



**McLEANS-WAMS**

**COVID-19 restrictions in Africa**



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## BENIN

**Port: Cotonou**



### **Lockdown:**

Lockdown is now rigorously observed in the country with faces masks and cleaning hands regularly.

### **Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?**

The port is still opened and operates 24/7.

### **Lack of stevedores?**

There is no lack of stevedores.

### **Crew well-being, disembarkation and immigrations rules.**

The possibility to change crew has been limited by the obligation for anyone arriving in Benin to self-isolate in quarantine for 14 days. No immigration is observed in this time.

### **Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.**

There are disinfectants / cleaning liquid soaps available in towns. Plenty of measures were taken in that respect and are now compulsory.



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## CAMEROON

### Ports: Douala – Kribi



#### Lockdown:

There is no proper lockdown in the country for the time being. With regard to Covid-19 management, Cameroon Authorities closed up the borders as from March the 17<sup>th</sup> 2020: Air, sea and land borders are closed.

#### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

As to maritime borders, they are opened on a case by case basis depending on the type of cargo and the discretion of the authorities.

Ship's quarantine is observed.

Vessels coming from covid-19 infected areas must wait at pilot station until clearance entering the port is granted by Health Authorities.

#### Lack of stevedores?

Stevedores are available in ports.

#### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

As the air borders are closed which prevents any crew replacement or change until further notice. Disembarkation of crew being healthy is subject to prevailing borders policy

#### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

Disinfection and cleaning services are available at ports. Wearing faces masks is highly recommended.



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## CONGO

### Ports: Pointe Noire



#### Lockdown:

The country is under lockdown and health emergency has been extended until May 11<sup>th</sup> 2020.

The borders are closed except the port. A curfew has been established from 20h00 LT to 05h00 LT.

There are a few exceptions for those working for essential services – Schools, Churches, Mosques, entertainment centres have been closed.

#### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

The port of Pointe Noire is opened to the containers and general cargo ships. During the curfew the port worked without problem, but in reduced service.

The conditions of access are regulated with the passage of health services on board for a systematic control of the sanitary situation of the crew on the harbour before berthing. Health Services are sending their agents prior Pilot arrival for sanitary inspection (using thermoflash).

If any crew member gives indication of contamination, the vessel won't be authorized to operate in Pointe Noire.

A list of last ports visited is to be sent to the Port Authority 48 hours before arrival.

**Lack of stevedores?**

There is no lack of stevedores.

**Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.**

Crew changes are currently prevented as the Congolese Government suspended international flights from 20.03.2020 until further notice. As a result crew change are not possible anymore until further notice. In addition, no shore passes are issued.



## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of CONGO

Ports: Matadi - Boma - Banana – Kinshasa

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### Lockdown:

While the country is under partial lockdown, the town of Kinshasa, center of the pandemic, is always under total lockdown. As consequence, all the flights from and to Kinshasa are cancelled, except for the airplanes carrying cargo. All borders are closed, except for trucks and vessels carrying cargo.

Given the increase of contaminated people in Kinshasa, the government may decide that the wearing of a protective mask is compulsory throughout the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Government may also decide to put others municipalities than GOMBE (in the capital Kinshasa) under lockdown in the near future.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

Ports are opened to the containers and general cargo ships but are closed to passenger's vessel. Ports (Matadi, Boma and Banana) are operational as usual with precaution against contamination of the COVID-19.

### Lack of stevedores?

For the time being, there is no lack of stevedores. They are working 24/7.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

With the closure of borders, crew change or repatriation is prevented until further notice. Crew members have to fill up forms mentioning their itinerary. Crew members suspected will be transferred at special hospital for additional medical analysis by health professionals. Crew members tested positive will be retained for appropriate care. Crew members have to remain on board during the stay of the vessel alongside only in case of sickness.

### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

There are disinfectants / cleaning liquid soaps available in the towns.

