

Quarantine Requirements (PCR Negative Test Result) for Ships Departing from COVID-19 High-Risk Countries and Russia to South Korea

29 September
2020

1. Quarantine measures

In order to prevent importation of COVID-19 into communities from ports, Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency (KDCA) announced that as of 3 August 2020, crews on boarding ships from Russia and high-risk countries (Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Uzbekistan, and etc.) are required to submit upon arrival at Korea a certificate showing tested negative for COVID-19 taken at a testing facility designated by South Korean embassies* within 48 hours prior to departure.

*Attachment – List of COVID-19 PCR Test Facilities for Strengthened Quarantine Required 6 Countries and Russia (updated on 2020.09.25)

If the requirement of certificate for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) negative test result is not met (issued in excess of the 48 hours or issued at a not approved test facility or fail to submit the certificate), all ship crews on board are to undergo COVID-19 tests, all crews disembarkation is not permitted, and ship works (cargo operation, bunkering, and etc.) are suspended until the 'negative' results are received.

2. Penalty

As the foreign ship crews arriving at Korea that on boarded ships from Russia and high-risk countries (Bangladesh, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines, Uzbekistan, and etc.) are frequently found not submitting or failing to submit the mandatory proper PCR test (taken within 48 hours prior to departure) result negative certificate from an approved test facility designated by South Korean embassies, the Quarantine Station announced to impose penalty under the Quarantine Act as of 8 September 2020 if found in violation.

The crew (and the Owner under the joint penalty provision) shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for not more than one year or by a fine not exceeding KRW10,000,000 if any of the following.

- If submit an improper (issued in excess of 48 hours from departure or issued at an undesignated test facility that is not approved by South Korean embassies) PCR test result negative certificate.
- If do not submit the PCR test result negative certificate.
- If forgery or alteration of the PCR test result negative certificate.

The above penalty is to be decided by a local court upon prosecution by a public prosecutor based on the coast guard's investigation.

We advise the Club's Members to contact their local agents for more updated information on the requirements (including on the Health Declaration Form, Travel Record Declaration,

Self-Diagnosis Mobile App, immigration and quarantine procedures, 14-day quarantine isolation, and etc.) prior to calling at Korean ports in order to avoid possible delays.