06 APR 2022

Black Sea/Sea of Azov

The following information was received from our correspondent on 06 April 2022:

QUOTE

Please kindly note our situation report for Black and Azov Seas and relevant Russian ports for 06.04.2022.

Some important updates:
- North-Western part of Black sea is closed for sailing
- Humanitarian corridors established by the Russian Federation
- Sanction update in respect of expected ban for Russian vessels for calling EU ports and Russian countermeasures.

UNQUOTE

Members with vessels in or who are planning to call Ukrainian ports are encouraged to reach out to their local agents and Managers’ offices in the region for further updates and advice.

With the addition of recent Sanctions, members are advised to exercise particular care in performing due diligence on any trade to Russia or Ukraine. More information can be found on the sanctions section of the Club’s website:


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SITUATION REPORT

Black and Azov seas and South Russian ports

06th April 2022
1. Ports and adjacent waters status

- The following Russian ports are continuing their normal operations:
  - Port Novorossiysk
  - Port Taman
  - Port Tuapse
  - Port Kavkaz
  - Port Sochi
  - Port Anapa
  - Port Gelendzhik

  Including relevant Crimea ports:
  - Port Kerch
  - Port Sevastopol
  - Port Yalta
  - Port Evpatoriya
  - Port Feodosiya

In accordance with Order of Russian Transport authority (Rosmorrechflot) dated 25.03.2022, Port security level No.2 was established in all Russian ports and port waters until 10th April 2022.

- Azov Sea is still officially restricted for shipping. As per last navigational warning, issued by Russian Department of Navigation and Oceanography:

  "In connection with counter-terrorist measures sailing of all ships is prohibited in Azov sea above 45-40' parallel"

Therefore, the following ports are open for vessels traffic:
  - Port Kavkaz
  - Port Temryuk
  - Port Kerch

The following port in Azov sea are continuing internal operations only:
  - Port Rostov-on-Don
  - Port Yeisk
  - Port Taganrog
  - Port Azov
• For general review, please see the sanction map, provide by Shipping Company Wilhelmsen.

2. Navigational circumstances:

• Closed area in North-Western part of Black Sea

In accordance with last navigational warning issued by Russian Department of Navigation and Oceanography:

“In connection with special operation in North-Western part of the Black Sea, all vessels and ships are prohibited for sailing in area:

45 13.0’N, 029 43.8’E
45 09.0’N, 029 57.5’E
43 55.0’N, 033 35.0’E
44 29.5’N, 033 35.0’E

And shore line until 45 13.5’N, 029 43.8’E

Anchoring/ drifting is prohibited on outer roads of: Danube river estuary, ports of Chernomorsk (Ilyichevsk), Odessa, Yuzhiy, Ochakov, Zhelezniy, Skadovsk, Kherson, Nikolayev

Anchoring/ drifting prohibited for all ships and vessels, including Ukrainian navy.
Vessels are allowed to proceed in southbound direction only. Detection of any vessel in area would be considered as terrorist treat.”

• Mine danger
As per our last report, there is a danger of drifting mines in Back Sea. Mines established in Odessa region were cut off from their position due to adverse weather and presently drifting in Western part of Black Sea area. Please note below scheme:

Due to anti-clockwise current direction in Western part of Black sea, mines drifting southbound towards Bosporus strait.
As per latest press-releases from open sources, mines were detected in the following locations:
- Bosporus strait (26 March 2022). Found and destroyed by Turkish military.
- off Igneada (28 March 2022). Found and destroyed by Turkish military.
- off cape Midia, Romania (28 March 2022). Found and destroyed.

Vessels are recommended to proceed with caution, keep well clear of any suspicious object in vicinity, and immediately report in case of detection of such object.

- **Humanitarian corridors for vessels in Ukrainian ports.**

In accordance with last warning from Russian Ministry of Defense:

“In order to ensure the safe passage of foreign vessels from Ukrainian ports of Kherson, Nikolaev, Ochakov, Yuzhniy, Odessa, Chernomorsk to the open seas, a humanitarian corridor has been established since 26th March. The corridor representing a safe lane of traffic from the assembly area R-1 with the following coordinates:

46 10.0N, 031 00.0E
46 10.0N, 031 08.0E
46 04.0N, 031 08.0E
46 04.0N, 031 00.0E

to the area of destination with the following coordinates:

44 56.0N, 030 25.0E
44 56.0N, 030 35.0E
44 50.0N, 030 35.0E
44 50.0N, 030 25.0E

The length of humanitarian corridor is 80 nautical miles, width of traffic lane is 3 nautical miles, course 200 degrees. The corridor is working daily from 0800 till 1900 hours LT (GMT+3).

Ukrainian authorities are responsible for safe passage of the vessels from a port to the assembly area R-1.”
3. Travel, crew and logistic restrictions

- Restrictions of flights were imposed the following airports in South and central parts of Russian Federation until 13 April 2022.
  - Anapa
  - Gelendzhik
  - Krasnodar
  - Rostov-on-Don
  - Belgorod
  - Bryansk
  - Voronezh
  - Kursk
  - Lipetsk
  - Simpheropol
  - Elista

Airport Sochi is presently working as a hub for South Russia region. As per latest news, flights will be resumed at 17 foreign countries (including Armenia, Egypt, Israel, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Uzbekistan) in April 2022.