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## DJIBOUTI

Port: Djibouti



### Lockdown:

The government has now deployed Military to ensure the current total lockdown is implemented, as of now movement is not possible, the only exempted ones are people who provide essential services. International Airport (Ambouli) was closed for arriving and departing passenger flights until further notice from 18th March 2020, only operational for cargo flights. Maritime Djibouti borders were also closed for crew change, only cargo vessels are allowed in Djibouti waters as of now.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

Djibouti ports are opened and operate as usual, however the activities within ports have reduced. Surveyors are also allowed to move to and from ports without any restrictions provided they have valid port access cards. Once vessels arrive in Djibouti waters they remain at Anchorage until all crews on board are tested for COVID-19 by local health officers, and free pratique granted by same quarantine officers, after which the vessel is allowed to berth subject to berths availability. Once the vessels berth alongside port piers/berths, shore people (stevedore, surveyors, agents etc.) are only allowed to board the vessels when they are in facial masks, medical gloves, and goggles.

### Lack of stevedores?

Stevedores are available but hardly adequate as it was the case before outbreak of the pandemic.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Crews are not subjected to any discrimination and are treated with dignity and respect, although for now they are not allowed to be disembarked for treatment ashore. No foreign worker i.e crews can be issued with shore pass or allowed to leave port.

Unless if the crew member needs an urgent medical attention which is not related to COVID-19 then vessel agent can make application to ministry of health for crew member evacuation to hospital for review and approval. Further approval will also be needed from police headquarters. Crew change is not possible.

### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

There are disinfectants / cleaning liquid soaps placed inside washrooms /toilets at designated normal locations within ports. Shore people do not wash /sanitize their hands during their entry to ports and such cleaning/sanitization are done by shore people within ports on a voluntary basis.

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## GABON

**Ports: Libreville – Port Gentil**



### Lockdown:

Prime Minister of the country announced on 10/04/2020 the complete lockdown of the « Grand Libreville » i.e. Libreville plus neighbouring towns of Akanda, Pointe-Denis and Owendo up to 27/4/2020.

Wearing a mask is compulsory in public spaces. The country population is about 2 millions, the Government imported some 200,000 COVID19 tests

The Gabonese government made a list of the essential services which may maintained their activity with their personnel being delivered by Ministry of Internal Affairs with specific passes.

A curfew has been implemented from 07:30 pm to 06:0 am, except for the stevedoring companies. The borders and airports are closed until further notice.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

The harbour activity / port operations are considered as being an essential service, so ports are currently opened.

Any vessel coming from or having called at least one of the ports of the countries in the grip of the epidemic, whose duration of departure from these ports until arrival at the port is between fifteen (15) and twenty eight (28) days, the procedure for accessing the port is as follows:

- Give the information on the on-board health certificate;
- Give the list of crews, copies of passports and up-to-date seaman's books.

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If the vessel calls in a country plagued by an epidemic in the 14 days preceding her arrival at the port:

- Fourteen (14) day quarantine of the vessel;
- Morning and evening temperature control by medical and / or paramedical staff;

Vessels must send to the Harbour Master's office of the port of call, three (03) days before its arrival:

- The list of the ten (10) last ports called;
- The list of crews changed and the visas of the last ten countries called by these crews.

The medical and / or paramedical staff followed by the Inspectors of the National Institute of Public Hygiene and Sanitation, will board the ships before berthing at the same time as the pilots, all with adequate PPE.

Access to these ships is prohibited for any person before the advice and disembarkation of medical and / or paramedical staff and that of INHPA.

#### **Lack of stevedores?**

No lack of stevedores for the time being. During this entire emergency period, gloves, FFP2 masks and the application of hydro-alcoholic solutions will be required for health workers and others.

#### **Crew well-being, disembarkation and immigrations rules.**

The crew members are not allowed to leave the vessel until further notice and no crew change is authorized until further notice.

#### **Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports**

Disinfection and cleaning services are available at port.



