Chinese Circular No.: 2004

Subject: Update on the Outbreak of the COVID-2019 in China

China is still in a nationwide fight against the spreading of COVID-2019, with various measures taken to reduce mobility of people such as transportation restrictions and city border control, etc. Currently, though the total number of confirmed cases is still increasing day by day, the number of new confirmed cases outside Hubei province has been going downward in the past two weeks.

We hereby summarize the current general situations and frequently asked issues as follows for your reference:

Transportation Restriction and City Border Control

At some big cities, such as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, etc., anyone who has just travelled back from other places is required to quarantine oneself at home for 14 days.

At some smaller cities, local governments exercise strict border control, only allowing those with local ID card and/or those with local employment proof to cross the city border, and upon arrival at their homes, they should quarantine themselves at home for 14 days.

The above measures have slowed down the return of terminal staff and shipyard workers, resulting in a lower operation efficiency. They also caused difficulty in arranging the attendance of surveyors, service engineers, shipowner representatives, etc. at these ports.
It is expected that restriction measures will not be fully lifted for several more weeks. However, some provincial governments such as the one in Zhejiang province within which Ningbo and Zhoushan are located, are encouraging factories, ports and shipyards, etc. to resume normal operation gradually by providing convenience for the workers to return.

**Crew Change**

Crew change is still not allowed, unless for a special urgent need. Though the signing-off of Chinese crewmembers may be allowed at some ports, the replacement crewmembers most likely cannot embark a ship in China.

**Pilot Station**

Generally, pilotage service, like other port-related services, is running normally though with enhanced precautionary measures.

However, in a few recent cases, we have seen difficulties in arranging pilotage service timely at some ports on the Yangtze river because of crewmembers' recent travel history to Hubei or suspected symptoms such as fever.

**Port Operation**

As mentioned in our previous circulars, port operation keeps running as usual, but has been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 in the following ways:

1. At many ports the terminal workers have had difficulties to return to work timely due to transportation restrictions. It is reported by domestic media that around half of the terminal workers have resumed work last week. Particularly, the lack of truck drivers has caused delay in cargo operation at some terminals.

2. At some ports such as Shanghai, Ningbo and Tianjin, because many reefer containers are not picked up timely upon their arrival, there has been a great shortage of reefer container plugs and thus newly arrived reefer containers cannot be discharged at their destination ports and have to be shipped to other ports nearby.

   It is reported that port authorities are taking measures to solve the above problems.

**Suspected COVID-19 case on board**

Based on the recent suspected cases we have handled at various ports, if a crewmember is showing symptoms of COVID-19 infection, he will be transported to a nearby designated
hospital (at every place, there is a list of designated hospitals which receive COVID-19 suspected or confirmed patients) immediately by ambulance, after approval and under supervision of the port and quarantine authorities, for nucleic acid testing and possibly also CT scan of the lungs, in order to establish whether he has indeed contracted the virus or not. Currently, at all the ports, port authorities are highly alert of the spreading of the virus and will take urgent response if any suspected case is reported. The test result will be available within a few hours. Once the result shows that the crewmember is COVID-19 free, then the ship can carry on with her operation in a normal way.

Up to now, COVID-19 infected crewmembers were only found on inland river cargo ships where the crewmembers travelled to Hubei province before embarking the ships, and the ships were subsequently required to stay at quarantine anchorage for 14 days. No infection case has been found on ocean-going vessels yet, so the procedures and extent of quarantine measures are yet to be seen. But judging from the current requirements, we presume that if any infection is found on an ocean-going vessel, other crewmembers and other persons who have been in close contact with the infected crew will be quarantined for 14 days.

“Notice to the Master on Recommended Measures to Address COVID-19 Risks on Board”
issued by China Maritime Safety Administration

In order to assist ships arriving at Chinese ports to understand the risks of COVID-19 and to take proper precautionary measures, China MSA has issued a “Notice to the Master on Recommended Measures to Address COVID-19 Risks on Board”, which is attached hereto for your reference.

