Date: **Sunday, 22ⁿᵈ March 2020**
Ref: **MPM-2020-02**

# MEMO

Asalam Sejahtera and Good Day to all members and associates of MPM!

The **Covid-19** virus has been declared as *pandemic* by the World Health Organisation on the **11ᵗʰ March 2020** and has been threatening the health safety of Malaysians in the country.

MPM had been in contact with the **Ministry of Health** and its respective **Health Offices** at some of the federal ports in Malaysia. We acknowledged at some port ie. Port Klang, the Health Officer will conduct the Health Clearance of identified HIGH RISK ships after the subject ship come alongside. We *asserted* that *Health Clearance should be conducted at anchorage* before pilot goes onboard. However, due to unprecedented limitation that the Health Office may experience at this point of time, pilots are required to go onboard before pilot been acknowledged that any subject ships passed the Health Clearance.

We will continue to work closely with MOH and its agencies to ensure maritime pilots are always protected from the Covid-19 from time to time.

The Covid-19 is highly contagious and is capable to infect from an infected person to another through droplets from carrier in the form of saliva, sweats or any other form of droplets from an infected person. We must protect our *eyes, nose, mouth and skin* with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment from any highly infection droplets from any potential infectious person.

The incubation period of Covid-19 infection is about **14 days** or more. During the incubation period, the infected person could be *asymptomatic* (no symptoms like flu, fever, body joint aches), but an infected person can infect others.

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Paying due regards to the above situation and the contagious *Covid-19* infection risk to the pilots in Malaysia, the association would like to urge all members and terminal operators to adopt the followings safety precautions for all pilots:

1.) Full PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) comprising of *goggle, facemask, medical glove, medical gown, sanitizer*) for all **Quarantine Status Ships**

2.) Minimum *medical glove, facemask, goggle and sanitizer* for **Non-Quarantine Status Ships**

3.) If pilot is not wearing any medical glove during pilotage, *frequent sanitizing* the hands and fingers is important.

4.) Pilots to ensure all crew members to wear *facemask* especially at the embarkation station, in the accommodation and navigational bridge; applicable to all ships.

5.) If pilots needed to touch any unprotected parts of his body ie. Face, nose or eyes, please *sanitise fingers* before doing so to avoid being contaminated by potential virus.

6.) Pilots to keep a safe distance of at least *1 metre* away from any other crew members and *no hand shake* are advisable.

7.) Dispose disposable PPE at designated storage bin.

8.) Self monitoring of health status ensures body temperature does not exceed **38 degrees Celsius** or inform pilot office.

9.) Observe strict hygiene at the office and at home.
   *At The Office* – Full body wash with *antiseptic soap* after completion of each ship OR at least wash your hands and face with antiseptic soap.
   *At Home* - Full body wash with *antiseptic soap* before mingling with family members.

The measures and care for our health safety does not limit to the above outlined precautions. Please take all necessary measures and protection deemed fit to avoid infection as the job of maritime pilots is undoubtedly exposed to high risk.

Please protect **YOURSELF** and your **FAMILY MEMBERS** including **ANY OTHER PERSONS** surrounding us during these difficult times.

Thank you!

*(signature)*

CAPT. MARTIN LIM
PRESIDENT & CHAIRMAN.

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