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## GHANA

**Ports: Tema – Takoradi**



### Lockdown:

Ghana government has temporarily banned travels. Schools and universities are closed, as borders are. Local travels are now very limited. A curfew from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m has been implemented.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

The ports are opened and currently operational 24 hours a day with strict security measures in place (such as port's health boarding vessels from affected areas for first-hand checks prior berthing).

### Lack of stevedores?

Stevedores are available for the time being.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Suspected vessel's crewmembers are quarantined at anchorage for double checks.

Embarkation and disembarkation of crew is prevented as Immigration refuse to issue transit visas.

### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

Disinfection and cleaning services at ports are currently operating.

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## GUINEA

**Port: Conakry - Port Kamsar**



### Lockdown:

Whilst the country is under no actual lockdown, a curfew between 09.00 pm and 05.00 am has been implemented. Conakry airport is still closed until further notice. The exit of Conakry for the cities inside the country is prohibited. The shops are closed at 04.00 pm. Gathering of religious activities is now prohibited.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

Port, airports and borders are opened but strict controls are performed. In the ports, the work starts at 08.00 am and all operations ended at 04.00 pm. Sanitary measure are implemented such as hands washing and temperature checking before boarding the ship. Masks are also strictly recommending.

### Lack of stevedores?

There is no lack of stevedores for the time being.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Sanitary services are active to control the temperature and any suspected cases are quarantined. Crew Members are not authorized to leave the ports. Crew change are not officially restricted but de facto prevented as the international airport of Conakry is closed.

### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

Cleaning the hands and wearing a mask is highly recommended.

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## GUINEA BISSEAU

Port: Bissau



### Lockdown:

The country is not under lockdown but a curfew from 06:00 am to 11:00 am has been implemented. The interurban transports are prohibited.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

Ports are opened but the teams working on board the ships have been reduced.

### Lack of stevedores?

No lack of stevedores for the time being.

### Crew well-being, disembarkation and immigrations rules.

It is strictly prohibited by port Authorities to the crew members to leave the vessels.

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## IVORY COAST

### Ports: Abidjan – San Pedro



#### Lockdown:

The government extended the state of emergency and the curfew until April 30, 2020 and the continued closure of schools until May 17, 2020. Consequently it is not possible to ride out of Abidjan.

#### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

Both ports in Ivory Coast are opened and in service. Vessels are quarantined until the sanitary staff boards the vessel and grant the free pratique in case tests performed are negative. On the other had provided crew show indication of sickness, the vessel is put in quarantine until sanitary arrangements are found.

#### Lack of stevedores?

The stevedoring companies are available and operational inside the port area despite the curfew at night time. However any cargo transfer out of the port area is prevented from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

#### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Whilst immigrations rules have not been much adjusted, you will note that no shore passes are currently issued, and any sanitary disembarkation requested should be submitted to health department for prior approval.

#### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

It is understood from the port Security Department that the global disinfection of the ports of Abidjan and San Pedro is being implemented.

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## LIBERIA

### Port: Monrovia



#### Lockdown:

A state of emergency has been declared for 14 days within the republic of Liberia by the President in respect of the COVID 19. The state of emergency begins on April 10,2020 and will last until April 24,2020, Meanwhile all ports operations and vessels services are still on going within their respective area of operations

15 counties in the Republic of Liberia are hereby quarantined from 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2020, until further notice. Movements between counties are strictly prohibited. No person shall be permitted to enter or leave or in any way cross the borders of any county into any other county, except for Montserrado County and Margibi County which are quarantined as a single unit.

As a further measure under this State of Emergency, all Liberians and residents within the borders of Montserrado County, Margibi County, Nimba County, and Grand Kru County are to STAY AT HOME for the next 14 days.

#### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

The local port Authority has not yet issued any restrictions on seaport or vessels entering the port of Liberia.

