



# International Chamber of Shipping (China) Liaison Office

國際航運公會中國辦事處

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**Announcement on strengthening the prevention and control of spread of Covid-19  
epidemic for seafarers on international sea-going vessels  
Jointly issued by the Ministry of Transport, the General Administration of Customs and  
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

To protect the health of seafarers on international sea-going vessel, and prevent the cross-border spread of COVID-19 epidemic through seafarers on international sea-going vessels, in accordance with the Frontier Health and Quarantine Law of the People's Republic of China, Emergency Response Law of the People's Republic of China, Maritime Traffic Safety Law of the People's Republic of China and other relevant regulations, we hereby announce the following relevant matters:

1. This Announcement shall apply to all the international sea-going vessels which are prepared to enter China.
2. This Announcement shall apply to the vessels which the change of seafarers has been conducted at the previous port or place, or the change of seafarers has been conducted within 14 days before the vessels come to China. The signing-on seafarers shall conduct nucleic acid amplification technique (NAT) tests for Covid-19 showing negative results within 3 days before boarding the vessels. The NAT test should be conducted in an institution designated or approved by the Chinese embassies or consulates overseas.
3. This Announcement shall apply to those vessels which are entering the first visiting port in China for arranging the entry formalities. The copies of the Covid-19 NAT test certificates showing negative results as stated in paragraph 2 above shall be presented, through the vessels or their ship-owning companies or their ship agencies, if the change of seafarers has been conducted at the previous port or place, or the change of seafarers has been conducted within 14 days before the vessels come to China.
4. When the vessels governed by this Announcement violate the requirements under this Announcement and other provisions of relevant laws and regulations of China, the vessels may be banned from departing or operating at the ports of China. For severe violations, the responsible persons may be liable to the administrative actions. The seafarers who signed on

board the vessels at the previous port or place or within 14 days before the vessel coming to China without negative COVID-19 NAT test certificates or in possession of false negative COVID-19 NAT test certificates, and further causing or to be in danger of causing the spread of COVID-19 epidemic within the territory of China, may be criminally liable according to the relevant laws and regulations.

This Announcement shall come into force on the date of issuance.

Hereby announced.

The Ministry of Transport  
The General Administration of Customs  
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Date: 24 September 2020

*N.B. This is a free English translation of the Announcement jointly issued by the relevant Chinese authorities prepared by the ICS (China) Liaison Office for the use of the members of the ICS. For the original Chinese Announcement, please see [http://xxgk.mot.gov.cn/2020/jigou/gjhzs/202009/t20200924\\_3470186.html](http://xxgk.mot.gov.cn/2020/jigou/gjhzs/202009/t20200924_3470186.html).*