

# CORRESPONDENT'S ADVICE

**KOREA**

15 JUN 2021

## COVID-19 regulations

*The following information was received from our correspondent on 15 June:*

### QUOTE

Further to our last circular, please find attached the updated summary of Quarantine Regulation being implemented by the Korean authorities regarding COVID-19 as of 14th June 2021.

Should you have any further enquiries on the issue, do not hesitate to contact us.

### UNQUOTE

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# South Korea Quarantine Regulation Update

14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## Notification of Quarantine (Article 9, Quarantine Act)

The master of the vessel\* shall notify the director of the quarantine station via VTS or the agent 24hrs prior to arriving at the quarantine area. Arrival/Departure General Declaration must be submitted upon notifying the authorities.

\*The owner of the vessel / vessel's agent may notify the authority on behalf of the master.

## Quarantine Inspection (On-Board Inspection / Electronic Quarantine)

### 1. On-board Inspection

All crew members and passengers shall be subjected to temperature check and health questionnaires conducted by the quarantine officer upon arrival. Vessels subject to on-board inspection are as follows:

#### A. Vessels arriving from areas listed below;

- ♦ Vessels that have departed from/passed through **Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries**\* within the past 14 days (last updated 14<sup>th</sup> June)

\* The Philippines, France, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Africa & Russian Ports

- ♦ Vessels that have departed from Quarantine Management Area\* (last updated 24<sup>th</sup> Feb)

\* Worldwide due to COVID-19; *Actual practice may vary between ports.*

#### B. Vessels with reported cases of death / crew member infection

#### C. Vessels with seafarers that have embarked the vessel within the past 14 days

#### D. Vessels without a valid 'Ship Sanitation Control Certificate'

#### E. Vessels where on-board inspection is deemed necessary by the director of NQS.

### 2. Electronic Quarantine

Vessels NOT subject to on-board inspection shall be subject to electronic quarantine; failing to clear the electronic quarantine shall subject the vessel to on-board inspection.

## Verification of Vaccination

The following criteria must be met in order to verify one's vaccination completion status.

- 1) The person must have completed the vaccination 2 weeks\* prior to departure from Korea. (\* e.g. If vaccinated on 10<sup>th</sup> April, departure must be no earlier than 0000hrs 25<sup>th</sup> April)
- 2) The person must test COVID-19 negative upon arrival.
- 3) The person must not show symptoms of COVID-19.
- 4) The person must not have departed from or passed through countries with high numbers of South African/Brazilian COVID-19 Variants within 14 days.
  - Such countries as of June 2021 are South Africa, Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Brazil, Suriname, Paraguay, Bangladesh, Eswatini, Equatorial Guinea, Zimbabwe, & Chile (Subject to change)

Koreans verified of having been vaccinated may be exempted from self-quarantine.

## PCR Negative Certificate

### 1. Submission

The following persons must submit PCR Negative Certificate to the NQS.

#### A. Foreigners(non-Koreans)

- ♦ All Foreigners that have embarked the vessel after 0000hrs 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.
- ♦ Foreigners that have embarked the vessel from Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries after 0000hrs on the date of their designation as Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries.

#### Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries & Designation Date

- The Philippines, Russian Ports: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- South Africa: 29<sup>th</sup> December 2020
- France: 04<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- Bangladesh: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021
- India, Pakistan: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

#### B. Koreans

- ♦ All Koreans that have embarked the vessel after 0000hrs 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- ♦ Koreans that have embarked the vessel from the countries/continent below after 0000hrs of the following date:
  - Africa (Continent): 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021
  - Brazil: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021
  - United Kingdom, South Africa: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## 2. Exemption

The submission of PCR Negative Certificate is exempted under the following cases.

- a) Case where 28 or more days have passed since departing the port of embarkation and the vessel has called two or more countries before entering Korea;
- b) Case where there was no initial plan to call at Korean port or case where the vessel is entering Korean port to take shelter from bad weather conditions.
- c) Cases of other reasons where calling at Korean ports was not initially planned but has become unavoidable (to be determined by the director of NQS)
- d) Cases where vessels of shipping companies registered in Korea has departed from Korean ports and have only remained on international waters or sea areas designated by authorities. (as of 09<sup>th</sup> April 2021)  
*\*Persons subject to this case shall not be exempted from quarantine/isolation even if they were to satisfy exemption requirements*
- e) Koreans that have embarked the vessel from Myanmar from 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
*(temporary exemption; to be nullified upon further notice)*

## 3. Requirements

- ◆ All certificates must be issued within 72hrs prior to the date of departure.
- ◆ Only PCR Negative Certificates in the following forms are accepted
  - Original PCR Negative Certificate (in Korean or English); or,
  - Original PCR Negative Certificate (in any other language) alongside a Korean or English Translation; or,  
*Note that translations require certification from local notary institutions or embassies; translations from authorized translation offices (including authorized translators) do not require additional notarization.*
  - Copy of the PCR Negative Certificate, should the vessel call multiple ports after the Certificate has been issued
- ◆ When departing from Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries with designated PCR test institutions\*, only certificates from such institutions shall be accepted.  
*Countries with designated PCR test institutions: The Philippines, & Russian Ports (Certificates from Russia without QR codes will not be accepted)*

