

**Ministry of Health and Wellness**  

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**PROTOCOL FOR CREW CHANGES AT THE PORT IN MAURITIUS**

**FOR CREWS ARRIVING ON THE VESSEL:**

- Crews must have been at sea for at least 14 full days
- All crew members, both those who will leave the vessel and those who will remain on board, will be subjected to a PCR test before disembarkation.
- Health authorities will clear crew for disembarkation upon presentation of a negative PCR test certificate.
- If one or more crew members are tested positive, they will disembark and sent to ENT. Other crew members will have to remain on board.
- Outgoing crew members should not be in contact with incoming crew members if they have not completed a full quarantine.

**FOR REPLACEMENT CREW ARRIVING AT THE AIRPORT:**

- Crew members must have a negative PCR test 5 to 7 days prior to departure. Various authorities must be informed of the list of crew involved, including the Ministry of Health.

**OPTION I: DIRECT HEALTH CORRIDOR FROM AIRPORT TO VESSEL**

- Upon arrival at the airport, the crew members are identified and grouped together.
- They do not require a PCR test.
- They are accompanied by a health inspector in an authorised vehicle directly to the vessel (staff in full PPE), according to the health corridor protocol.
- Those who will be in direct contact with them at the port (immigration, customs, etc.) must be trained in health safety protocols adapted to their respective areas.
- The pilot must also be trained and must be in full PPE.
- **If the vessel is docked:** After the new crew has embarked, the vessel must leave immediately. Under no circumstances should a member of the new crew disembark from the vessel prior to departure.
- **If the vessel is at sea and it is a partial crew change:** all the crew on the vessel, even those who do not disembark, must have a negative COVID test certificate. The crew on shore will board the taxi boats to reach the vessel (4 taxi boats identified). The taxi boat crew (who must have been trained by the Ministry of Health) must remain in the cockpit, which will be always closed, so that there is no contact between them and the crew members being conveyed to the vessel. They will only be able to leave the cockpit

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once the crew has boarded the vessel. The Health Inspector, in full PPE, will be on board the taxi boat to supervise this operation.

- A full disinfection of the taxi boat carrying the crew should then be carried out.

### **OPTION II: TRANSITING AT A QUARANTINE HOTEL**

- A dedicated hotel must have been identified beforehand by the Ministry of Tourism, to accommodate the crews. Rooms must be booked through the MTPA website.
- The crew go through the same Health Protocol as other passengers on arrival at the airport. They are subjected to a PCR test on arrival.
- They are grouped after collecting their luggage and are taken to the Hotel by the Ministry of Health in a dedicated transport, according to the usual Protocol.
- At the Hotel, the same Protocol applies as for normal Quarantine independently of the duration of the stay. If the crew members are still present in the Quarantine Centre on D 7 and D 14, they will be subjected to the PCR tests as per usual practice in Quarantine Centres.
- **When the crew change is to take place, a health corridor is established between the Hotel and the vessel** according to the usual Protocol put in place by the Ministry of Health, regardless of the duration of the quarantine period.
- The personnel who will be in direct contact with the crew at the port (immigration, customs, etc.) must be trained on Health Safety Protocols adapted to their areas.
- **The Vessel is at sea and there is a partial change of crew:** all crew on the vessel, even those who do not disembark, must have a negative COVID test certificate.
- The crew on shore will board the taxi boats in order to reach the vessel (4 taxi boats identified). The taxi boat crew (who must have been trained by the Ministry of Health) must remain in the cockpit and which will be always closed so that there is no contact between them and the crew members being conveyed to the vessel. They will only be able to leave the cockpit once the crew has boarded the vessel. The Health Inspector, in full PPE, will be on board the taxi boat to supervise this operation.
- A full disinfection of the taxi boat carrying the crew should then be carried out.
- The taxiboat pilot, trained by the Ministry of Health, must be in full PPE.
- After the new crew has boarded, the vessel must leave immediately.
- The Hotel and Health staff who have been on duty with the quarantined crews are placed under the same regime as the hotel welcoming the experts and VIPS:

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- Seven days Quarantine at the hotel for hotel staff, then self-isolation at home seven days with monitoring by the Ministry of Health
- Seven days Quarantine at the Recreation Centre for health workers, then self-isolation at home seven days with monitoring by the Ministry of Health.