



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL OSS FOR SEAFARERS HEADS & SECRETARIATS

SUBJECT : UPDATED GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF
CREW CHANGES IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE
RISKS POSED BY THE NEW SARS-CoV-2 VARIANT

DATE : 15 JANUARY 2021

With reference to the IATF Resolutions No. 94 and 94-A dated 14 January 2021, provided herewith are the updated guidelines on the conduct of crew changes in order to reduce the risk of spread of the new COVID-19 variants in the country.

- A. Ships coming from or having rendered port of call/s from the below listed countries within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, are temporarily restricted from disembarking their foreign seafarers until **31 January 2021**.

List of Identified Countries

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Australia | 19. Luxembourg |
| 2. Austria | 20. Netherlands |
| 3. Brazil | 21. Norway |
| 4. Canada | 22. Oman |
| 5. Denmark | 23. Pakistan |
| 6. Finland | 24. People's Republic of China |
| 7. France | 25. Portugal |
| 8. Germany | 26. Singapore |
| 9. Hong Kong | 27. South Africa |
| 10. Iceland | 28. South Korea |
| 11. India | 29. Spain |
| 12. Ireland | 30. Sweden |
| 13. Israel | 31. Switzerland |
| 14. Italy | 32. United Kingdom |
| 15. Jamaica | 33. United States |
| 16. Japan | 34. United Arab Emirates |
| 17. Jordan | 35. Hungary |
| 18. Lebanon | |

Please note that additional countries can be included in the above list as may be directed by the Office of the President.

However, foreign seafarers coming from, or who have been to United Arab Emirates and Hungary within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, **arriving before 16 January 2021, 12:01AM, Manila time, shall be allowed to enter the Philippines.** They shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period, even if they obtain a negative RT-PCR test result.

- B. **Filipino and foreign seafarers aboard ship with no recorded port of calls** in any of the countries listed in Item A within the last 14 days preceding arrival in the Philippines shall be allowed to disembark subject to existing health and safety protocols of the established One-Shop Shops (OSS) for Seafarers.
- C. **Filipino seafarers** coming from countries mentioned in Item A, or who have been to the same within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, **shall not be prohibited from disembarking their ships**, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based 14-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative RT-PCR result.
- D. Filipino seafarers that fall under the **classification of Item C are only allowed to disembark in Port of Manila** and shall be transported by their shipping agents to the designated quarantine facility via P2P, under strict monitoring of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

Relative thereto, they shall undergo the mandatory 14-day quarantine in OWWA-assigned facilities or at Athlete’s Village in New Clark City with accommodation shouldered by the Philippine government.

- E. All incoming seafarers from any country, if found positive, shall undergo whole genome sequencing conducted by the Department of Health (DOH), University of the Philippines (UP) Philippine Genome Center, and UP-National Institutes of Health, in addition to the prescribed testing and quarantine protocols.
- F. Embarkation to ships bound to the countries mentioned in Item A shall be subject to the existing exit protocols of the Philippines as well as entry protocols of the respective countries.

In view of the above, kindly see **Summary of Guidelines for Seafarer Disembarkation effective until 31 January 2021** for reference.

Seafarer Classification	Recorded Port of Call in Flagged Countries		
	Less than 14 days Preceding Arrival in the PH	More than 14 days Preceding Arrival in the PH	None
FOREIGNER	PROHIBITED	ALLOWED	ALLOWED
FILIPINO	ALLOWED (Absolute 14-day quarantine)	ALLOWED	ALLOWED

For immediate and strict implementation.

VADM NARCISO A VINGSON JR
OIC-Assistant Secretary for Maritime

CC: Office of the Secretary
 OVS, PCG, PPA, CPA and MARINA