

Guidelines for conduct of port State control inspections (Paris MoU) in Portuguese ports during the COVID-19 pandemic

(REV 1)

In view of the epidemiological situation of the new Coronavirus - COVID 19 and consequent constraints that affect the normal development of port State control in national ports, within the scope of the Paris Memorandum, the Portuguese Maritime Administration adopted the following exceptional and temporary measures. Agents and Masters are kindly requested to follow them.

Conduct of port State control inspections (Paris MoU) in Portuguese ports during the COVID-19 pandemic

These guidelines are addressed to Agents and Masters of vessels calling Portuguese ports.

Ships' Agents are requested to send these requirements to the vessel's Master in time to ensure they can be applied for PSC inspections.

The requirements are aligned with instructions emanated by the Portuguese authorities about measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures are being put in place to protect both the ship's crew and port State control officers (PSCO).

Your cooperation in this matter is critical.

Pre-boarding requirements (information to be sent to PSC office before arrival in port)

- 1) The following information and actions from the ship's Master is requested before the vessel arrives in port. Communication is to be dealt with by email through the vessel's agent.

The information - answers to below a), b), c) and d) - must be then provided by return email to psc@dgrm.mm.gov.pt before the ship arrives.

- a) Ports called in the past 14 days (including ports for stores replenishment or bunkering).
- b) Has any crew changes occurred in the past 14 days?
- c) Do you intend to change crew at this port?
- d) Are there any sick crew members on board?

- 2) Office or place on-board to be used for the inspection paper work is to be wiped clean using disinfectant prior to PSCO boarding.
- 3) Non-essential crew to remain clear and maintain safe distance during PSCO boarding.

During an inspection

- 1) There is to be no physical contact between the PSCO and any individual on-board. Vessel crew is, so far as possible, requested to remain at least 1.5 metres from PSCO.
- 2) PSCOs will be refraining from handshakes or accepting beverages.
- 3) Inspection related meetings and activities should take place where there is sufficient space for four square metres per person. It is recommended that meetings be conducted in open rooms with ample space with minimum attendees.
- 4) Master is to ensure that only essential crew are to accompany the PSCO during an inspection. All non-essential crew to remain well clear and maintain their distance during vessel inspection.
- 5) The undertaking of frequent cleaning and disinfectant activities is highly recommended.
- 6) In the engine room maintain clear distance and use hand signs where audibility is low. Always maintain safe distance of at least 1.5 metres
- 7) Crew members must:
 - a) refrain from touching any of the PSCO's equipment or PPE
 - b) practice good personal hygiene during inspections.

These Guidelines will be published on the official DGRM website

Lisboa, 30-06-2020