



MARINE NOTICE NO.17-2020

Issued on 18/03/2020

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, MASTERS,
AND SEAFARERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

SUBJECT: PRECAUTION ON CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK:

A. Background

1. Considering that, the current outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) disease has spread across several countries. The virus spreads through Human-to-human transmission via respiratory droplets or direct contact with an infected individual. The news of the first confirmed Covid-19 case in Ethiopia, has stirred concern among Ethiopians too may fall victim to the deadly virus.
2. Recognizing that Ethiopia is well prepared to respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and we are working with other government agencies to ensure that our response is consistent with government preventative measures.
3. Recognizing that, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19, the industry is facing challenges in meeting statutory requirements stipulated in the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC 2006) and other relevant IMO Conventions,
4. In line with the Ethiopian Prime Minister announcement that as of 16 March 2020, all high and elementary schools to be closed, training activities, conferences, and other gatherings to be on hold and not to be carried out in class rooms for a period of 15 days. EMAA has decided to provide guidance for dealing with the circumstances.



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B. Training Institutions

1. Accredited training providers are required to review the planned training and put in place measures to prevent contact between students, facilitators and staff.
2. Training institutions holding EMAA approval and operating under the ministry of Higher Education should take guidance from the ministry in terms of suspension of classes.
3. For other training institutions conducting EMAA accredited courses only, all courses or trainings that require physical contact between students shall, with immediate effect, be cancelled for 15 days from the issue of this notice and only those already underway may be completed.
4. Maritime training centers may find a means of virtual training methods to continue their training with due care of the quality and safety of the trainees and the staff.
5. Oral and written examinations at EMAA headquarters are suspended until further notice. In exceptional circumstances, oral examination may be carried out with electronic means.

C. Seafarers, Shipping Companies, Shipping Agents and Stakeholders

6. EMAA requests all stakeholders to interact with EMAA Office's as a walk-in client only when absolutely necessary and without any companion. The use of telephone communication and email correspondence are strongly encouraged due to the shortage of hand-sanitizers, masks and gloves. A distance of at least 1-2 meters must be maintained at all times.
7. Clients who have any sign of flue, fever and cough are requested NOT TO VISIT our office.
8. If you must visit the office you need to wash and dry your hands with a hand washing material prepared before entering into EMAA Office.



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9. EMAA recommends applicants submit all their documents by electronic means via email maraddirector@etmaritime.com or marad.ema@gmail.com.
10. The EMAA application form is found on the EMAA website. On receipt of digital copies of certification and ancillary documentation, EMAA will verify documents and issue permanent or temporary certification to enable continued service to be rendered by the certificate holder. The temporary certification will be replaced with permanent certificates afterwards. Delays are to be expected.
11. Issue or Revalidation of a Certificate of Competency where a seafarer is unable to disembark a vessel, Seafarers should apply for issue or revalidation of certificates through e-mail via e-mail address maraddirector@etmaritime.com or marad.ema@gmail.com. Applications for revalidations made electronically to EMAA shall be acceptable, provided all documentation remains valid. A full fee shall be payable in each instance of application.

12. Seafarers who are onboard vessel beyond their contracts for reasons connected with the Covid-19 virus.

The company should ensure that the seafarers are kept informed of the risks of infection, reasons as to why they are required to stay on board, any measures being taken is for their protection, and arrangements for their repatriation. A valid Seafarers Employment Agreement (SEA) must remain in force until repatriation. If any of the Seafarer Employment Agreements have expired, they must be extended, or new ones issued. The company needs to ensure that the seafarers are sent home at the first available opportunity. Evidence should be retained by both the seafarer and the company clearly demonstrating the reason why the seafarer was asked to extend their contract.