

Document for agreement regarding the applicable operational measures for safe travel by ferries implemented as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The intention with this document, is to present the possibility for a safe, suggestive and controlled easing of traveling restrictions within Sweden and between Sweden¹ and other Baltic and North Sea countries when travelling by ferry.

Background

The shipping industry is governed by an agreed set of regulations relating to routines and procedures that are structured in accordance with an international code (ISM-Code). This system is implemented at a national level by local regulatory authorities. It is the responsibility of individual operators to implement these procedures and ensure that they adhere to current guidance and make immediate operational adjustments according to any regulatory changes or new local, national or regional recommendations.

When it comes to the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19), every ship operator has, based on risk assessments and requirements from the countries the vessel calls, developed routines and procedures to offer its passengers a safe and comfortable journey.

The shipping industry has had cases of the COVID-19 virus onboard; something that might reoccur. Crews have been trained to prepare for these situations, and the vessels have enough space and are equipped for an immediate response, to take the necessary actions required to alleviate the situation.

Each operator has, based on risk assessments, developed measures and actions both on shore and on board to prevent the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19. Listed below are the agreed procedures taken to protect both the passengers and the crew. Detailed information can be presented to administrations and authorities upon request directly to the operator. Regarding information for passengers, please see below.

List of COVID-19 prevention procedures and agreed actions to be taken

1	Before traveling	Note
1.1	When booking, passengers are informed of the special arrangements to be followed before arriving at the terminal, while at the terminal and on board the vessel. For example; <ul style="list-style-type: none">passengers that are not feeling well, are not allowed to enter the terminal,arrival at the terminal with plenty of time before boarding to allow social distancing during check-in and during embarkation of the vessel andinstructions on hygiene and social distancing measures that have to be followed at all times at the terminals and on board.	Social distance, to be followed and defined by operator and countries the vessel calls
2	Outside the terminal	Note
2.1	Information	

¹ Public transport is regulated by local and regional public transport agreements and is therefore not included. Information about public transport can be found on the local and regional public transport websites.

3		Inside the terminal	Note
	3.1	All passengers are kindly asked to give (verbal or written) updated health conditions during check in. If a passenger gives an updated negative health response with Covid-19 symptoms, they are not allowed to travel, and Shipping company safety procedure to be activated.*	If Passenger is refused to travel, Safety procedure to be activated
	3.2	Information (sheet, signs or by announcements) are available to all passengers outlining the precautionary measures implement to provide passengers and crew with the safest possible travel and working environment. The information includes, for example Social Distance, Disinfection Procedure.	Information (sheet, signs or announcements)
	3.3	Based on risk assessment, the number of passengers inside the terminals will be restricted	
	3.4	Distance markings (including restaurants, elevators etc.)	
	3.5	Increased number of hand disinfection stations in the terminal building	Disinfections - Hotspots
	3.6	Passengers allowed to wear masks if they want to and are required to do so if the rules of the local authorities or governments require them to be worn.	
	3.7	Protection for employees (terminal)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequently wash hands • Wearing of gloves if/when handling cash • Wearing of gloves when handling documents • Plexiglas installed at all sales points 	
	3.8	Constant contact with national governmental agencies and local authorities to ensure that all requirements are fulfilled	
4		Embarkation and Disembarkation	Note
	4.1	Prolong the time for embarkation and disembarkation in close collaboration with port authorities and border control/customs agencies*	Joint routines with authorities
	4.2	The crew are to stagger passengers during embarkation/disembarkation to make sure of the social distance	
	4.3	Information about the regulations/restrictions in the countries the vessel calls*	
5		On board	Note
	5.1	Based on risk assessment and in accordance with guidelines from national agencies there are to be reduced number of passengers	Administration / Authority
	5.2	Increased cleaning intervals	Disinfections – Hotspots
	5.3	Increased number of hand disinfection stations	
	5.4	Hygienic instructions for passengers and crew	
	5.5	PA announcements regarding social distancing and hygiene measures	
	5.6	Passengers allowed to wear masks if they want to and are required to do so if the rules of the local authorities or governments require them to be worn.	
	5.7	Ventilation system set for only using fresh air, no recirculation.	
	5.8	Seat allocation	
	5.9	<u>Food</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maximum number of passengers allowed in restaurants and cafeterias at one time is to be defined • New routines for food handling by crew based on risk assessment • Buffets – new routines • Served food • Passengers are permitted to take food away from restaurants* • Table arrangements to keep social distancing 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cutlery to be handed out by the crew, to be packed or by other means handled to avoid contact by other passengers (avoid a hotspot) 	
	5.10	<u>Outlets*</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum number of passengers in outlets Adaption of the opening hours (allowing a social distance [distance markings] and time for cleaning procedures) Plexiglas at all sales points 	
	5.11	<u>Spa/sauna and gym*</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restricted use of these facilities 	
	5.12	<u>Entertainment</u> After risk assessment, there can be limited live entertainment, such as singers or similar – but social distancing must always be maintained.	
	5.13	<u>Protection for the crew</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone that feels uncertain about own health status – do not work, contact manager or local HR Intensified training of the crew regarding awareness and control of epidemic virus.* Regular medical assessments to screen the crew* Intensive training of the crew in epidemic virus awareness and control Increased cleaning/disinfection of keyboards, phones etc used by multiple people* Wearing of gloves if/when cash handling Wearing of gloves document handling Frequently wash hands Avoid face contact After risk assessment, crew wearing gloves in defined areas Plexiglas at all sales points 	
6		Suspected corona	Note
	6.1	The crew is regularly trained and well prepared in case of handling sick passengers and suspected coronavirus cases on board	
	6.2	PPE (masks, gloves, suits, protective visors i.e.) provided for crew to handle positive or suspected corona cases	
	6.3	Designated areas/cabins for isolation of positive or suspected corona cases	

* Non-relevant for smaller ships and commercial transport due to regular procedures