



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

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MARINA ADVISORY

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TO : All Concerned Government Agencies, Shipowners/ Bareboat Charterers/Ship Operators/Ship Managers/ Ship Masters of Philippine-Registered Overseas Ships, Manning Agencies, Filipino Seafarers Onboard, and Other Concerned Entities

SUBJECT : **Coronavirus (COVID 19) – Personal Protective Equipment under IMO Circular Letter No. 4204/Add. 15 (06 May 2020)**

In view of the recommended framework of protocols by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to minimize the risks of COVID-19 infection for seafarers, marine personnel, fishing vessel personnel, passengers and others on board ships, as well as shore personnel intending to go on board, all interested parties are hereby informed of IMO Circular Letter No. 4204/Add. 15 (06 May 2020) which provides World Health Organization (WHO) information and guidance on the safe and effective use of personal protective equipment (PPE) with the following references for additional information from other relevant sources:

I. PPE recommendations by WHO in the context of COVID-19:

1. advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19:

[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)-outbreak](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak)

2. rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and considerations during severe shortages:

[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/rational-use-of-personal-protectiveequipment-for-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-and-considerations-duringsevere-shortages;](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/rational-use-of-personal-protectiveequipment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-and-considerations-duringsevere-shortages)

3. operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases or outbreaks on board ships:

<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331591/WHO-2019-nCoV-Ships-2020.2-eng.pdf>

4. interactive online course for managing COVID-19 cases or outbreaks on board ships:

[https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/course/view.php?id=326.](https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/course/view.php?id=326)

II. General information and related guidance on the use of PPE in the context of COVID-19 in the maritime sector can also be found at:

1. ICS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for Ship Operators for the Protection of the Health of Seafarers (IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.4)

<http://www.ics-shipping.org/free-resources/covid-19>);

2. ICS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Related guidelines for ensuring a safe shipboard interface between ship and shore-based personnel (IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.16)

<http://www.ics-shipping.org/free-resources/covid-19>

3. INTERTANKO Outbreak Management Plan COVID-19

http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Documents/INTERTANKO%2020Covid%20management%20plan_3_lo.pdf

4. IAPH World Ports COVID-19 Information Portal

<https://sustainableworldports.org/world-ports-covid19-information-portal/>

5. European Commission - Guidelines on protection of health, repatriation and travel arrangements for seafarers, passengers and other persons on board ships (IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.11)

<https://ec.europa.eu/transport/sites/transport/files/legislation/c20203100.pdf>);

6. Viña del Mar Agreement - Provisional Guidance to face the effects of the outbreak of COVID-19 with regard to the relevant IMO Conventions and the Maritime Labour Convention of the ILO (General aspects) (IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.8, annex 2); and

7. United States Coast Guard - General guidance following the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC on Interim Guidance for Ships on Managing Suspected Coronavirus Disease 2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/recommendations-for-ships.html>

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


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