#### Lack of stevedores?

There is no lack of stevedore however meanwhile during a large meeting with the national Port Authority and that of APM Terminals Liberia at Monrovia port, It was discussed and concluded by the governing Authorities that all port users within the commercial and operational area of all seaports within Liberia such as, stevedores, cargo surveyors, boarding Agent, Supervisors, Tally Clerks, crane Operators, field Managers, Vessels Crew, are advised to take strict health practices or measure to ensure the washing of hand, usage of face mask and wearing of glove as a safe measure set by the ministries of health.

**Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.**

All vessel crews are not allowed to leave the vessel while the vessel is in port.

All seaports operations are still ongoing within Liberia such as

1. Disembarkation of stowaway from vessels
2. Disembarkation of Sick Crew Members
3. Loading and offloading of vessels operations





## NIGERIA

**Ports:** Lagos – Apapa – Warri – Port Harcourt

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### Lockdown:

While the country is still under lockdown, the Government took the decision to lift the three (3) weeks old restriction on movements in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area and Ksoa, and the Greater Kumasi Metropolitan Area and its contiguous districts. In this respect, the partial lockdown in Accra and Kumasi is lifted.

All other measures are still firmly in place:

- Suspension of all public gatherings, including conferences, workshops, funerals, religious activities and sporting events. All educational facilities, private and public, remain closed.
- Businesses and other workplaces can continue to operate, observing staff management and workplace protocols with the view to achieving social distancing and hygiene protocols.
- Operators of public transport still operate with a minimum number of passengers, as they have been doing for the last three weeks in maintaining social distancing.
- Maintenance of enhanced hygienic conditions in all vehicles and terminals, by providing, amongst others, hand sanitizers, running water and soap for washing of hands. Domestic airlines are required to adhere to the same protocols.

The Government decided also to extend the closure of our borders for two (2) more weeks, beginning Monday, 20th April (until May 4<sup>th</sup> 2020).

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**Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?**

The port of Lagos is closed. Every activity is suspended for now, only people on essential duties are permitted to move on the road. Other ports are opened but activity challenged by the restrictions imposed by state on "social distancing", logistic challenges to move around and "stay home" directives

**Lack of stevedores?**

There is no lack of stevedores for the time being. However the situation involves manpower and other challenges.

**Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.**

All other port activities to do with crew, quarantine and disembarkation appear as before in spite of COVID 19. However crew changes are prevented by the closure of Lagos international airport.



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## SENEGAL

Port: Dakar



### Lockdown:

So far, no official lockdown has been implemented. The country has enforced a curfew from 20.00 hrs LT to 06.00 hrs LT every day, period during which anyone should stay at home, port workers included.

Since March the 25<sup>th</sup> 2020, State authorities gave a general green light for offices to open from 09.00 hrs to 15.00Hrs. A few services are exempted such as health and military services. Port activities are also subject to exemptions and yet, the activities at the port out of this period of time remain quite restricted.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations?

The Port of Dakar is opened with very limited activity. Vessels are subjected to quarantine until free pratique is granted for entering the port and berthing.

### Lack of stevedores?

Shortage of stevedores from some companies. Surveyors and staff are not allowed to operate during the curfew.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Crew members are confined onboard and no movement is allowed as all borders – including maritime – are closed.

### Availability of disinfection and cleaning services at ports.

Disinfection and cleaning services are available at the port.



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## TOGO

Port: Lomé



### Lockdown:

A lockdown has been implemented in the country with a curfew from 7 p.m. until 6 a.m. Whilst borders, schools or universities are closed, Institutions have remained opened so far.

### Port closed or opened? Port quarantine regulations ?

The port is opened and operates 24 hours a day. However, unloading operations for the bulk carriers are stopped at 5 pm until the next morning.

### Lack of stevedores?

There is no lack of stevedores.

### Crew well-being and disembarkation and immigrations rules.

Regulation in that respect has been unchanged. However any crew changes is restricted by the borders' closure.

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