

# FONASBA COVID-19 BULLETIN



## AN UPDATE ON MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 BY MERCHANT SHIPPING – No. 47 07.07.2020

Further updates on COVID-19 precautions have been received from members as summarized below. As always, please contact the relevant association for more guidance.

<b>Jordan</b>	<p>The Jordan Shipping Association, led by its Chairman Dr. Dureid Mahasneh, held a meeting this week with the Jordan Maritime Commission and major Jordanian shipping companies to discuss the resumption of crew changes from Aqaba port. Following that meeting, procedures have been agreed to allow crew changes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jordanian crews on Jordanian ships in the port of Aqaba or close by</li><li>• Jordanian crews on vessels in ports outside Jordan</li><li>• Foreign crews on vessels in the port of Aqaba.</li></ul> <p>The procedures for handling crew changes in each of the above categories are listed in the attachment.</p> <p>As will be noted from the attachment, the JSA is continuing to press for the replacement of the individual case-by case protocol for the handing of crew changes from foreign vessels with an agreed set of procedures that will enhance and streamline the process.</p>
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## Changing of ship crew in the corona crisis period

A meeting was held upon the request of the chairman of Jordan shipping association Dr. Dureid Al-Mahasneh and was attended by the presence of the following gentlemen:

- Director general of the Jordan Maritime Commission: Eng. Muhammad Salman.
- Al-Jazi Shipping Company: Eng. Bassam Al-Jazi.
- Vice chairman of Jordan shipping Association: Captain / Waheed Abu Ajamieh.
- Board member of Jordan shipping Association: Mr. / Mashhour Al-Jazi.
- General Secretary of Jordan shipping Association: Captain / Mohammed Al-Dalabih.
- Phoenicia Company: Captain / Saif Saqr.
- The Arab Ship Management Company: Mr. Faisal Assaf.

The meeting started with discussing the difficulties experienced by the crew and opened the door for discussion as it is one of Jordan shipping association's main concern is to find a solution to their problem to be able to embark and disembark. All attendees agreed that this issue is global, they also mentioned the difficulties faced by the crew who has been stuck on Ships for several months, the end of their operational contracts and the circumstances of the COVID19 pandemic that prevented their replacement.

In conclusion, all agreed on the following Jordan shipping association points:

1. Jordanian crews on Jordanian ships located in the port of Aqaba or coming to it:

It was also mentioned during the meeting that there are currently two Jordanian ships named Queen Nefertiti and princess Nefertiti stuck at the port of Aqaba and need a quick solution regarding the embark and disembark of the crew, There for appropriate measures have been taken in coordination between the Jordanian Maritime Authority, the Ministry of Transport, and the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management, and in the light of the official letters sent to the Maritime Authority by shipping agents and ship management companies with the names of the crew members to be replaced, therefor the problem was solved.

2. Jordanian crews stuck outside Jordan:

The Crew can contact Jordanian embassies worldwide (and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) then cooperate with the Jordanian Maritime Authority to arrange their leave dates so that they can have an appropriate program to return them to Jordan, also to facilitates the process of enrolling the crew that are waiting in Jordan to be exchanged, therefor it lessens the psychological pressure on them and reduces the number of unemployed people





### 3. Crews of foreign ships residing in the Port of Aqaba:

These cases and each case shall be dealt with separately and through the coordination and official letters from the ship's agent to the Jordanian Maritime Authority, which in turn conducts official letters and in accordance with the established procedures.

This does not prevent finding a radical and sound solution and a plan for implementation upon the opening of the airport. As it is one of our main concerns at this time, it was also agreed to schedule a meeting and discuss the issue with His Excellency the Minister of Transport and the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management, to immediately start solving the problem of the embark of the crew, and to determine the procedures through which foreign ships will be dealt with in the port of Aqaba, in accordance with international best practices and the recommendations of the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization, which determine the proper methods for conducting these operations and the process to be followed when submitting a request for the embarking of crews and attaching supporting documents that justify the reasons for the embarking of crews requested by the National Centre for Security and Crisis Management so that the crew's embarking process can be successfully completed and submitted in advance to the Maritime Authority.

The method required when applying for an exchange of crews:

The following documents must be attached for the crew's exchange to be successfully completed and submitted in advance to the Maritime authority:

- 1- Apply for the exchange of a crew by another (each crew by crew).
- 2- A letter from the management of the ship's owner or ship dealer needing to change the crew.
- 3- Passport copy of the departing and arriving crew.
- 4- A copy of a booked plane ticket for each departing or arriving crew.
- 5- The ship's captain must acknowledge that the ship has stayed at the former port for at least 14 days and that the ship's crew was in good health throughout this period and if the duration of the ship's stay at the former port was less than 14 days, then he must acknowledge that the crew did not leave the ship at the former port for at this time and did not show any symptoms of COVID-19.



نقابة ملاحه الأردن

Ship owners and management companies:

- 1- A request shall be submitted to the Maritime Authority for the changing or exchanging of the crew 14 days before the date of change or relocation.
- 2- Health safety procedures shall be observed when enrolling and embarking of the crew in the port of Aqaba.
- 3- The utmost effort shall be made to make the date of travel of the crew on the same day as the vessel leaves, so that the crew leaves directly from the vessel to the airport. If this is not possible, they shall choose the nearest flight for the crew or move the crew to another means of reception approved by the State, such as isolating the crew, until the date of flight.
- 4- If a change or exchange request of the crew is refused at the port of Aqaba (for sovereign matters), they shall seek other ports that agree to change or exchange.