

PORTS AUTHORITY LEGISLATION OF 1973-2016

INSTRUCTIONS UNDER ARTICLE 14

The Minister of Transport, Communications and Works, in exercising the powers vested in him by article 14 (1) of the Cyprus Ports Authority Legislation of 1973 to 2016, issues the following instructions for the implementation of Restrictive Measures at Ports and Port Installations in order to counter the COVID 19 Pandemic:

In the framework of the measures implemented to address the emergency situation in Cyprus as a result of the COVID 19 outbreak, it is imperative that Cyprus' ports and port installations, which constitute essential infrastructure and services, continue to operate in order to support the economy, the health system as well as the viability of social cohesion on the island.

Consequently, in order to ensure the smooth and continuous operation of ports and port installations, particularly to avoid shortages of food and medical supplies and to protect public interest, the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works issues the following instructions concerning restrictive measures to be implemented by both the Cyprus Ports Authority and Contractors/ Operators/ licensed agents for port services and port installations, at all the ports and port installations:

1. Disembarkation of passengers and crew or change of crew members of ships/boats of any type, including cruise ships is prohibited both in port and out of port.
2. Crews of commercial vessels (tug boats etc.) that registered Cyprus ports as their permanent base, perform international voyages outside territorial waters, and come into contact with other ships or ports abroad, are obliged on their return to Cyprus' ports to strictly comply with the instructions of the Medical and Health Services, that is they will place themselves in self-isolation for a period of 14 days. When such ships perform routes within territorial waters, there will be no limitations, provided the crew members are employed by the same

company and on condition that when they service other ships they do not come into contact with their crews.

3. Naval ships: While entry into a port is permitted following a Note Verbale, disembarkation of crew will not be permitted.
4. UNIFIL: Movement of Members of the UNIFIL Command, which is based on shore installations at Limassol port, is permitted. The crew members of UNIFIL may disembark only to be directly transported to a specific hotel for self-isolation.
5. In the case of a medical emergency situation involving a passenger or a crew member on board a vessel, either at anchorage area or in the port, shipping agents representing the vessel carrying the sick passenger/crew member, are allowed, by exemption, to proceed with the appropriate arrangements following coordination and consultation with the Medical and Public Health Services, which will arrange the transfer and the medical treatment of the patient. Such requests may also be submitted through the Search and Rescue Coordination Centre, in coordination with the Medical and Public Health Services.
6. No one is permitted to embark on any vessel for any reason except for activities related to loading and unloading of cargo. Port Workers, Lashers, Unlashers, Ship and Cargo supervisors will be permitted to be on board during loading/unloading of ships, provided the captain ensures that the crew remains at a distance or isolates itself and confirms in writing to the Cyprus Ports Authority or to the contractors/operators/licensed agents of port services and port installations that the crew will remain isolated in the cabins and that it will not come into contact with any of the afore-mentioned staff while on board. It should be noted that all those who can perform their duties online (signing of documents etc.) will not be allowed to board a ship. It is further clarified that all the above also apply to surveyors who are involved in administrative activities, excluding those surveyors who have to go on board a vessel to carry out sample checks and measurements, for example for petroleum products. The rest will not be allowed on board. Furthermore, it is pointed out that lashers and unlashers, and ship/cargo surveyors must follow the instructions for personal protection/hygiene (masks, disposable gloves, distance 1-2 metres, frequent washing of hands etc.) before

embarking on the ships and after disembarking, as outlined in the instructions in par. 9 below .

7. If it becomes necessary for members of the crew to inspect a berthed vessel from the quay/berth side, then only one crew member of the vessel will be allowed to disembark for a brief period of time, on condition that the Ship Agent notifies in advance the Cyprus Ports Authority or the Contractors/Operators/Licensed agents of port services and port installations so that all personnel working at the specific spot of the quay or the pier withdraw. The port police and marine police should also be notified so that they can be present to supervise the operation.

8. Supplies: The crew should remain self-isolated in their cabins during loading of supplies. The captain has the responsibility to confirm to the Ship's Agent and the Cyprus Ports Authority or the Contractors/Operators/Licensed agents of port installations that there is no physical contact/interaction with land personnel. It is noted that suppliers will place provisions on the quay/pier at a specified spot close to the ship. Once the suppliers walk away, the crew will be allowed to approach and load the provisions on the ship. Provisions to ships at anchorage are permitted provided there is no physical contact/interaction of the crew with the suppliers.

9. Instructions on embarkation/disembarkation of navigators:

Before navigators board the pilot boat:

- A. Wash hands prior to handling the equipment (masks, gloves).
- B. Put on mask and gloves.
- C. Use masks with filter and respirator, type FFP2
- D. Use disposable gloves
- E. Always carry antiseptic with at least 60% alcohol, to use in case the gloves are damaged during work

Boarding a ship

- F . Keep a distance of at least 1 metre away from any other person.
- G. Only the minimum possible number of personnel should remain on the bridge.

Disembarkation of navigators from pilot boat:

H. Remove gloves and masks in the appropriate manner

I. Dispose of the gloves and masks as soon as possible after the operation in a dustbin on the quay, placed there for this purpose, and certainly prior to entering their offices or before any contact with other people.

J. Wash hands and use antiseptic

10. Those who, having no other choice, have to be on board a ship to carry out some work such as checks on unloading machinery (e.g. bulk carriers, oil products) and to deal with safety issues, they will have to comply with the instructions – wherever these apply – relating to embarkation and disembarkation of navigators as these are outlined in measure no.9.

11. With regard to the stay of a person/persons aboard a ship, irrespective of the duration of their stay, such as the “Mooring Master” for the transfer of oil products from one vessel to another – “STS Operations” - and specialists in unloading oil products to electricity production stations, the following must be adhered to:

A. The vessel carrying the load must have a certificate confirming that the cabins of the person/persons have been disinfected. If possible, accommodation must be in single or double cabins.

B. It must be clarified whether there is available a personal toilet for this personnel. If there is, then the personnel shall remain isolated in their cabins without any contact with the personnel of the ship and will use exclusively the private toilets, applying strict measures for personal protection/hygiene. If there is no private toilet, then the ship must designate a separate toilet for these people. This toilet must have been disinfected beforehand and a certificate issued to this effect.

C. The person/persons must remove with care the means of personal protection/hygiene once they have finished their inspection and before they enter the cabin. On leaving the cabin, and since they will come into contact with the personnel of the ship, means of personal protection/hygiene must be available for a change in the cabin. The means of personal

protection/hygiene must be finally removed according to the instructions for the navigators (when they are on land).

D. Special attention must be given to avoid unnecessary stay of any personnel on board a ship near the Mooring Master/ Specialised persons.

E. With regard to nutrition, it is recommended that he/they carry with him/them the necessary supplies for the duration of his/their stay on board the ship. In case they need anything else, this will be left outside his/their cabin and hands will be thoroughly cleaned.

12. It is forbidden to the crew to disembark. Work on the quay for maintenance purposes of the ship e.g. painting, washing etc. is also forbidden.

13. The berth of any type of ship/vessel/recreation vessel, except for the purpose of replenishing supplies and of its immediate departure, is prohibited. A commercial ship is allowed to stay at the anchorage provided it is waiting to enter the port or the port installations to carry out some kind of work.

14. All those who enter the ports and port installations must observe strictly the instructions of the Health Services and Public Health relating to measures for personal protection/hygiene.

It is understood that requests, submitted to the Cyprus Ports Authority by way of exception for permission for the movement of citizens with regard to the implementation of the above restrictive measures, will be forwarded by the Cyprus Ports Authority to the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works to be studied and to issue a decision.

Date: 9/4/2020