



ALBANIA

26 MAY 2020

## Coronavirus, COVID-19

*The following information was received from our correspondent on 26 May:*

### QUOTE

Please find below an update date 26 May 2020 on COVID-19 situation in our country:

Land borders: Land borders of the country continue to remain closed for people, but not for the trucks and other cargo movement, which is allowed and continue normally. It is also allowed the cross-border passage of people for repatriation purposes (referring to credible media information, the government is evaluating to open, on 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2020, land borders with neighboring countries for the free movement of people).

Airports: For the moment only repatriation flights of people in/out of Albania as well as cargo flights are allowed.

Ports: All seaports are open. There are no restrictions in handling of cargo vessels, ro-ro vessels, tankers and gas-carriers. Ferryboats to/from Italian ports continue, but there is assumed that all vessels are ro-ro (transport of trucks only) while passengers are not allowed. The yachts and other touristic boats are allowed in port only for supplies (bunker, water, provisions).

Crew medical treatment ashore for non-COVID issues: Regarding the crew medical treatment ashore for non-COVID issues, please be informed that in the Albanian ports the crew medical treatment for non – COVID injuries and illness is permitted. The ship agent should communicate and report the problem calling at the national emergency number 127 and the situation will be dealt as per the case, by sending an ambulance to the vessel.

Crew changes: In regard to the crew changes of “a” (its own nationals) we explain that the crew change of its own nationals is permitted with the condition that the ship agent has the obligation to do prior notification to the health authorities, border police and to the authorities of local government in which jurisdiction is the local harbor. After the confirmation taken from this authorities, the disembark crew member has to stay in quarantine for 14 days at his residence.

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In regard to the point "b" (for the foreign nationals) we explain that the exchange of foreign crew may also be arranged. For this purpose, the ship agent should submit a permit from the relevant Ministry of the country where the crew member shall be repatriated, or the relevant embassy, as well as the necessary guarantees for the repatriation travel of crew member.

Handling cargoes/commercial activities/surveys: Handling of the cargoes/vessels continues normally, however under additional safety measures and protocols during the commercial operations. The surveys can be undertaken and our office remains available and active for any assistance needed from the maritime and business community.

UNQUOTE

### **Correspondent's contact details**

**Samer & Misa Sh.p.k.**

L.3, Sheshi 'Liria', Egt tower, 5th floor

2001 Durres, Albania

tel: +355 52 222236

fax: +355 52 222236

cell: +355 68 2024704

E-mail: [samer-misa@samer-misa.com](mailto:samer-misa@samer-misa.com)

Web: [www.samer-misa.com](http://www.samer-misa.com)

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