We hope the above is of assistance. Should you have any query, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Best regards,

Oasis P&I Services Company Limited

Appendix: “Notice to the Master on Recommended Measures to Address COVID-19 Risks on Board” issued by China Maritime Safety Administration
Notice to the Master on
Recommended Measures to Address COVID-19 Risks
on Board

Dear Master,
Welcome to China! This document provides some recommended measures to address COVID-19 risks on ships and personal protective measures for crew members.

I What is it? What are the routes of transmission?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virus Name</th>
<th>2019 Novel Coronavirus (China), SARS-CoV-2 (WHO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disease Name</td>
<td>Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (China), COVID-19 (WHO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typical symptoms</td>
<td>Fever (37.3°C or higher, China), cough, and shortness of breath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incubation period</td>
<td>2 to 14 days, 7-day in average, may up to 24 days in rare cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission route</td>
<td>Human to human transmission through respiratory droplets (primary mode) or contact with contaminated surfaces, fecal-mouth transmission in rare cases</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II How to prevent and protect everyone on board?

1. Hand hygiene

| 1. Wash hands frequently    | Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer containing 60%-95% alcohol can be used. |
| 2. Maintain good respiratory hygiene | Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Dispose used tissues immediately in a disposable container (e.g., plastic bag) or a washable trash can. Wash hands after coughing or sneezing. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with hands. |
| 3. When to wash hands?      | 1) After coughing or sneezing; 2) Before, during and after preparing food; 3) Before eating; 4) After going to the toilet; 5) When hands are dirty; 6) After contacting with others; 7) After contacting with animals; 8) After going out. |

2. Proper hand washing steps (five times each step)

3. Proper use of facemask

3.1 When do you need to wear a facemask?
1) Facemasks are not required in open and ventilated places on ships but required in crowded public places.
2) If any crew member is suspected of being infected, they should wear a facemask (a surgical mask, not N-95) as soon as possible.
3) Crew with respiratory diseases must use protective facemasks under the doctor’s instruction.

3.2 How to use and dispose medical facemasks
1) Wash hands or disinfect hands with a quick hand sanitizer before wearing and after removing a facemask.
2) Check the validity and completeness of the facemask.
3) Disposable facemasks should be used once and replaced within 4 hours after activated, and they should be replaced in time in case of damage, dampness or contamination by patients' blood and body fluids.
4) Do not touch the front of the facemask (the contaminated surface) when removing it.
5) The discarded facemasks are collected in the medical waste can and they shall be treated as infectious medical waste.

III Advice for medical treatment and quarantine on board in case of suspected cases
In addition to routine cleaning and disinfection strategies, the master should see to it that the following measures be taken properly:
1. Suspected patients should wear a facemask (a surgical mask, not N-95) as soon as they are identified and be self-isolated in their own cabin, avoiding close contact with other crew members.
2. Inform the onboard medical center immediately and contact shore medical institutions for consultation.
3. Isolated crew members shall have diner alone in their own cabins and not be allowed to participate in group activities on board.
4. The isolation room should be strengthened with air circulation, or the exhaust fan should be continuously used to maintain air circulation.
5. The suspected patient's office area or residence shall be disinfected.
6. Disposal of pollutants: Gloves, paper towels, facemasks and other wastes suspected of being used by patients should be placed in a dedicated garbage bag in the room. They must be marked as pollutants before discarded.
7. Limit the number of caregivers and try to arrange a person with good health statue and no chronic diseases to take care of the patient. Refuse all visits.
8. Nursing staff and patients should wear facemasks in the same room. Do not touch or adjust the facemask during wearing. The facemask must be replaced immediately if it becomes wet or dirty. Wash hands after removing and discarding the facemask.
9. People having any direct contact with the patient or entering the patient isolation room shall clean their hands.

IV Reporting
If the crew member has fever, cough, or difficulty in breathing and has contacted with person who was suspected of having COVID-19 in the past 14 days, please communicate with your ship agency and request their immediate reporting to local authorities.