

Guiding principles for resuming cruise shipping operations¹

Well before resuming cruise shipping operations, shipowners have to present a strategy that describes the conditions under which clearance at the terminal as well as the cruise are to be carried out. This strategy has to describe the health, safety and hygiene procedures as well as the processes to be adhered to on board by the crew and the passengers and include a confirmation that local, national and international requirements as well as international provisions from literature (Shipsan or Healthy-Gateway, WHO) are met. In addition, the maximum number of passengers on board, distinguishing between crew and passengers, has to be indicated. The strategy should either be drafted by a company accredited in the EU/EFTA or include the confirmation of such a company that the requirements are met.

It has to consider at least the following aspects:

- Hygiene strategy:
 - Description of disinfection and cleaning measures
 - Description of crew and passenger training on hand and basic hygiene
 - Personal protective equipment for crew and passengers (particularly sufficient mouth and nose coverings)
 - Dealing with occurrence of infectious diseases and their documentation (in particular COVID-19) with escalation and de-escalation phases, following reporting procedures in accordance with the IHR
 - Dealing with persons suspected to be suffering from a disease
 - Procedures for early detection of diseases
 - If possible, the crew should use cabins individually, or with a maximum of two people
 - Process of embarkation and disembarkation
 - Participation of terminal
 - Description of hygiene strategy for organised trips to the shore
 - Description of standards for air-conditioning, fresh air for cabins and public spaces and, in case of air recirculation, which filter systems are used (HEPA)
 - Observation of incidences in ports called at and countries of origin of the crew

- Medical equipment and facilities of the vessel
 - Provision of tests and establishment of test strategy with an explanation of the ports along the route in which tests are to be done
 - Preparation of emergency medicine routines
 - Immunization of crew (influenza, measles etc.)

- Contingency plan
 - Evacuation of vessel, if necessary
 - Implementation of quarantine measures, provision of isolation cabins for confirmed cases, area for persons exhibiting symptoms and description of treatment of category 1 contact persons
 - Establishment of a communication strategy including reporting procedures with authorities with a phased structure, depending on the severity of the crisis. In

¹ These guidelines have been drawn up by the Port and Logistics Department of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and have been discussed with Cruise Ship Companies.

addition, description of the internal communications with the crew and passengers, including psychosocial emergency care

- Restaurant operation
 - Provision of food and strategy for its distribution (no self-service)
 - Description of measures in the lounge, entertainment and wellness areas
 - Further measures/recommended behaviour to avoid a spread of Sars-CoV-2
- Route specific medical aspects
 - Will other countries be informed or are measures coordinated with other countries for when the vessel is passing through their territorial waters?
 - What ports can be entered in case of a medical emergency?

In addition to the strategy, the valid certificate of registry and the following documents/documentary evidence have to be presented:

- Confirmation that a coordination with the terminal operators has taken place on all the arrangements necessary to comply with the strategy, covering among other things arrival and departure of the passengers, transport strategies and handing over of luggage
- Confirmation of the flag state that it agrees to the planned cruise shipping operations
- Proof of insurance, liability policy/confirmation of P&I coverage by club or P&I correspondents with regard to the project including "Port Risk Cover", North Range/Hamburg