; exempting inspectors and key personnel responsible for ship inspections from national restrictions on movement; and issuing Ship Sanitation Certificates
4204/Add.11	24/4/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - EC Guidelines on protection of health, repatriation and travel arrangements for seafarers, passengers and other persons on board ships	Repatriation; changeover of crews (green lanes); designated ports for crew changes; sanitary recommendations and ship supplies; COVID-19 reporting for ships approaching EU ports
4204/Add.12	27/4/20	Coronavirus (COVID 19) – Declaration by Port Authorities Roundtable (PAR) members in view of the global COVID-19 situation	Commitment to: work together to keep global supply chain going; facilitate closer coordination by establishing open communication channel; continue to adopt best practices in line with national circumstances
4204/Add.13	05/5/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Recommendations for Governments and relevant national authorities on facilitating the movement of offshore energy sector personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic	Industry recommendations on facilitating the movement of offshore energy sector personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the designation as ‘key workers’
4204/Add.14	05/5/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Recommended framework of protocols for ensuring safe ship crew changes and travel during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic	The protocols set out general measures and procedures designed to ensure that ship crew changes can take place safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.
4204/Add.15	06/5/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Personal protective equipment	WHO guidance on the safe and effective use of personal protective equipment (PPE) to support decisions on use of PPE to minimize the risks of COVID-19 infection for persons on board, shore personnel intending to go on board and when any of these people interact with each other
4204/Add.16	06/5/20	Coronavirus (COVID-19) - COVID-19 related guidelines for ensuring a safe shipboard interface between ship and shore-based personnel.	Practical measures to address COVID-19 risks for all people involved on ships and in ports prepared by the industry

2. ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR SEAFARERS



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- ‘Seafarer Crisis Team’ continuously providing assistance to seafarers in individual cases
- Personal message from SG to seafarers, reassuring them of his personal support
(<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/13-seafarer-message.aspx>)
- Support for initiatives for ships in ports to sound their whistles in support of seafarers and tweets in support on 1 May 2020

3. COLLABORATION WITH SHIPPING INDUSTRY



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- Issuing of industry guidance by means of IMO CLs to ensure global dissemination (CL 4204/Add.4, Add.6, Add.13, Add.14 and Add.16)
- Active participation of IMO Secretariat in Industry Corona Strategy Group
- Constant cooperation and consultation with IGOs and NGOs in consultative status

4. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER UN AGENCIES



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- Participation in UNCMT (Crisis Management Team) Travel and Trade Working Group (ICAO, IOM, IMO and WHO)
- Participation in WHO IHR Emergency Committee for COVID-19
- Close cooperation with WHO, ILO, ICAO, WCO, IOM, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE

5. CENTRAL REPOSITORY OF ALL INFO



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- **IMO website:**
<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>
- Technical advice issued by CL (4204 and addenda),
- COVID-19 related notifications received from Member States
(<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/COVID-19-Member-States-Communications.aspx>)
- Links to various information sources (Industry, UN agencies,..)
- WHO advice
- Press briefings

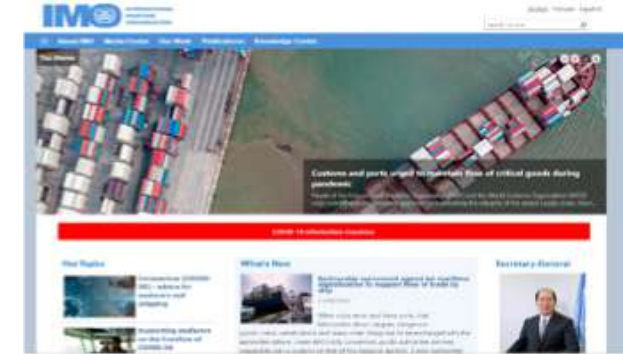


Table overview: List of Circular Letters with COVID-19 related notifications received from Member States and Associate Members (updated 15 May 2020)

MEMBERS	CL NUMBER	DATE	SUBJECT	CONTENTS
ARGENTINA	CL.4287	01/05/2020	National measures regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.	Extension for national and international accreditations and certificates issued to National Merchant Navy personnel until 30 June 2020, including accreditations that expired before 1 January 2020
AZERBAIJAN	CL.4223	20/03/2020	Contingency plans for ships and Seafarers	Extension of Seafarers Identity Document or STCW Certificate by up to 3 months
BAHAMAS	CL.4225	20/03/2020	Guidance and recommendations – seafarers, certificates, ship surveys, audits, inspections, seaman record book and employment	Information regarding COVID-19 and travel. Details regarding extension of certificates, surveys, audits, inspections and employment, seafarers can extend stay and be repatriated at no cost
BAHRAIN	CL.4285	30/04/2020	Extension of seafarer certificates	Expired certificates of competency (CoC), certificates of proficiency (CoP), medical certificates, certificates of basic training and endorsements will be valid for up to 3 months starting from 26 March 2020, extension of ship certificates, inspection and audits until 30 June 2020 (excludes certificates issued directly by the PMA)
BANGLADESH	CL.4239	27/03/2020	Information on certificates, MSMD, employment, surveys and audits	Certificates (CoC, CoP, CDC, medical), surveys and audits expiring before 30 April 2020 can be extended up to 30 June 2020, information related to SEA, MSMD and Port State Control Measures
BARBADOS	CL.4250	06/04/2020	Seafarer certificates, documents, surveys, audits and general guidance for seafarers	Information regarding quarantine/self-isolation, STCW certificates, MSMD, SEA extensions, surveys, audits and dry-docking
BELGIUM	CL.4255	07/04/2020	Measures to Address COVID-19	Guidelines published and updated on the website: https://mobility.belgium.be/en/shipping/covid_19_coronavirus
BRAZIL	CL.4266	14/04/2020	Extension of personnel documents and documents relating to ship operations and platforms	CoC, CoP, permits, surveys, civil liability certificates, statement of compliance for operation, complementary course and training certificates extended until 31 July 2020, personal data labels extended



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