

# GLOBALPANDI

## *Circular for P&I Clubs*

DATE: 16 MARCH 2020

**Correspondents for:**

***Britannia, British Marine, Carina, Charterers P&I Club, China P&I Club, EF Marine, GARD, Hydor, ITIC, Korea P&I Club, Nordisk Defence Club (Through Sabatino Pizzolante), North of England P&I Club, MS Amlin, Shipowners P&I Club, Skuld, The Standard P&I Club, Steamship Mutual, The American Club, The London P&I Club, Thomas Miller Specialty, West of England and Through Transport Club (TTC)***

***The National Institute of Aquatic Spaces (INEA)  
issues Circular No. 04 - Special Notice-02 COVID-19***

No specific instructions or procedures had been established by the National Institute of Aquatic Spaces (INEA), in connection with the Coronavirus (COVID-19), only recommendations addressed to the maritime community asking to disseminate information related to preventive measures and paying attention to the manifestation in humans of the associated symptoms, the former pursuant to Circular No. 04 dated 2 February 2020. The situation has now drastically changed as the government confirmed positive cases, forcing President Maduro to declare a state of permanent emergency in the country's health system to prevent and contain the virus, also implementing important measures. Consequently, the INEA issued Circular No. 04 (Special Notice-02 COVID-19), dated 13 March 2020, informing to the national aquatic sector that in accordance to the ISPS Code it is established the "Protection Level 1" in all port facilities, marine terminals, passenger terminals, shipping agencies, and marinas, subject to a number of preventive measures, among them:

- Once the arrival notice is made, the Captain of the ship will be asked for the list of the last three (03) destination ports.
- Article 37 of the Law on Merchant Marine and Related Activities establishes: The sanitary inspection upon arrival of a ship to port. This visit will be applied to all national and foreign flag ships, either in transit or engaged in cabotage.

- In the event that any member of the crew showing symptoms of the COVID-19, the ship will be directed to the quarantine area designated by each aquatic circumscription and will be sent the sanitary authorities, to carry out the respective medical evaluation of the entire crew.
- Measures will be taken to restrict or control the crews of ships that arrive at Venezuelan ports from overseas so that they do not go ashore.
- Instructions will be given to the Captain of the ship, so that during stay in Venezuelan waters the crews use protective masks.
- The Captain of the ship should be suggested to follow all the preventive measures that have been made public to avoid contagion, such as the use of protective masks, antiseptic gel and frequent effective washing of hands.

The Circular No. 04 makes it clear that the security level referred to, it does not imply militarization nor delay in port activities, as the provisions prescribed by the FAL Convention remain in force.

Additionally, the INEA has suspended until further notice the “physical visit” to the ship by its personnel in order to verify the validity of the ship’s documentation, what it will be now done via e-mail in coordination with ship agents. Besides, through Circular No. 007 dated 15 March it is informed that all matters of documentation and exchange of information will be carried out electronically, only taking place the sanitary visit and antidrug inspection, whereas Circular No. 008 issued also on 15 March, it is prohibited the sailing of pleasure boats and concentration of people in the marinas and any establishments situated in the coastline.

**Should you need any assistance or further information regarding the topic stated above, please feel free to contact:**

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