\*See [Appendix 1]

- ◆ The following information must be included in PCR negative certificates: (as of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021)
  - 1) Name (as appears on the passport)
  - 2) Test Type
    - Accepted Test Types: PCR, LAMP, TMA, SDA, NEAR;
    - RAT, EUSA, & any form of at-home-test results will NOT be accepted
  - 3) Test Result
  - 4) Issuing Date
  - 5) Date of Birth (Passport Numbers / ID Card numbers also accepted)
  - 6) Test Date
  - 7) Name of Issuing Institution
- ◆ Persons without valid certificates / certificates that have failed to meet the standard shall be tested; vessel operations may commence only after the said persons obtain 'negative' results.

- ♦ All seafarers from the abovementioned vessels shall not be permitted to leave the vessel; however, should a Korean seafarer that have submitted invalid / sub-standard certificate sign-off the vessel for crew change purposes, he/she shall be subject to 14 days of isolation in the temporary living facility operated by the Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries. Koreans signing off the vessel for crew change purposes must self-isolate. (shall not be exempt from self-isolation even when he/she meets the exemption requirements)

#### 4. Administrative Charge

- ♦ An administrative charge of KRW1,000,000 will be levied per each unsatisfactory PCR Negative Certificate. Failing to submit the Certificate will result in the same amount of administrative charge. This regulation has been in effect from 0000hrs 07<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- ♦ Due to amendments made to the Korea Quarantine Act, there had been a temporary interruption in levying administrative charge from 05<sup>th</sup> March to 06<sup>th</sup> April 2021. As the amendments were directly related to administrative charges, KDCA had gone through an internal review/discussion and confirmed that the legal basis for levying administrative charges are Article 29, Article 41 of the Quarantine Act and Article 9 of the Enforcement Decree of the Quarantine Act.
- ♦ KDCA has confirmed that the regulation above will NOT be retrospectively applied to cases before 07<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Please refer to the below table for your easy reference.

Violation Date	Administrative Charge
~ 04 <sup>th</sup> March	KRW 2,000,000
05 <sup>th</sup> March ~ 06 <sup>th</sup> April	-
07 <sup>th</sup> April ~	KRW 1,000,000

## Special Entry Procedure & Testing for Off-Signers

### 1. Special Entry Procedure

**All off-signers** (excludes persons leaving the vessel for operation within the security area) must submit 'Travel Record Declaration' and will be checked on whether they have installed the 'Self Diagnosis Mobile App'.

Subject to conditions, off-signers are required to install one of the following applications.

- ♦ **Self Diagnosis Mobile App:** Foreigners staying for a short period, foreigners granted shore leave, Koreans re-embarking the vessel, and persons exempt from quarantine.
- ♦ **Self-quarantine Safety Protection App:** Long term residents(foreigners), Korean off-signers that have entered Korea through Customs(ministry of justice)

### 2. Testing

**All off-signers**(excludes persons leaving the vessel for operation within the security area) are subject to testing

- Korean** Off-signers: May await the results in their respective residences.

- B. **Foreigners, Reembarking Koreans, persons exempt from quarantine:** Must remain on-board until the test results arrive.

Testing(Sample Collection) will be conducted at a time and in a location designated by the director of the NQS. An agent from the shipping agency / company shall accompany the off-signer and to the vessel after the sample has been collected. Safe transportation system must be secured, and the use of public transportation is prohibited.

Testing of persons showing symptoms shall be conducted in a separate location. The person must be isolated inside their cabin until the results arrive.

A **pratique** is issued upon the confirmation of 'negative' status. The pratique is valid for 72hrs and the recipient of the pratique must undergo immigrations within the 72hrs.

The shipping company or the agent may receive the pratique in place of the seafarer. Koreans subject to self-quarantine or emergency patients can receive pratique prior to the test results.

## **Quarantine/Isolation (of Persons)**

### **1. General**

Upon the submission of PCR Negative Certificate,

- A. **Koreans** and **Long-term Residents**(foreigners) will be subject to 14 days of self-isolation. (Installation of self-diagnosis app required) (21.02.24.)
- B. **Foreigners staying in Korea for a short period** will be subject to 14 days of quarantine/isolation in a facility operated by the Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries. (installation of self-quarantine app required) (21.02.24.)

Failing to submit a PCR Negative Certificate will result in the person being subject to 14 days of quarantine in a facility operated by the Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries (full expenses will be charged)

### **2. Early Discharge**

To better facilitate crew change, seafarers(foreigners) may be discharged from the quarantine facility before 14 days under certain circumstances.

Matters concerning early discharge is subject to the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries' internal guidelines for operating isolation facilities. The conditions of early discharge is as follows:

- ◆ The seafarer must be tested Negative
- ◆ The departure date of the vessel must be set (departing flight ticket be secured)
- ◆ Must move to the seaport/airport without stopping by other locations. (the mode of transportation must be secured beforehand by the agent/company)
- ◆ Must leave the facility within 12 hours of scheduled departure time.

