



LEBANON

18 MAY 2020

Coronavirus, COVID-19

The following information was received from our correspondent on 18 May:

QUOTE

I thought I would write to inform you of the general situation in Lebanon and the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on ports' activities.

Lebanon is suffering from a severe financial, economic and banking crisis. This situation is the result of civil and political unrest which started in October of last year.

The COVID-19 pandemic crisis has strained Lebanon's economy even further. We have been on lockdown since March 2020. The government is easing restrictions and businesses are gradually reopening.

Beirut international airport has been closed since the lockdown. All ports are open and operating at a normal pace (although the import-export activity has substantially diminished in view of the bad economic landscape).

It is in principle possible to carry out a crew change if the concerned crew members are Lebanese nationals (disembarked crew members are monitored and subject to a 14-day confinement) (non-Lebanese crew members cannot anyway enter Lebanon in view of the airport's and borders' closures).

Moreover, crew members who suffer from a critical medical condition (non-related to a COVID-19 illness) can be disembarked with the assistance of the Lebanese Red Cross and admitted at local hospitals.

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