

ALON

Ocean Wave

2021
3rd February

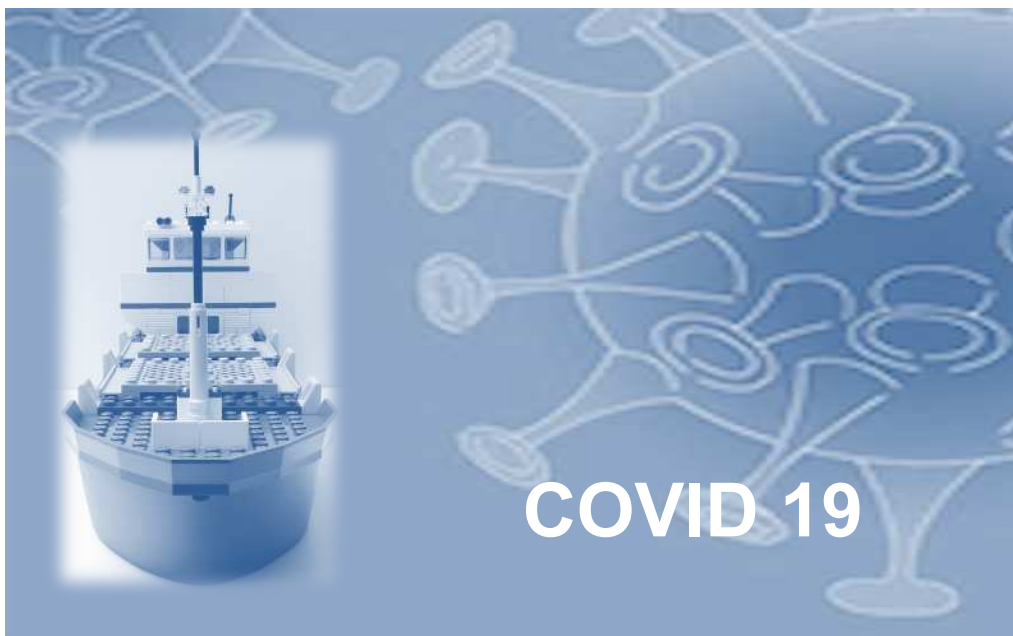
PANDIMAN PHILIPPINES Inc.
P&I Correspondent in the Philippines

Topics of interest relating to the Philippine Maritime Industry and Shipping

Current situation in regards to COVID 19

Crew Changes in the Philippines;
Filipino and Foreign Nationals

Medical Disembarkations at Philippine Ports



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COVID 19 latest developments for arrival/entry into the Philippines

There are new guidelines on the arrival of both Filipino nationals and foreign nationals, further to our ALON 26th January the Philippines has ended its temporary ban (effective until January 31st 2021) on international crew change for seafarers from vessels which had called at a list of 36 nations.

There are some modifications which are effective from 1st February 2021 with reference to the Resolutions Nos. 96 & 97 of the Philippines Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging and Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID). The new guidelines basically see crew change reverting to position as it was prior to 30 December (*We attach POEA Circular on Green Lanes 2nd July 2020*) when the temporary ban was introduced due to the strains of the Covid-19 virus that had emerged.

We are liaising closely with;

Bureau of Quarantine: BOQ
Bureau of Immigration: BOI

To the best of our knowledge the “Green Lane” system for Filipino and foreign seafarers to join and disembark in any of the established crew changes hubs, subject to the existing protocols of the One Stop Shop (OSS) for Seafarers, are fully operational.

**Manila South Harbour,
 Port Capinpin in Orion, Bataan,
 Port of Sasa in Davao and
 Port of Batangas.**

Disembarking seafarers have to quarantine for seven days at facilities designated under the One Stop Shop (OSS) for Seafarers until testing negative in PCR Covid-19 test which is taken on the sixth day after arrival.

It is important that a ship's agent is appointed and that clear communications are established if crew changes are to be as smooth as possible.

In the Advisory issued by the Bureau of Immigration (BOI) on the 30th January 2021, then direct reference is made to seafarers;

PASSENGERS ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE PHILIPPINES Effective 01 February 2021

ARRIVAL <i>(without the need for DFA authorization/endorsement)</i>
1. 9(E) visa holders – diplomats accredited to Philippines including foreign embassies and Foreign Government and International Organization Officials ²
2. Foreign Airline Crew ³
3. 9(C) visa holders – Foreign Seafarer visa ⁴
4. 9(D) visa holders – Treaty trader visa ⁵ (US, Japan and Germany)
5. Section 13 series of Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended (13 quota, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E, 13G visas) ⁶



CREW VISA 9(C) general requirements (extract Philippine Government circular)

The Guidelines for the Establishment of the Philippine Green Lane to Facilitate the Speedy and Safe Travel of Seafarers, including their Safe and Swift Disembarkation and Crew Change During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the entry of foreign seafarers for purpose of ship crew rotation, may be issued 9(c) or Seaman and Crew List Visa and may be allowed entry to the Philippines.

In this regards, 9(c) crew list visas may be applied at any time (i.e., even prior to departure from last port of call) by submitting the following requirements to visa@philembassy.net.

General Requirements for 9(C) visa issuance:

1. Duly accomplished visa application FA Form No.2 (<https://consular.dfa.gov.ph/consular-forms>);
 2. Duly accomplished Form No. 61 (Excel format) with the e-signatures of the Agent/Representative in Part E and of the Captain/Master in Part F (<https://consular.dfa.gov.ph/consular-forms>);
 3. Scanned copies of passport data pages of the foreign seafarers. The passport must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond authorized period of stay in the Philippines;
 4. Scanned copy of the letter from the shipping company;
 5. Must not be an excludable alien;
 6. Must not be in the DFA Blacklist; and,
2. The 9(c) crew list visa will be issued after five (5) business days, or after two (2) business days for expedite processing, after receipt of complete requirements. A PDF copy of the processed 9(c) crew list visa will be initially sent. The ship's agent or authorized representative should claim the actual 9(c) crew list visa and submit them at a later date to the Bureau of Immigration.

Note that the entry of foreigners is subject to the following conditions:

1. Must have valid and existing visa at the time of entry;
2. With pre-booked DOT/DOH-accredited quarantine facility for at least seven (7) nights (<http://quarantine.doh.gov.ph/facilities-inspected-as-of-august-24-2020/>);
3. With pre-booked COVID-19 testing at a laboratory operating at the airport(*may be registered through the airlines, the Philippine Red Cross: <https://e-cif.redcross.org.ph/> or the Philippine Airport Diagnostics Laboratory: <https://www.padlab.ph/DLS/PassengerCIF/>*);
4. Subject to the maximum capacity of inbound passengers at the port and date of entry;
5. Without prejudice to applicable immigration laws, rules and regulations.

NOTE: Testing of RT PCR is no longer allowed on board by BOQ and all seafarers must be brought ashore (this is now for seven days) for this test whether disembarking or as a stand-alone check.

MEDICAL DEVIATIONS and DISEMBARKATION.

These are subject to **case by case** evaluation by the Bureau Of Quarantine (BOQ) doctor and whether permission will be given to land the seafarer ashore. Any intention to deviate a vessel to the Philippines we would recommend that we are advised as soon as possible with the nature of the illness or accident so we can immediately liaise with BOQ.

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