



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY

Circular 42/2021

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07 December 2021

To all members of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber
To all members of the Cyprus Union of Shipowners
To all members of the Cyprus Shipping Association
To all members of the Cyprus Marinas Association
To all Registered Owners, Registered Bareboat Charterers, Registered Ship Managers
To all Owners of Coastal Passenger Vessels
To all Owners of Fishing Vessels

Subject: Crew changes within the framework of the content of Ministry of Health Decree dated 3rd of December 2021

In the context of compliance with the provisions of the Decree of the Minister for Health dated 3 December 2021 (hereinafter 'the Decree'), on the basis of Regulation 54, the Deputy Ministry of Shipping issues the following guidelines with respect to crew changes of ships or vessels at berth in the ports or marinas of the Republic of Cyprus:

1. For seafarers arriving in Cyprus by air and who are crew members of commercial vessels or crew members of oil rigs conducting research drilling works in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Cyprus or States with which the Republic has established diplomatic relations, or crew members of cruise ships or crew members of recreational craft, berthed in the ports of the Republic, depending on the categorisation of the original country of departure, the following shall apply:

- a) the requirements of Regulations 50, 51 or 52 of the Decree shall apply from countries of category 'green', 'orange' or 'red' respectively.
- b) the requirements of Regulation 54(b) of the Decree apply from countries of 'grey' category. In addition, the special entry permit, referred to in paragraph 4 of this circular, is also required.

Please note that the obligation for persons irrespective of their nationality who arrive through Larnaca and Paphos airports to undergo a laboratory test (PCR) upon arrival applies also to ship crew members. It is therefore recommended that the Shipping Agents inform in advance the associated persons or the shipowners of the cost of the examination, which will be paid on the spot and shall be €15 for Larnaca airport and €19 for Paphos airport.

2. For changes of crew members of vessels which for a period of 14 days prior to their arrival in Cyprus, have called:

- in countries categorized as 'Green', 'Orange' or 'Red' according to the categorisation of countries based on the risk assessment, or
- on a vessel which had not berthed anywhere,
- or berthed only in berths of the above-mentioned categories,

no specific approval from the Deputy Ministry of Shipping is required. For the cases of seafarers who will be released from a ship, the Pre Arrival Security Notification recorded in the database of the Cyprus Port Authority (PCS) shall be presented to the Authorities as evidence of the previous countries which the vessel has called. The provisions of paragraph (b)(c) of Regulation 54 of the



Decree shall apply to crew members who shall disembark from the ship for direct transport to the airport. In case an overnight stay in the Republic is required, these persons will undergo a laboratory examination (PCR) and remain in a compulsory self-isolation regime until the result is issued. For crew members signing-off from ships which have been on the territory of the Republic during the last 14 days, if no international voyages have been carried out, laboratory testing is not necessary. It is clarified that any requirements of airlines to carry out a laboratory examination (PCR) on their passengers do not fall within the scope of this circular.

3. Requests for change of crew members to be released from commercial ships or other vessels that have been at berth during the last 14 days in a port in a country of the category "Grey", must be submitted by the companies concerned to the Deputy Ministry of Shipping at crewchanges@dms.gov.cy and include the following information:

- I. Ship name and International Maritime Organisation (IMO Number) number — where applicable
- II. Port or port facility in Cyprus
- III. Name(s) of affected crew member(s)
- IV. Departure flight details
- V. Residence in the Republic of Cyprus (where applicable)

No approval is required when the case concerns crew changes between ships or vessels without disembarkation of crew members within the territory of the Republic.

4. Crew members intending to enter the Republic of Cyprus via the airports of the Republic of Cyprus and intended to sign on commercial vessels or other vessels at berth in Cyprus must obtain the Cyprus Flight Pass card via the website www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy by completing, up to 48 hours before the start of their journey to Cyprus, all the information, data and declarations required. It is important to record the number of the seafarer's mobile phone in order to be able to receive the result of the laboratory test (PCR). The Cyprus Flight Pass Card must be in possession of the seafarer before boarding the aircraft and on arrival in Cyprus. For crew members of ships or vessels whose original country of departure falls under the category 'Grey', a **special entry permit** is required to obtain the Cypriot Flight Pass Card, which is granted following action by the Shipping Agent or the company representing the ship or vessel in Cyprus. The Agent or Company within 14 days prior to the flight shall obtain a special entry permit for the seafarer via the website www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy. Requests that do not come from Shipping Agent or companies based in the Republic of Cyprus will be rejected. It is hereby noted that no special entry permit is required for European citizens, including citizens of the European Economic Area. It is also hereby noted that the conditions laid down in paragraph 54 of the Decree must be met for the entry into the Republic of Cyprus and the transport of such persons to vessels.

5. With respect to the prevailing epidemiological data presented in South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi and Botswana, regarding the new strain B.1.1.529 of the Covid-19 disease, the arrival and/ or entry into Cyprus of any person who, during the previous 14 days prior to his/her arrival in Cyprus has stayed or passed in transit from aforesaid countries is prohibited, as per Regulation 87 of the Decree.

This Circular replaces the Circular EE35/2021 dated 03/09/2021.



Liana Charalambous Tanoç
Act. Permanent Secretary

CC:

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Interior
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Communications & Works
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Commerce & Industry
Permanent Secretary, Deputy Ministry of Tourism