The situation continues to be the same whereby we apply for exemptions to the committee in the time frame given for each incoming vessel and wait for approval. The situation will remain until such time as a more defined set of guidelines are developed which will better suit the circumstances we are facing.

No PICs are currently reporting food security issues, or fuel shortages due to interrupted shipping supply, as far as we are aware.

Details

- **American Samoa**: Matson and Pacific News Center
  - Cargo trips between Apia and Pago Pago increased to two voyages per week from 16 July.
  - MV Fotu-O-Samoa sails between the two islands for cargo only.

- **Cook Islands**: Neptune Pacific Australia
  - MV Fotu-O-Samoa sails between the two islands for cargo only.

- **Mariana Islands**: Mariana Express Line (MELL)
  - Island Chief V007N is next scheduled vessel.
  - EVA Roratonga 25 July, Aitutaki 27 July

- **Fiji**: Neptune Pacific Australia
  - EVA Roratonga 25 July, Aitutaki 27 July

- **Guam**: Matson and Pacific News Center
  - MV Fotu-O-Samoa sails between the two islands for cargo only.

- **Kiribati**: Kiribati Department of Health
  - MV Fotu-O-Samoa sails between the two islands for cargo only.

Shipping Operations

This weekly bulletin is compiled to give all stakeholders an overview of the current impact of COVID19 on Pacific shipping activities. It draws on sources from government, commercial and humanitarian sectors. The bulletin is circulated each Thursday.

**Overview**

- **Kiribati** and **Tonga** both report that, after sharp declines in cargo volumes earlier in 2020, shipping activity for May is at similar levels to May values for the previous two years.

- The temporary quarantine surcharge (TQS) imposed on **Nauru** cargo since April has been removed.

- Shipping companies, governments and commercial entities in the Pacific region continue to report reduced cargo demand on reduced services. Freight rate increases have been implemented on the majority of routes bringing cargo into the region.

- Solomon Islands and Marshall Islands have eased quarantine regulations and shipping companies are now reporting minimal delays. Tuvalu maintains a quarantine period for landed cargo of 3 days. Kiribati enforces a 5 day quarantine period for landed cargo if the cargo has not been in sealed containers for more than 5 days prior to arrival in Kiribati ports.

- Cargo services between Samoa and American Samoa have increased from weekly to twice weekly. There are no passenger services between Samoa and American Samoa.

- New Zealand has implemented more stringent and simplified crew change processes. Inability to facilitate crew change continues to be one of the most pressing issues facing the global shipping industry. Major shipping ports worldwide are now beginning to implement crew change services. There is a huge back-log of ships’ crew who have either completed their contracts on board or are onshore waiting to join ships.

- No PICs are currently reporting food security issues, or fuel shortages due to interrupted shipping supply, as far as we are aware.
Foreign Cargo Vessel Quarantine Period: Fourteen (14) clear days at sea or a combination at sea and at anchor in the Solomon Islands UNLESS
(a) if the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 1 – Five (5) clear days OR
(b) if the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 2 – Nine (9) clear days OR
(c) if the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 3 – Fourteen (14) clear days

TIER 1. 5 DAYS - PALAU NEW GUINEA FIJI NEW CALEDONIA VANUATU NAURU TONGA KIRIBATI TUVUALU
TIER 2. 9 DAYS - AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND SOUTH KOREA
TIER 3. 14 DAYS - CHINA HONG KONG SAR MACAU SAR CHINESE TAIPEI JAPAN SINGAPORE MALAYSIA THAILAND INDONESIA PHILIPPINES ITALY UNITED KINGDOM USA SPAIN

Shipping Agents for Category 1, 2, or 3 vessels may apply to the Exemptions Committee for consideration for clearance less than the stipulated number of days under that tier. Such applications will only be considered based upon the urgency of need for those goods.

To ensure the delivery of all cargo booked for Tonga & Samoa in July, Capitaine Dampier V167 will call Nuku’alofa 29-30 July directly after Auckland to support the Southern Trader V477 on this trade. Southern Trader V477 will sail directly to Apia and operate on a reverse rotation, and all Nuku’alofa cargo will load on the Capitaine Dampier V167.

Neptune Pacific Australia

Capitaine Wallis V354 is in port in Funafuti 15-16 July. The quarantine period has been reduced from 9 days to 3 days (held in the harbour) for cargo landed in Funafuti. Normal shipping schedule is being followed.

Neptune Pacific Line (NPL) Trade Notice

Kokopo Chief v25 will now commence her voyage in Melbourne on 16th July. This voyage services Fiji, Vanuatu and American Samoa

Vanuatu Daily Post / Pacific Security Hub

SMAS chutes sailing from Australia to Port Vila. The final sailing date is TBC (end of July). Loading in Sydney until 15 July and then Townsville 16-23 July. Dates are subject to change.

Swire NZ

Swire NZ Schedule: Reduction in vessels on the route from 4 to 3 on a 20 day rotation. This schedule calls several ports in PNG, Fiji and NZ

General Update

Severe weather

Bureau of Meteorology/ AMSA

Severe weather on the Australian Eastern seaboard in recent days has impacted on port activities. This has caused some temporary port congestion in various Australian ports.

Joint statement of the international maritime virtual summit on crew changes

UK Government

The inability of ship operators worldwide to conduct ship’s crew changes is the single most pressing maritime operational challenge to the safe and efficient movement of global trade.