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26 August 2020

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**TO: LABOUR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS  
BI WEEKLY MEMBERS MEETING PARTICIPANTS  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GROUP PARTICIPANTS**

### **INFORMATION ON CREW CHANGES IN SOUTH AFRICA**

**Action Required: *Members are kindly advised to note the information received from Fiona Calitz in South Africa regarding Crew changes in South Africa.***

The South African Government has passed an amendment to the regulations to allow for foreign crew changes to proceed in South Africa. The Government Gazette was published on the 20th August 2020 and include the following requirements:

1. Foreign crew changes may take place only at the Port of Durban and Cape Town, either in port or OPL
2. Applications for the crew changes must be sent to the Dept of Transport at least 96 hours prior to the proposed crew change
3. The crew are required to comply with the travel requirements and health protocols at ports of entry
4. The signing on/off crew are required to directly transit from the airport to the vessel, or vice versa
5. In exceptional circumstances, the crew may be permitted to layover. The layover is to be in a quarantine facility recommended by the Dept of Health at the cost of the employer
6. Signing off crew of a passenger vessel may disembark at Durban or Cape Town and will be required to transit directly to the airport

It is to be noted that any such permission is for crew only and the crew member must be holding a seafarer's book. This does not apply to superintendents / family members etc.

Please also be aware that South Africa remains in lockdown Level 2, with the borders remaining closed. Commercial passenger flights are still not permitted, however, there are several airlines undertaking repatriation flights. The other alternative would be charter flights.

I have attached a copy of the Government Gazette and the Marine Notice issued by SAMSA (South African Maritime Safety Authority) at Annex A.

**Natalie Shaw**  
**Director Employment Affairs**