The documents to apply for early discharge are as follows. 1) Early Discharge application, 2) Declaration of Arrival or Departure (including the crew list) 3) Copy of Crew Note, 4) Copy of

Passport, 5) Written Oath guaranteeing departure 6) Copy of the outgoing person's ID card, 7) Copy of the vehicle registration card, 8) Written Oath (applies to Foreigners departing from China)

However, it may not be possible to leave the isolation facility in the cases below.

- A. Cases where the next port is a domestic (Korean) port
- B. Cases where the next port is a Chinese port  
*According to the Chinese government's policy, persons arriving in China must submit a PCR negative certificate issued by a Chinese government-designated hospital, so they are being discharged early. After being discharged after 14 days, an individual examination is required at a Chinese-designated hospital (Visit to a hospital for examination during the facility isolation period is prohibited).*
- C. Persons confirmed Covid Positive / Close contacts of Covid-positive persons

If a person is tested positive in the quarantine/isolation facility, he/she will be transferred to the treatment center. The person tested positive and foreigners that have contacted the person tested positive shall also be restricted from being discharged early.

### **3. Persons Exempt from Quarantine**

Seafarers that have applied for exemption and have received quarantine exemption certificate from a quarantine station may be exempt from quarantine. Persons exempt from quarantine will be actively monitored through the self-diagnosis app for 14 days. Seafarers of vessels arriving from Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries may not apply for the exemption.

The requirements to be exempt from quarantine is as follows/

- A. The seafarer must have stayed on board for at least 14 days prior to arrival; the vessel must not have records or crew change / positive cases or persons showing symptoms / persons going on a shore leave within the past 14 days prior to arrival
- B. Korean seafarers from container vessels (Korean Flag) on short-haul routes (Korea-China) or Car ferries (includes vessels owned by Korea-China joint venture companies)
- C. Korean seafarers from Korean flag vessels owned by a Korean company (Container Ships, Bulk Carriers, Tankers, Car Carriers); excludes seafarers from vessels that have departed from/passed through Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries within the past 14 days)

The above requirements must be met, and external contacts such as dis/embarking or cargo operation is prohibited until the local office of MOF confirms the requirements. The shipping company (or the agents) must apply for exemption in order to be exempted from quarantine.

## PCR Test Designated Institutions in Enhanced Quarantine Required Countries and Russia

Last updated 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

※Designated by Embassies in respective countries

Countries	Designated Institution	Remarks	
<b>The Philippines</b>	St. Luke's Medical Center (BGC Taguig)		
	St. Luke's Medical Center (Quezon City)		
	Makati Medical Center (Makati City)		
	Manilla Doctor's Hospital (Ermita, Manila)		
	The Medical City (Pasig City)		
	Lung Center of the Philippines (Quezon City)		
	The Medical City (Mabalaca, Pampanga)		
	<Philippines Red Cross> - National Blood Center - Port Area - Logistics and Multipurpose Center (Mandaluyong) - Isabela Molecular Laboratory - Logistics and Training Center (Subic) - Clark Molecular Laboratory - Batangas Chapter Molecular Laboratory - Negros Occidental Molecular Laboratory - Molecular Biology Laboratory (Zamboanga city) - Cagayan De Oro		
	Davao One world Diagnostic Center		
	Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center		
	<b>Cebu</b>	ARC Hospital (Lapu-Lapu city, Cebu)	
		University of Cebu Medical Center(UCMED) (Mandaue City)	
		QualiMed Hospital (Iloilo City)	
		Divine Word Hospital (Tacloban City, Leyte)	
		Prime Care Alpha COVID-19 Testing Laboratory(Lapu-Lapu city, Cebu)	
	Chong Hua Hospital		



		Department Of Health Central Visayas center(region 7)	(Seaport) Persons embarking from '21.2.24
		Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital	
		Dr. Rafael S. Tumbokon Memorial Hospital	
		Queen of Mercy Hospital	
		Red Cross Cebu Chapter	
<p><b>Russian Ports (9)</b></p> <p>*Certificates from Russia without QR code will not be accepted</p>	Vladivostok (5)	Asklepiy	
		TAFI	
		SANAS	
		Pacific International Hospital (Formerly FALCK)	
		GEMOTEST	
	Sakhalin region (3)	ГЕМОТЕСТ (GEMOTEST)	Applies to Certificates issued after 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
		Meddiagnostika	
		ИНВИТРО (INVITRO)	Certificates issued after 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 will not be accepted
		Мед-Диагностика (Med-Diagnostika)	
		Южно-Сахалинская городская больница им. Ф.С. Анкудинова (Ankudinov Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk City Hospital)	
		St. Petersburg (1)	Citilab
	German Family Clinic		
	LAHTA		
	Seobuk Hospital		
GEMOTEST			
Krasnodar Kri (1)	Yekaterininskaya Clinic	Certificates issued after	
	Sun-clinic		

		GL clinic	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 will not be accepted
		<del>Evromed clinic</del>	
		GEMOTEST	
	Entire Russian Federation	GEMOTEST & INVITRO	