



Ebola Update – Ports in West Africa

22 September 2014

The summary below is based on the information available to the Budd Group's Network of Offices at the time of writing.

Insofar as the situation is constantly evolving and the application of official measures may be open to interpretation, Clubs and their Members are invited to seek advice from their P&I Correspondents or Ship Agents before any calls in West Africa.

To the best of our knowledge, no seafarers have contracted Ebola during a call to one of the principal Ebola-affected countries: Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria. No cases of Ebola have been reported in the ports themselves.

Benin:

No measures.

Cameroon

- Sea borders now opened between Cameroon and Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria have been closed.
- 21-day quarantine in place for vessels who have recently called in any of the above countries.
- Sanitary inspections carried out at anchorage at the end of the 21-day quarantine period.
- Port congestion may mean that no berths are available immediately after the quarantine period despite a clean bill of health.

Cape Verde

- On 20 August 2014 in resolution 66/201, Cape Verde banned any non-Cape Verdian resident/vessel which had been in an Ebola-affected country within the preceding 30 days from entering its territory.
- On 9 September 2014, the government authorised some exceptions as per the circular summarised in English below:
 - Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 1 (1) of Resolution. 66/2014 of 20 August, amended by Resolution 74/2014, (the Government of Cape Verde) may, for humanitarian, medical emergency, economic or other relevant public-interest reasons, authorize the entry into the national territory, of non-resident foreigners who, in the last 30 days, have been in one of the countries affected by hemorrhagic fever caused by the Ebola virus, by order of the Prime Minister.
 - All applications should be made to the Manager of National Defence, Lieutenant Colonel Paulo Lopes (paulo.lopes@palgov.gov.cv; mobile: +238 9953114);
 - Decisions will be sent via electronic mail with the celerity that the matter imposes.

For vessels arriving from any country where Ebola is present (now including Senegal) who do not meet the above criteria, entry into Cape Verde is still not authorised.

Congo (Democratic Republic):

No measures.



Congo Pointe Noire:

No measures.

Equatorial Guinea

- Vessels arriving from West, Central or East Africa are not allowed to berth in the ports of Malabo and Bata.
- Issuance of visas has been suspended for those intending to travel to Equatorial Guinea from Central and West Africa.
- All incoming and outgoing flights to/from Sao Tome et Principe, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Republic of Congo, Benin, Togo, Nigeria and Gabon have been cancelled as a prevention measure against the spread of Ebola to Equatorial Guinea.
- The Equatorial Guinea government has requested that West and Central African countries instruct their embassies in Equatorial Guinea to suspend issuing visas (to Equatorial Guinea nationals or foreign residents in Equatorial Guinea) for onward travel to any country in West or Central Africa.
- There have been no reported cases of Ebola in Equatorial Guinea.

Gabon

Gabon continues to apply the measures introduced on 14 August:

- 3 days before their ETA in a Gabonese port, vessels must provide the full details of their ports of call over the preceding 30 days.
- No vessel which has called in a country affected by Ebola will be allowed to berth.
- Health inspectors from the National Institute of Public Hygiene and Sanitation will board berthing vessels at the same time as the pilots.
- Until the health inspectors have left the vessel, no-one else will be allowed to board.
- All people who are in contact with a vessel and its crew must wear gloves. People who are not wearing gloves will be prevented from boarding.
- Crew members will not be authorised to leave the confines of the port.
- Crew changes are suspended.

Gambia

- All vessels which have been in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea or Nigeria within the 21 days preceding their arrival will be screened by health officials.
- Vessels will not be allowed to berth before this process has been completed and may be placed in quarantine or refused entry to the port.

Guinea

- Health checks on all persons entering or leaving Guinea by sea, air or road.
- Any person with a temperature of more than 38°C will be quarantined and have to undergo further tests.
- Disembarkation of non-Guinean stowaways has been suspended until further notice and the authorities are doing everything in their power to ensure that no stowaways embark in Guinea's ports.
- No cases of Ebola have been detected within the ports of Kamsar and Conakry.



Ivory Coast

Abidjan: Mandatory sanitary inspection at anchorage prior to berthing authorisation.

San Pedro:

- Copies of previous sanitary inspection reports and medical records for the previous 20 days to be provided to the port.
- Mandatory sanitary inspection on berthing.
- No person allowed to board until vessel has been cleared by authorities.
- Vessels with suspected Ebola cases on board are required to fly a yellow flag and may be quarantined for 21 days.

Liberia

- Both the ports of Monrovia and Buchanan are functioning normally.
- All persons entering the ports are subjected to mandatory health checks.
- No cases of Ebola have been detected within the ports.

Nigeria

- Health checks will be carried out at anchorage on all vessels entering Nigeria from Guinea, Sierra Leone or Monrovia to berth in Nigerian ports.
- Gloves and masks must be worn by all persons going on board.

Senegal

- Vessels who have called in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia must declare this fact to the port 24 hours before they arrive.
- Such vessels are subject to health checks before they enter the port.
- Any vessel suspected of carrying Ebola will be quarantined outside the port.

Sierra Leone

- Health checks are carried out on all crew members.
- Crew are not authorised to leave their vessels during the call.
- All persons going on board must wear gloves and a mask.

Togo

- Health checks on all vessels arriving from Ebola-affected countries.

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