NOTICE

TO : ALL OSS FOR SEAFARERS HEADS & SECRETARIATS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF IATF RESOLUTION NO. 114 ON

QUARANTINE AND TESTING OF OFFSIGNERS

DATE : 07 MAY 2021

This is with reference to IATF Resolution No. 114 dated 06 May 2021 wherein changes on the quarantine and testing protocols of inbound individuals in all ports of entry are provided for. Under paragraph A of the said Resolution, it is stated that:

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"A. Upon the recommendation of the Small Working Group on Testing and Quarantine Protocols, the following protocols shall hereinafter be observed for all inbound travellers to the Philippines, regardless of vaccination status, in all ports of entry:

- All arriving travelers shall undergo fourteen (14) day quarantine upon arrival. The first ten days of which shall be observed in a quarantine facility, with the remainder to be completed under home quarantine in their respective local government units of destination;
- 2. Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) testing shall be conducted on the seventh day with Day 1 being the day of arrival. Notwithstanding a negative test result, the arriving traveler shall complete the facility-based quarantine period of ten days;
- 3. The Bureau of Quarantine shall ensure strict symptom monitoring while in the facility quarantine for 10 days."

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In view of the foregoing, please be guided on the following changes in the conduct of crew changes of disembarking seafarers, regardless of nationality:

- 1. On the day of disembarkation, seafarers shall proceed to the One-Stop Shop (OSS) facility for briefing and verification of documents. All seafarers must be briefed properly on the latest safety and health procedures of the national government, as well as their rights and responsibilities throughout the process.
- 2. Thereafter, seafarers shall proceed to the OWWA-designated or BOQ-accredited facility for the quarantine proper and the RT-PCR testing on the seventh (7th) day, with Day 1 being the day of arrival in the facility. Notwithstanding a negative test result, seafarers must complete the facility-based quarantine period of ten days.
- 3. The concerned OSS, in coordination with its designated/authorized molecular laboratory, must guarantee that swabbing will be done at exactly the seventh day and results to be delivered on the ninth (9th) day.
- 4. Immediately upon receipt of test results, the local port agent or licensed manning agency (LMA) representative must coordinate with Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) regarding the transport arrangements of Filipino seafarers bound to their home provinces.

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- 5. Day of release from the quarantine facility shall be standardized on the tenth (10th) day regardless of the seafarers' nationality.
- 6. The local port agent or LMA representative must guarantee that the Filipino seafarers will be transported via Point-to-Point Scheme and that they shall report directly to the Rural Health Unit (RHU) in their respective provinces for the completion of the remainder of their fourteen (14) day quarantine.

The above procedures shall be effective 0001H 08 May 2021 and shall continue to be enforced unless otherwise revoked.

Please be guided accordingly.

VADM NARCISO A VINGSON JR Assistant Secretary for Maritime

office of the Secretary, This Department OTS, PCS, PPA, CPA and MARINA