

## PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ

The Mauritius Ports Authority (MPA) wishes to inform all owners of local fishing vessels that, in addition to their respective Fishing Licences, they need to hold a valid Port Licence in line with provisions of the Ports Act 1998 to operate at Port Louis Harbour.

Pursuant to a recent review exercise carried out, it transpires that only 7 Owners of local fishing vessels hold valid port licences for some 12 fishing vessels. There are an estimated 28 other local fishing vessels operating at Port Louis Harbour, holding fishing licences, but whose respective Owners do not hold any Port Licence and which is not in order.

Owners of local fishing vessels not holding any Port Licences and Shipping Agents representing foreign fishing vessels are therefore formally notified as follows:

**1.** The first concern of the MPA is the security of the Port area and other Port Users. In order to ascertain that any fishing vessel already in the port area or calling at Port Louis Harbour does not represent a risk of operation in the port waters, it is proposed as follows:-

(a) To submit by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022, in respect of all fishing vessels within the port area:

- (i) A copy of their fishing licence;
- (ii) Seaworthiness certification and documentation;
- (iii) A copy of their insurance cover for Hull and Machinery;
- (iv) A copy of their P&I insurance covering inter alia, the risk of grounding, spillage, fire or any other emergencies; and
- (v) The name of the Shipping Agent or a copy of their Port Licence, as appropriate.

(b) To submit all items at paragraph (a) above at least 2 days prior to arrival of any fishing vessel.

**2.** Should all the above information not be received, or the information suggest any risk to the port area and its users, the fishing vessel shall be ordered to leave the port limits until full compliance with the existing norms, security protocols and licensing requirements.

**3.** Should the information received under paragraph 1 (a) (i) to (iv) be found to be in order, Owners of local fishing vessels shall be given an additional 14 days to apply for its Port Licence and immediately comply with Port Licence conditions, failing which no access shall be given to port limits.

There are new protocols for the security and planning aspects at quays handling fish, including by-catch, and for the issuance of access passes to operators involved in such activities, which are under review and will be announced soon.

## MPA Press Communiqué

In view of the **Consolidated COVID-19 (Amendment No.3) Regulations 2022** (Government Notice No. 38 of 2022), the Mauritius Ports Authority (MPA) wishes to draw the attention of all Port stakeholders, Port users, contractors, service providers and the public at large, to the following requirements:

1. As from **19 February 2022**, access to the port premises of Port Louis and to the port premises of Port Mathurin will be allowed only to persons satisfying the mandatory requirements, upon production of their National Identity Card or passport and the documents as specified hereunder: -

(a) **A COVID-19 vaccination card or in such electronic format** certifying that the person has been "fully vaccinated with booster dose"

***"Fully vaccinated with booster dose"-***

- means a person who is vaccinated with a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine, provided that the booster dose is administered not later than 6 months after the administration of the first dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine or second dose of any other COVID-19 vaccine, as the case may be; and
- includes –
  - a person who has, further to being tested as being infected with COVID-19, recovered therefrom and has, between 40 days and 6 months after the date of being tested as such, been administered with a dose of COVID-19 vaccine; or
  - a person certified as such by at least 2 Government medical practitioners designated by the Minister;

**or**

(b) **A RT-PCR test result slip** certifying a negative result dating back to not more than 7 days from the date of the RT-PCR test was undertaken, in case the person has not been fully vaccinated with booster dose.

2 For the purpose of the above Regulations:

(i) "port premises of Port Louis" means the following premises located in the port area of Port Louis as described in item 1 of the schedule to the Ports Act -

- (a) Terminal I (Trou Fanfaron Fishing Port, Quays A, B, C, D, E and other facilities);
- (b) Terminal II (Multipurpose Terminal);
- (c) Terminal III (Mauritius Container Terminal);
- (d) Oil Jetty;
- (e) Mauritius Freeport Development Company Ltd Quay;
- (f) Froid des Mascareignes Quay; and
- (g) buildings and premises occupied as office space by the Mauritius Ports Authority and Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd;

(ii) "port premises of Port Mathurin" means the following premises located in the port area of Port Mathurin as described in item 2 of the Schedule to the Ports Act

- (a) Granary building (State Trading Corporation);
- (b) Quay;
- (c) Container stacking area (Associated Container Services Ltd); and
- (d) Port Administration Building (Mauritius Ports Authority wing only);

The Mauritius Ports Authority relies on the collaboration of all those concerned for strict adherence to the requirements of the above Regulations.

**17 February 2022**